

# Saratoga heated up this winter with free rock concert

## Featured family performers

BY BRIAN BABCOCK

December may bring cold weather, but it can't freeze out good music.

Saratoga youth and families kept the Joan Pisani Community Center hot on Dec. 9 with a concert that featured brothers and sisters, fathers and daughters, and friends and family performing songs by Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, John Mayer, Pink Floyd, Eric Clapton and others.

Young and old found something to take away from the experience.

"It is awesome to be able to play music with my son in the rock band. It has strengthened our bond, our relationship," said David Faircloth, who performed with his son Matthew.

"When I perform alone, it's simply not as fun," said student-performer Gillian Wallin. "The rock band allows me to gain the support of other musicians. Also, it makes the performance less nerve-wracking and more having fun."

The annual event is sponsored by Musicians Mobile, which provides lessons to budding musicians. More than 150 people attended the event, with about



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Sandhya Sundaram performs at Musician Mobile's Dec. 9 'rock band' concert at the Joan Pisani Community Center.

50 performers taking the stage throughout the two-hour show.

Events such as these allow the musicians to apply their "rock band skills," representatives from Musician Mobile stated. Performers have also

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volunteered as free entertainment at Celebrate Saratoga, the Saratoga Senior Center and Redwood Middle School.

"Through offering creative contributions at community events, the students feel a deep

sense of purpose and pride, giving their hard efforts in music more meaning," Musicians Mobile stated in a press release.

Musicians Mobile creative director Nate Mueller said the company offers its bands three things: learning to adapt to change, fostering a healthy community and actually experiencing performances.

"We allow the students the opportunity to grow through adapting to change. All performance spaces, bands and events are different," Mueller said. "The students have to learn to go with the flow and adapt to any given situation at only a moment's notice. This prepares them for changes in their life and careers.

"Secondly, we foster a healthy environment of collaboration. Not all people have the same ideas and personalities. Through the rock bands, students learn to collaborate in a safe environment and work together to merge multiple styles, creating something new and beautiful."

And their students are able to see over time that public speaking and performing can be enjoyable, he said. "Many of our students have continued to become leaders of their schools and communities through their comfort with people and being on stage."

For more information on Musicians Mobile, visit [musiciansmobile.com](http://musiciansmobile.com).