







Lum and Campbell [4] say that participants in the partnership benefited in musical and cultural ways. University personnel and community members, children and adults, professional teachers and pre-professional students found the exchanges gainful, such that the result was an understanding of music, education, and culture as they are enfolded and linked to one another.

Community projects like this one are a great opportunity for outreach and making a real and lasting impact. One of the goals for this project was to become a part of the M.M. degree in Music Education at the Lamont School of Music, serving as an internship for the Masters students. In this way, the children were going to receive their music education, the parents were going to be “financially free” and the graduate students were going to get real practice for their future career. The other benefit of this university-community based project is the collaboration between the two institutions of education, faculty and staff, students and parents. After reapplying for the MCS Program this year as well, I am extremely glad that the project was selected again and is going to continue for the Academic 2009-2010 year.

#### 4. Recommendation for Further Studies

University—community collaborations are a fairly recent phenomenon, which has often been manifested through the establishment of university partnerships with schools [4]. Further research on university- community based music projects will be very helpful if they are talking from the “community side”. What is the benefit that they expect to gain from these projects? Why does the society let its own young members live with no music education? How is this music education reflecting on the children’s development at school and is there a way to make music education available to anyone?

Further studies involving research on choice of repertoire, especially involving international music. Does this help the participants to adapt faster to the new environment or it’s seen as a patronizing?

University-community collaborations reflect a renewed focus in higher education on institutions’ civic responsibility to address current needs in society [1]. This is in particularly true when the young generation is involved, as well as these in disadvantage.

#### 5. Conclusion

Partnerships between universities and public schools are a new phenomenon but there is a lot more that can be done in this direction. In order to reach social equality in education in such a diverse society as the U.S. one, we need to start from the ground level of the problem, which is the curriculum

at the public schools. With the effort of teachers, scholars, educators, and parents we can create a better educational system that is a supporting body for the different cultures and nations living in the U.S.

#### 6. References

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