

# NJMC NEWS RELEASE

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**New Jersey  
Meadowland  
Commission**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Science Meets Music at Meadowlands Environment Center in April and May**

*Series Includes Big Band Performance, Interactive, Nature-Based Music Workshops*

**LYNDHURST, N.J.** – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) is pleased to announce that celebrated jazz pianist and award-winning composer Diane Moser will visit the Meadowlands Environment Center (MEC) in April and May for a series of performances and interactive workshops that bring music, math, astronomy and nature together. The MEC is an NJMC facility operated by Ramapo College of New Jersey.

“The ‘Science Meets Music’ series offers a great opportunity for families to discover the connection between these disciplines and the natural world through hands-on activities and first-rate performances,” said Marcia Karrow, Executive Director of the NJMC. “We encourage everyone to take advantage of this unique, educational and fun experience.”

The first event, “**Music of the Spheres**,” is on **Wednesday, April 10, at 8 p.m.** and features Moser’s Composers Big Band performing works inspired by the environment and celestial bodies. The concert is preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a discussion with Moser. After the show, visitors are invited to observe the night sky at the NJMC William D. McDowell Observatory, weather permitting.

On **Saturday, May 11, at 8 p.m.**, Moser returns for “**The Birdsong Project**,” in which her trio performs compositions based on bird songs and the natural soundscape. Join Moser prior to the show at 7:30 p.m. for a talk on “Deep Listening and Acoustic Ecology.” Cost for the April 10 and May 11 performances are \$15, seniors \$10, MEC members \$8.

Moser also leads two creative workshops in which participants use natural sounds, measurements and modern technology to create original compositions. On **Saturday, April 20, and Sunday, April 21, from 1 to 3 p.m.**, you’re invited to bring musical instruments, or just your voice, for “**Pythagoras, Kepler, Math and Music**.” Participants convert measurements to musical intervals and create and upload sounds to a computer. The group then arranges the recorded sounds into an original composition using Sound Cloud software. The April 20 session is for families; the April 21 program is for ages 9-18.

In “**Soundscapes and Birdsongs,**” visitors are encouraged to bring recording devices to capture the sounds of nature in DeKorte Park, the home of the NJMC. After walking the park, participants create an original composition using the Sound Cloud. This program takes place on **Saturday, May 18, and Sunday, May 19, from 1 to 3 p.m.** The Saturday program is for ages 9-18 and the Sunday session is geared toward families. The interactive weekend workshops in April and May are \$5, MEC members \$4.

Montclair resident Diane Moser Diane Moser has performed and composed throughout the county with jazz ensembles, big bands, orchestras, chamber music ensembles, and dance and theater companies. Her work in film includes composing the score for the award-winning documentary, *Breaking Boundaries: The Art of Alex Masket*.

Moser is dedicated to incorporating the natural world into her compositions. In 2008, she spent five weeks at the MacDowell Colony for artists in New Hampshire, listening to birds to create compositions based on Robins, Sparrows, Chickadees and the natural soundscape.

The Meadowlands Environment Center is located in DeKorte Park in Lyndhurst. For more information and to register for “Science Meets Music” programs, call 201-460-8300 or visit [www.njmeadowlands.gov/ec](http://www.njmeadowlands.gov/ec).

The “Science Meets Music” series is funded in part through New Music USA’s MetLife Creative Connections program.

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