Imagine students quietly settling in for a day of learning, some writing in journals, others drawing, some just listening – imagine the hush in the room as the music ends, students focused and ready to learn. You can make it a reality in your school.

*Musical Me* is a non-directed approach to music listening that is designed to be used in any classroom, K-8, and can be used by any teacher. No musical training is required to administer the program and it is designed to use as few as five minutes a day. The *Brummitt-Taylor Music Listening Program: A Non-Directed Approach* was designed by Canadian education specialists David Brummitt and Karen Taylor to be used in any grade through middle school. The Brummitt-Taylor program has been used by Canadian schools for more than 12 years, for eight years in Medford, Oregon, schools, and was piloted in three Orange County school districts.

The program consists of an instruction book that is scripted for five years with accompanying CDs containing daily questions and repetition of the same musical selection for five days. The recordings are quality classical selections that range from the early Renaissance through the 20th century. Each day, some information about the selection and composer is repeated, and some new information is added. This repetition allows student familiarity with the music and the composer, and allows them to respond with thoughts about what they are hearing.

Chapters are organized to enrich an existing program or to fulfill a need where no music program exists. It is a user-friendly program, with a pronunciation guide for the novice classical music listener. Each teacher can adapt the program to fit the needs of the classroom, from choosing the most appropriate daily time for the program to supplemental activities such as journaling, art, and movement.

The goal of the Philharmonic Society of Orange County is to establish classical music as a part of the day of every student in the county through the use of the *Musical Me* program, to enrich and deepen the knowledge of music and bring joy to daily life. Students learn focused listening skills that will enhance learning in all subject areas, learn about classical music works and composers, including the composition process, and develop a life-long love of music. Research has shown that exposure to music at an early age can have a significant impact on behavioral, cognitive, creative, and motor skill development. Music listening contributes to development of higher achievement test scores in reading, writing, and math.

*Imagine that!*

Rita Major, Director of Education
rita@philharmonicsociety.org, telephone extension 237
Philharmonic Society of Orange County
2082 Business Center Drive, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92612
www.philharmonicsociety.org Ph: (949) 553-2422 FAX: (949) 553-2412