

## MUSICAL MYSTERY TOUR IS MAGICAL!



MEA hosted a high-energy, memorable, music enrichment program for students in celebration of its 85th Anniversary at the Madison Library on April 14. In his *Musical Mystery Tour* presentation, music educator Chuck Speicher guided students through the history of music from the Renaissance through the Classic period, relating themes from composers of movie scores like John Williams to the first operas.



Using a multimedia approach, he also engaged the children in role-play, always emphasizing the connection that thematic music plays in the telling of the story. The sold-out program was jam-packed with information, but the students were so engrossed and enjoying themselves, they didn't even notice how much they were learning!



Minnesota, New Zealand, and closer to home, the Stokes State Forest Music Festival in New Jersey and the NJ Suzuki Workshop in Princeton.

Mr. Speicher is Director of Curriculum at Little Kids Rock, a national, nonprofit that transforms children's lives by restoring and revitalizing music education in disadvantaged public schools. He performs regularly on piano and keyboard and in 2002 traveled with the "Crazy Energy Orchestra" to Morocco to perform at the wedding of King Mohammad VI. He also performs jazz piano at the New Jersey Festival of the Atlantic, William Patterson University and Montclair State University. Chuck Speicher was the 1989 recipient of the New Jersey State Governor's Award in Arts Education. His guest teaching and performances have taken him to Alaska, Ohio, South Carolina, Colorado, Maine,

**Nancy Modell & Ruth Pasquariello,  
Student Event Co-chairs**