

30th Cambridge River Festival: Sat., June 13, Noon-6pm

Family and Children Stage Schedule and Biographies

Memorial Drive at Plympton Street (Harvard University Side)

Hosted by Deena Anderson

Peabody School Early Bird Singers

Noon-12:20pm

The Early Bird Singers, directed by Wendy Silverberg was established in 2004. The chorus meets twice a week before school, hence the name Early Bird Singers. It is comprised of children in grades 3-7. The students have performed for the Mount Auburn Hospital and the Big Sing held in Boston at the Church of Saint Cecilia. Many of these students have been singing with Mrs. Silverberg since they were in kindergarten. The music program at the Peabody school teaches children to sing, and also to read music from the age of five or six.

Cambridge Rindge and Latin School String Ensemble

12:30-12:50pm

The CRLS String Quartet is made up of a portion of the school's larger ensemble, the CRLS Orchestra. The String Quartet includes violinists Ian McCann and Meredith Midgley, cellist David Kim, and bassist Calvin Doiron. Playing a mixture of classical, world, and even rock music, the CRLS Orchestra has an expanded repertoire and enjoys performing a wide variety of genres. The ensemble has plans to perform around Cambridge more frequently as a way to further reach out to the community.

Jungle Jim's Big Balloon Show

1-1:50pm

Jungle Jim admits that while he can't do brain surgery or throw a football a hundred feet, he does have a unique ability to entertain children, capture their imagination, tap into their enthusiasm and bolster their creativity. He has taught ESL to children overseas, worked as a nanny for three children, led arts programs for students at The Wang Center for the Performing Arts, and directed a YMCA camp for underprivileged youth. His performances include Jedi Knight Training, Hogwarts Academy, Jungle Jim's Safari Adventure, Superhero Training and more.

Mizero: Children's Choir of Rwanda

2-2:50pm

This choir of young orphans and vulnerable children from the beautiful country of Rwanda between the ages of 11 and 18 will delight and inspire their audiences in song, drumming, and dancing. They performed at the United Nations in December, and are currently on tour to build hope for the children of Rwanda. The mission of Mizero is to spread the good news message of hope, peace, and healing through music and dance. The Mizero Troupe tours annually in various countries to raise awareness of Rwanda's beautiful traditions in an effort to bring hope to the homeless, the orphans, and those with HIV/Aids.

Steve Hennessy as "Dr. Planet"

3-3:50pm

An entertainer of international experience for over 30 years Steve Hennessy developed Dr. Planet, a combination of musical culture and curriculum-based information on the solar system. As a parent, school board member and former Education Manager at a major performing arts center he is keenly aware of the need to supplement the subjects taught in school with material that is innovative and fun. He is also a recipient of a 2005 songwriting award for *Jumpin' Jive Jupiter* from the Great American Song Contest.

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Vanessa Trien and the Jumping Monkeys

4-4:50pm

Vanessa Trien, Boston-based singer-songwriter, has become a rock star among the newborn to eight-year-old set – and their parents! The “Nessa Groupies” dance in the aisles at her shows around town with the lively Jumping Monkeys band, flock to her toddler music education classes, and can’t get enough of her recently released children’s albums, *‘Carnival Day’* and *‘Hot Air Balloon,’* both winners of the Parents’ Choice and iParenting Media awards. *‘Hot Air Balloon’* also won the prestigious NAPPA Honors Award.

Rosi and Brian Amador of Sol y Canto with daughters Alisa and Sonia

5-5:50pm

Sol y Canto’s songs feature toe-tapping *plena*, *son*, calypso, reggae and more for the family! With their singable and danceable high-energy sound, Sol y Canto immerses children and their parents in the joys of a bilingual musical fiesta. This concert will feature Sol y Canto founders Rosi (Puerto Rico/Argentina) Amador on lead vocals, bongo/small percussion & composer/guitarist Brian Amador (New Mexico, U.S.), a recent MacDowell Artist Colony Fellow, on Spanish guitar with their identical twin daughters, Alisa & Sonia.