

Williamson County Youth Orchestra

News Brief ... June 29, 2011

Link: Pictures by Wade Williams ... "Tickle the Strings," an instrument petting zoo,

[http://wadesworld.smugmug.com/Music/Tickle-the-Strings-2011/17796351\\_GLDQzC](http://wadesworld.smugmug.com/Music/Tickle-the-Strings-2011/17796351_GLDQzC)

### **Tickle the Strings ... an instrument petting zoo!**

A first of its kind for Brentwood, the *Tickle the Strings* program hosted by the Brentwood Library on June 25 was a noisy HIT! There were about 65 in attendance plus 28 volunteers who demonstrated and assisted the attendees as they moved around freely to "sample" the different instruments available. Instruments on display included string instruments and a variety of band instruments. Children and adults alike enjoyed the opportunity to attempt playing multiple instruments with the help of knowledgeable volunteers. This program is a definite candidate to repeat next summer and you won't want to miss it!

The event began with a short performance by the Williamson County Beginner Reading Orchestra; conducted by Williamson County Junior Orchestra member McKenzie Fetters. These students are all enrolled in Williamson County Youth Orchestra (WCYO) programming. The beginners have been playing the violin, viola, cello, and string bass anywhere from 5-8 months. They did a beautiful job playing for their peers in attendance. Following their performance, McKenzie Fetters along with her sister, McKayla, performed a pop duet and demonstrated a few classical measures that required more advanced skills. Youth Orchestra students from the WCYO along with volunteers from the Nashville Symphony, Music & Arts, and Shuff's followed on with demonstrations on each of their instruments. At the conclusion of the demonstrations the attendees were invited to move about and try things out for themselves. Needless to say things got very noisy at this point ... a good sign!

This event was a collaborative effort of the Brentwood Library, Nashville Symphony, Music & Arts, Shuff's Music and the Williamson County Youth Orchestra. The Library provided the venue; the others provided the instruments and volunteers. Thank you to all who participated and attended. See you next summer!

### **WCYO Small Ensembles ... available to support community/private events!**

If you have a community or private event for which you would like to schedule a WCYO small ensemble then please contact [treasurer@wcyo.info](mailto:treasurer@wcyo.info). We have a demo available for preview and we're already scheduling Youth Orchestra and Junior Orchestra small string/wind/brass ensembles for the 2011-2012 season. Don't miss out; these talented students would love to contribute live music for your event!

### **Now Scheduling ... Auditions/Enrollment for 2011-2012 concert season**

The Williamson County Youth Orchestra (WCYO) is currently scheduling August auditions for the 2011-2012 concert season. Student musicians from Williamson County and all surrounding counties are invited to audition ... string students entering grades 5-12 and band students entering grades 9-12. The oldest orchestra will be making a "first-time-ever" tour to Chicago at the end of the school year in 2012! Students can register to audition at [www.wcyo.info](http://www.wcyo.info). All students entering grades 3-5 who would like to learn to play violin, viola, cello or bass are encouraged to enroll in the Beginner Reading Orchestra at [www.wcyo.info](http://www.wcyo.info).