

Harford County Public Schools NEWS RELEASE

Serving Youth 102 S. Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, Maryland 21014 • Teri D. Kranefeld • Manager of Communications office: 410-588-5203 • cell: 443-752-2062 • teri.kranefeld@hcps.org • www.hcps.org • fax: 410-893-2478

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 7, 2009

Jason's Music Center Piano Liquidation May 17

Jason's Music Center, one of the oldest piano distributors in the country, will hold their 7th Annual Piano Liquidation on Sunday, May 17 at the Forest Hill Air Park. The highly anticipated liquidation provides shoppers a rare opportunity to purchase top-quality pianos while supporting Harford County Public Schools. Jason's Music Center and Harford County Public Schools have had a unique partnership since 2002. To date, Jason's Music Center has loaned HCPS pianos to use in targeted schools with a total value of over \$850,000.

The partnership with Jason's Music Center provides pianos free of charge for one school year to support the music education program. They deliver and service the instruments at no cost, and at the end of the year the company exchanges the 12-month old pianos with brand-new replacements. The schools' slightly-used pianos are then sold at the liquidation sale in Forest Hill. The partnership extends beyond HCPS and Jason's Music Center. Additional partners include the Harford County Office of Economic Development and the Forest Hill Air Park, which donates the warehouse space for the piano sale each year.

In 1998 Jason's Music Center began partnering with local school systems lending numerous pianos to elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the state free of charge. This year the philanthropic company donated pianos worth more than \$2.4 million to Maryland schools.

"The partnership is a win-win-win situation," explained Steven Cohen, President of Jason's Music Center. "The schools receive top-quality pianos at no charge, students learn on instruments equipped with the latest technology, parents are offered the opportunity to purchase superior pianos at substantial savings, and we receive publicity for our sale," said Cohen.

Jim Boord, Supervisor of Music for Harford County Public Schools says, "this partnership provides much-needed, top-quality instruments that we would not otherwise be able to afford."

Pianos will be available at the liquidation sale 30% to 40% below the list price, according to Cohen. Appointments may be made to "pre-view" the selection, and the public sale is from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 17. The location of the piano sale is 2211 Commerce Drive in the Forest Hill Airpark.

To make an appointment with Jason's Music Center (recommended), or learn more about their piano donation program, please contact them at 410-638-2272.