

News from Lynn Saltiel and the MFP Improv Orchestra:

Music For People Improv Orchestra: Transformation Through Improvisation: From Performance to Life Skills.

On May 1, 2016, I had the wonderful opportunity to present at the National Association of Social Workers New Jersey Chapter Annual Conference and Exhibition-The 2016 Meeting of the Profession. The conference sold out, with over 1000 social workers in attendance! I was able to fulfill a longstanding vision that I have had to connect my two worlds of clinical social work and the importance of music for connection, creativity, health, and wellness. I was joined by a group of extraordinary MFP musicians and others in the presentation entitled: *Music For People Improv Orchestra: Transformation Through Improvisation: From Performance to Life Skills*. Participants and the musicians alike raved about the presentation. Here are some of the comments:

"This was the best program we have EVER had, thank you!

"I was wearing a stress meter. I looked down and my heart rate had gone down considerably."

"I didn't want to leave. I never had so much fun since I was a kid."

"...the best part for me was that it was purposeful and pertinent to the Social Workers and their lives, and this is HUGE."

Attendees experienced and participated in many One Quality Sounds and lots of Ooh and Yay energy for sure! As a follow-up from the success of this event, I had the honor in October to receive my county's Outstanding Service Award for 2016 from NASW-NJ. I am so thankful to be a part of our wonderful Music for People community. I am inspired for future possibilities and to continue to share this work in the world. Let each of us be inspired by David Darling's vision in Music For People, to connect with ourselves, to connect with others, and to share our creative expressions. The world need us!

