

## People are talking!



### Praise for Mary Sue's work with Seniors

"The residents are always wearing smiles when Mary Sue is around. It's rare to find an activity that gets everyone engaged and Mary Sue does that."

Ashley Harris, Activity Director, Traverse Manor

"I witness the feelings of inadequacy, anxiety and fear dissipate. Jean starts to live in the moment and is carried away by the pure, simple joys of singing."

Kim Spencer, Caregiver

"When Mary Sue began singing with my mom and the residents where she lives it enabled my mom to feel empowered and it appeared to give her a lift in confidence that seemed to say "I can do this!" Since beginning with Young at Heart Music I have seen a positive increase in my mom's ability to communicate with me. Because Alzheimer's disease and skill decline can be so cruel and difficult for family members to witness it brings me great happiness to see such joy in my mom's face and mood."

Janet Ruggles, Daughter of French Manor resident

"I come here every day and I've never seen him so happy!"

"Your visits are a gift I can give my dad that I know brings sunshine to his day."

Family members, Cherry Hill Lodge, Memory Care

"Thanks for the wonderful show. Everyone really loves your music and singing. You are an amazing talent."

Jenny Gray, Activity Director, Bay Ridge Retirement Village

### Praise for "Songs You Know By Heart"

"I went to a client's home today and brought your CD as a gift because I knew they loved listening to music and our client has middle-severe dementia. The husband started to play your music and our client perked up and was actually singing the words, she got up out of her chair and gave her husband a hug – it was a beautiful moment! Thank you so much for all that you do and for sharing one of your beautiful gifts with people."

Melanie Martell, Client Care Coordinator, Comfort Keepers

"My grandfather struggled with Alzheimer's in some of the last years of his life. During that time, it was amazing to witness the power of Mary Sue's music at work. These songs put that spark back in my grandfather's eyes. Even when simple tasks became incredibly difficult for him, Mary Sue was always able to get him singing and dancing. This album will get you doing the same." Savannah Buist, The Accidentals

"It has been absolutely delightful to now have in our possession your new CD. Jean and many of her caregivers use it almost daily. Actually I was considering purchasing another one so that we can leave one in the car. We listen and sing along to the CD as we travel to various appointments, or just for the enjoyment of the timeless classic songs. Many times we listen to the CD during our meals...but I am finding that we are singing with our mouth full of food! Other times we listen and sing along just as an activity. It is always considered a "pick me up" and it brings pleasure to all here."  
Kim Spencer, Caregiver

"Mary Sue Wilkinson is an amazing singer who touches the hearts of the elderly. For 4 hours on Wednesday nights I offer my mom respite by "sitting" with my dad who had Alzheimer's. I'm Always seeking ways to connect with him. I'm happy to report that I found an amazing way to connect with my dad through Mary Sue's CD. I was amazed at my dad's ability to name the songs and sing along with the music. It brought such joy to our evening together."  
Kelly Beischel, Daughter

"Yesterday we visited my wife's grandma who just stopped chemo and doesn't have much longer. We sang Christmas Carols for over an hour with her. She mentioned your CD with all the old songs on it. One of her favorites was Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree. It's amazing that when you don't have much left you can still enjoy and co-create music."  
Andy Evans, Music Teacher and Professional Musician

## Praise for Mary Sue and Tiyi as Early Childhood Trainers

"I have been a professional child care provider for 37 years attending conferences throughout the United States. Tiyi and Mary Sue compare to the "best of the best" nationally recognized songwriters for children's music. I expected to be bored - feeling like "I've seen it all". They had me totally engaged, feeling refreshed and energized with new ideas and activities. Their session will be an incredible asset to my curriculum planning and classroom teaching."

Cheryl Beery, Creative Child Care Family Day Care Provider

"I went to the Cadillac Early Childhood Conference in March of this year and you were both AMAZING!! I saw Ms. Tiyi at the Cadillac Library Geek party and even though my little one was being shy I'm sure he recognized your voice. He loves the CD we got at the conference. Every couple of days he will walk up to me with a different toy in his hair and ask for the bad hair day song!!! It is so cute. Thank you so much for the CD and the great memories I'm going to make with my children."

Samantha Richer

## Praise for Mary Sue and Tiyi as Performers for Children and Families

"Tiyi and Mary Sue make music come alive for students and people of all ages. You always leave their presence a little happier."

Barbara Parmenter, Retired Teacher and Principal, Pine River Area Schools

"In that world where adults do work of any kind with children, there are those that 'do to them,' those that 'do with them' and those gifted few who can do both well. Mary Sue and Tiyi are two of the few; the kids may start out experiencing a performance of the 'musical sandbox' but it's not very long before they are, quite happily playing around in it with them!"

Ron Fowler, Youth Services Librarian, Petoskey District Library

## Praise for Mary Sue and Tiyi's Children CD "In Ms. Tiyi's Garden"

"You and Tiyi are amazing. I have to tell you that my 4 year old son and I were listening to your CD and I thought I'd have to skip over the story about the little boy, Joey, the tough one. Josh is tough, but also has a short attention span. He pulled up his little chair in the dining room right in front of the CD player and looked at it as if Tiyi was right there in front of him. (Reminded me of the old days when people sat in their living rooms and watched the radio.) Tiyi really has a gift for storytelling. Well, Josh sat right there and intently listened to the entire story and then we listened to the Sticks and Stones song and talked about it. How words can break your heart. And then he asked to hear the story again and again over the next few days. What an impact that has had on him. Thank you for being such kind hearted and caring entertainers! "

Liz Walker, Early Childhood Specialist, Wexford-Missaukee and Manistee ISD,