



# Musicians' Village

## PRACTICE-A-THON

Dear Music Teachers,

During the month of March, music students across the country are invited to take part in a nationwide Practice-a-Thon with all proceeds going to the New Orleans Habitat for Humanity Musicians' Village. The people and musicians of New Orleans still need our help to recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. The Musicians' Village was conceived by Branford Marsalis and Harry Connick Jr. and consists of Habitat constructed homes for qualifying musicians and other low-income families. Its centerpiece will be the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music, dedicated to the education and music development of homeowners and others who live nearby.

This program started in March 2006 in N. Merrick, NY and has been a huge success! Almost \$50,000.00 has been raised to help hard working families in need of housing attain the dream of homeownership. To find out more about this project, please visit [www.habitat-nola.org](http://www.habitat-nola.org).

**Music teachers who participate will need to copy and hand out the Student Packets, collect the pledge money and mail it to**  
***New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity***  
***c/o Gina Stilp, NOAHH, P.O. Box 15052***  
**New Orleans, LA 70175**

Contact me below if you have any questions and thank you in advance for any help you can offer. Feel free to pass this information along to other music teachers.

Sincerely,

Peggy Rakas  
Program Coordinator, "Musicians' Village Practice-a-Thon"  
N. Merrick Schools  
rakas1@aol.com



# Musicians' Village

## PRACTICE-A-THON

March, 2008

### Parent Letter

Dear Parents,

During the month of March, music students across the country are invited to take part in a nationwide Practice-a-Thon with all proceeds going to the New Orleans Habitat for Humanity Musicians' Village. The people and musicians of New Orleans still need our help to recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. The Musicians' Village was conceived by Branford Marsalis and Harry Connick Jr. and consists of homes for displaced New Orleans musicians and other qualifying low-income families. Its centerpiece will be the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music, dedicated to the music education and development of homeowners and others who live nearby.

This program started in March 2006 in N. Merrick, NY and has been a huge success! Almost \$50,000.00 has been raised to help hard working families in need of housing attain the dream of homeownership. To find out more about this project, please visit [www.habitat-nola.org](http://www.habitat-nola.org).

Students will document their daily practice on the enclosed "calendar". Sponsors will pledge an amount of their choice per minute the student practices during the month of March. Pledges can be anywhere from \$.01 per minute and higher. Each student will collect from sponsors at the end of March and submit the pledge money to me with checks made out to "New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity". Please include the words "Musicians' Village" in the memo line.

Contact me below if you have any questions and thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,



New Orleans Area  
**Habitat**  
for Humanity®



# Musicians' Village

## Student Packet

March 2008

Raising money for  
New Orleans Habitat  
Musicians' Village

**Musicians' Village  
Practice-a-Thon  
March 2008**



**Mission**

During the month of March, we invite music students across the country to make every attempt to practice daily to support the musicians of New Orleans. Our mission is to strengthen students' practice habits while supporting New Orleans Habitat Musicians' Village in its efforts to raise money for building new, affordable homes and to benefit the construction of the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music in New Orleans Upper Ninth Ward. To find out more about this project, you may visit [www.habitat-nola.org](http://www.habitat-nola.org).

**Musicians Helping Musicians**

Money raised from the Practice-a-thon will be sent as a gift from musicians in the United States to the musicians of New Orleans.

**What You Need to Do**

**STEP 1**

Ask your family members to pledge a penny, nickel, dime, or quarter for each minute you practice. Even one penny a day can make a difference!!

**STEP 2**

Try to practice every day during the month of March. Keep track of your practice minutes on the Daily Practice Log. The more you practice, the more you will help Habitat for Humanity and the more you will strengthen your playing. Strive for at least 150 minutes a week.

**STEP 3**

Collect your pledges during the first week of April. Checks should be made payable to **New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity** and say **"Musicians' Village"** on the memo line of the check. Please thank your sponsors with a card or email.

**STEP 4**

Turn your pledge money and your Daily Practice Log into your band or orchestra teacher **during the first week of April**. Be proud of yourself for providing help to the families in New Orleans and for improving your playing!

**Teachers: Mail pledges to  
New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity c/o  
Gina Stilp, NOAHH, P.O. Box 15052 New Orleans LA 70175**



*Musicians' Village*  
Practice-a-Thon

**MARCH 2008**

Musician's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAILY PRACTICE LOG**

**Directions:** Please note the number of minutes practiced each day.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	
						1 ____ minutes	Total Week #1_____
2 ____ minutes	3 ____ minutes	4 ____ minutes	5 ____ minutes	6 ____ minutes	7 ____ minutes	8 ____ minutes	Total Week #2_____
9 ____ minutes	10 ____ minutes	11 ____ minutes	12 ____ minutes	13 ____ minutes	14 ____ minutes	15 ____ minutes	Total Week #3_____
16 ____ minutes	17 ____ minutes	18 ____ minutes	19 ____ minutes	20 ____ minutes	21 ____ minutes	22 ____ minutes	Total Week #4_____
23 ____ minutes	24 ____ minutes	25 ____ minutes	26 ____ minutes	27 ____ minutes	28 ____ minutes	29 ____ minutes	Total Week #5_____
30 ____ minutes	31 ____ minutes						Total Week #6_____

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Total Minutes \_\_\_\_\_

Musician's name \_\_\_\_\_



## MUSICIANS' VILLAGE PRACTICE-A-THON PLEDGE FORM

Thank you for your support of our "*Musicians' Village*" Practice-a-Thon! Music students will devote the month of March to raising money for New Orleans Habitat Musicians' Village and to strengthening students' practice habits. Please pledge a penny, nickel, dime, or quarter for each minute of this musician's practice. Even small change makes a difference! Your contribution is tax deductible.

Name	Address or email	Pledge per minute	Total owed ( <i>minutes practiced x pledge amount</i> )

Please return money and the practice log to your music teacher during the first 2 weeks of April. Pledge money will be accepted after that date.

Checks should be made payable to the **New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity** and say "**Musicians' Village**" on the memo line of the check.

**Teachers: Please mail pledges to  
New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity  
c/o Gina Stilp, NOAHH, P.O. Box 15052 New Orleans, LA 70175**