

WORCESTER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CLARK STREET
DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING SCHOOL

ELIZABETH A. JOHNSON
PRINCIPAL

280 CLARK STREET
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01606-1219
(508) 799-3545

February 27, 1996

Ms. Ruth Pelham
Music Mobile, Inc.
P.O. Box 6024
Albany, New York 12206

Dear Ruth,

It has been almost a month since your artist-in-residency at Clark Street Developmental Learning School, yet it is difficult to believe you are not still in the building. As I walk through the halls your presence is felt in many ways. I may visit a second grade class where one of your tapes is playing softly in the background as the students work busily on-task. In a first grade, the whole class may be sitting on the rug singing along with one of your tapes. The fifth grade may be proudly singing "their" song which they wrote with you. At indoor recess, a small group of children may be sitting in a corner singing another song you wrote with them. And, of course, at All-Sing, "Under One Sky" has become our very own "national anthem."

Your presence in the building for a few short days has breathed new life into our spirit of caring, sharing and learning. It is always important for our students to realize that these sentiments which we foster within the school are also important to people outside of school -- even sometimes famous people. It helps to validate what goes on at Clark Street School on a daily basis. You not only did that for us, you also added your own spirit and music and left those with us to add to the mix.

We appreciate your coming to us, caring about us, and sharing with us. We are already looking forward to a return visit. It's always nice to visit with friends.

Sincerely,



John G. Riccio
Assistant Principal



Germantown Central School

123 Main Street
Germantown, New York 12526

Phone: (518) 537-6281
Fax: (518) 537-6284

April 25, 2000

"Sail To Success"

To Whom It May Concern:

For the last 3 years the Germantown Central School has been privileged to host an artist-in-residence program featuring Ruth Pelham's Musicmobile.

Ruth's program consists of a 3 day visit during which she shows the 1st grade students how to build and use rudimentary instruments to accompany the songs they learn. During this same time period she also meets with each 4th grade and helps them to write a class song based on a class-selected theme. For the final activity of her visit Ruth organizes a concert for students, parents and friends during which the 1st and 4th grade students share the products of their labor.

Ruth is a high energy artist who has the knack for establishing a relationship with the students within minutes of visiting their class for the first time. Before you know it she has the kids totally engaged in making instruments and writing songs. If you are fortunate enough to attend the concert you will see that Ruth has the full attention of the audience as she coaxes them into a sing-a-long. You will find that you will leave the concert with a feeling of well-being and some wonderful tunes that you just can not get out of your head!

Through the message of her music, Ruth leaves students with a better understanding and appreciation for the diverse population of our world. Her message of understanding, love and peace comes through loud and clear.

Sincerely,

**John Smith
Elementary Principal**



Cake Avenue School

126 Cake Avenue

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

518-584-3678

Fax 518-583-4778

Marcia G. Henze, Principal

March 6, 1996

Ruth Pelham
Music Mobile
Albany, New York

Dear Ruth:

Another wonderful year! Your residency with our first graders, as always, was marvelous. The youngsters thoroughly enjoyed the instrument making, song writing and performing. Teachers were thrilled to see their youngsters so engrossed and productive.

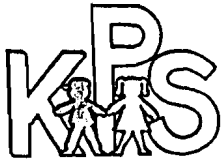
The in-school concert for our full student body was a joy! It was a pleasure to sit in the back of the auditorium and see students of all ages totally and happily involved. Your gift of winding them up with activities and then pulling them back down to listen and sing gently is a marvel. There are not many performers who can accomplish that. Just sitting there, made me realize how lucky we were to have you there. When I was called out, I hated to go but left with a smile that lasted for the rest of the day!

The concert on Friday night was a special event for everyone involved. Parents as well as their children, enjoyed the singing, clapping and joyous atmosphere. Many have taken time since then to comment on what a wonderful evening it was! I hope you will enjoy these pictures as a small remembrance of that happy evening.

You are indeed a special lady who brightens the world and brings joy with her music, personality and love for what she does. I feel privileged to have been able to share a small piece of your world. I hope we will see more of you in the future.

Sincerely,

Marcia
Marcia G. Henze



KENT PRIMARY SCHOOL
ROUTE 52
CARMEL, N.Y. 10512
(914) 225-5025
Rhoda Friedman, Principal

May 15, 1997

Dear Ruth,

Just a note to let you know how well-received your instrument-making/song-writing residency was at Kent Primary School. The participating first grade teachers enjoyed working with you and are continuing to find ways to extend the ecology theme in their own lessons. The music teacher expressed her delight with your work and indicated that she will use the strategies observed in her own teaching as well as your very fine CDs and books.

Parents who attended the various sessions were thrilled with the level of participation of each child and the pure joy they observed in musical expression. Many commented on the extraordinary way in which you prepared for and facilitated the making and playing (in unison) of 220 instruments in a single day. For many parents who see little value in the arts, this residency was an eye-opener.

It was a pleasure to have you with us. You are truly an inspired artist and teacher who has much to offer children and adults alike. Thanks so much for your fine work with my staff and students!

Sincerely,

Rhoda Friedman
Principal



Berne-Knox-Westerlo Central School District

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District Office (518) 872-1117

Fax Number (518) 872-0341

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March 25, 1996

To Whom it May Concern:

Query; When do pieces of wood, some bottle caps, and nails become transformed into music sticks?, When do keys become musical instruments?, When does cardboard and a handful of rubber bands take on the function of a guitar?, When are number 10 cans transformed into drums?, and When does a good part of a community come together to enjoy an old-fashioned evening of song, singing along, and participating in the joy of watching their children perform on stage? When the artist and performer is **Ruth Pellham**.

Ruth Pellham, through the "Music Mobile", spent 2 days at Berne-Knox-Westerlo Elementary working with students in grades K-5. The students in grades 3-5 spent part of the first day in a participative sing-along concert, while the remaining day and a half was spent with K-2 students in workshops to construct the instruments that were used as the students accompanied Ms. Pellham in her songfest in the evening.

Parents were extremely pleased, and thoroughly enjoyed the program and the opportunity to participate in something that their children performed. Ms. Pellham was able to complete the workshops, the participative concert and the evening concert for the community in a professional manner and with no disruption from approximately 450 students, since they were totally engaged in each phase of the project.

I highly recommend Ms. Pellham, her program and her talented/professional presentation to any district or organization who would like to enjoy a similar experience.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Leombruno
Supervisor of Special Programs



Cake Avenue Elementary School

*126 Cake Avenue
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866
518 - 584-3678
518 - 583-4778 fax*

Mrs. Marcia Henze, Principal

February 24, 1995

Ruth Pelham, Director
Music Mobile, Inc.
P. O. Box 6024
Albany , New York 12206

Dear Ruth,

This is a much overdue letter to let you know how much we enjoyed having you here for your recent residency in first grade. It was spectacular ! Children, teachers and parents are still talking about all of the things that went on: instrument making, singing, song writing, and performing.

You came in and truly mesmerized everyone here. Your enthusiasm, fun, talent and charm enchanted our youngsters, brought out the best in them and enabled them to have a performance experience they will not forget. Your organization, sensitivity to the style and needs of each teacher helped to make the classroom experiences as positive for the teachers as it was for the students.

Enclosed are some of the pictures we took while you were here. I thought you might enjoy adding them to your collection.

Many thanks for coming, for providing such a great experience and most of all for being you !!

Sincerely,

Marcia
Marcia G. Henze