



Gillette & EES Awarded

In honor of the 20th anniversary of LinkUp!, the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall honored twenty schools that have demonstrated the highest level of creativity and commitment to music education with the Phyllis Susen Barbash Music in the Schools Partnership Award. Established in 2001, this award is presented to schools that have been exemplary partners with the Weill Music Institute.

Recently, Ellenville music teacher Linda Gillette (photo above, center) and the *Ellenville Elementary School* were chosen to be recipients of the Phyllis Susen Barbash Music in the Schools Partnership Award.

The \$1,000 award is named for Phyllis Susen Barbash, Director of Education at Carnegie Hall from 1994 to 2001, whose educational model, in which teachers, school administrators, and artists work collaboratively to bring music and arts to students, shapes every aspect of the Weill Music Institute's school programs. This award ensures that Phyllis' vision, an inspiration to so many, will continue to encourage educational innovation long into the future. The award may be used for musical instruments, materials, or equipment to improve the music program.

To be considered for the Phyllis Susen Barbash Music in the Schools Partnership Award, Linda had to describe how the students and the school had benefited from the LinkUp! program. She also explained how important the LinkUp! program materials were in preparing the students for the concerts. Finally, she detailed how well the school's administration has supported the program.

The award will be presented at a luncheon in New York City at the Sheraton Hotel on Wednesday May 25th.

In addition to the award, Ellenville will be one of five schools featured in a promotional video to benefactors. The goal of the video is to demonstrate where their contributions are being used. Filmmakers recorded Linda teaching a class of 4th graders, explaining the Carnegie Hall experience, playing the piano, and talking to 4th grade teachers about the Carnegie Hall curriculum. They also plan to film the students at Carnegie Hall during a concert. Ellenville 4th graders have been attending the

Carnegie Hall LinkUp! Concert Series for elementary students for the past six years. Linda Gillette has organized and served as liaison to the program. Carnegie Hall provides the teachers with curriculum suggestions and guides to help prepare the students for the music they will enjoy at Carnegie Hall. It has proven to be an amazing program for Ellenville's students concerning music appreciation, as well as allowing them to visit Carnegie Hall and listen to professional musicians.

To help defray the cost of the trip, Mrs. Gillette runs a school store whose proceeds are earmarked for purchase of Carnegie Hall tickets. Other fundraisers cover the cost of the busses to New York City.

Linda has been teaching music at Ellenville for ten years and plans to use the award to help pay for a new piano for her classroom, thereby continuing her goal of bringing music education and furthering music appreciation to Ellenville's 4th graders. "This experience is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the school and its students." ☆

School's Out, For Summer

by Denise Rinaldi

Well not quite yet, but now's the time for summer registration for the *Ellenville YMCA School's Out Program*.

Come and join us for the summer. We are located on the **Elementary School Campus** in the **BOCES Learning Center** adjacent to the Elementary playground.

We offer a wide variety of activities including a daily swim in the school pool, just steps away from our back door. Our arts and crafts, recreational games, music and dance, and science experiments all coordinate with a different educational (but always fun) theme for the six-week program. Themes this summer are All About Me, Wild Weather, Our Community, The Solar System, Amazing Animals, and Movers & Shakers.

The program starts on **July 11th** and ends **August 19th**. Those enrolling for all six weeks prepaid will receive a \$60 discount.

All of our staff complete a thorough application process with the State of New York, have CPR and first aid training, and are experienced in school-aged child care.

For more info, pricing and/or questions, call Program Director Denise Rinaldi at **647-0200 ext. 252**. You can also email sbeaver@ymcaulster.org. Please make reference to "summer program."

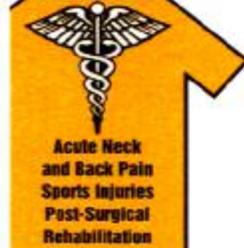
Applications may be found locally at **Village Hall, Town Hall, Ellenville Police Station, Wawarsing Service Station (13 Canal St.)**, and at our classroom in the **BOCES Center** from **7 to 9 AM** where you can visit our program, and see us in full swing! ☆



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