

NEWS RELEASE

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Brass Quintet Performs at Jowonio

Syracuse, NY – Jowonio’s students and staff were recently serenaded with the joyous sounds of a brass quintet! Led by the **Syracuse Symphony Orchestra’s principal tuba player, Ed Diefes**, the quintet delighted the children and adults alike with lively musical selections and fun demonstrations of their instruments. Unlike typical brass quintets, which are comprised of two trumpets, a trombone, a French horn, and a tuba, Diefes’ quintet has four trombones and a tuba, lending a unique sound to the ensemble. The musicians included trombonists **John Lombardo, Kyle Covington, and Jeff Dee, who are each members of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, along with Jeff Gray and Diefes, from the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra.**

When asked how these five musicians got together to play at Jowonio, Diefes explained, *“We’re just a group of friends who have known each other for some time and occasionally get together to play music. My son attends Jowonio, so one evening we decided to put together some music for the kids, and went in to play for them the next morning. It was a real spur of the moment idea, but it turned out great!”*

Music is an integral component of Jowonio’s educational program. Songs are used throughout the school day to help children transition from one activity to another and to help learn new skills. Music is “all-inclusive”, and students who have difficulty with spoken language often respond well to music. One of the school’s long-standing traditions is “All School Sing”, a weekly gathering where all teachers and children sing together, further strengthening the school’s spirit of friendship and community.

Photos:

1. A Brass Quintet recently entertained Jowonio students and staff. (Musicians, from left to right: John Lombardo, Kyle Covington, Jeff Gray, Jeff Dee, Ed Deifes)



2. Nicholas Diefes checks out the tuba played by his father, Ed Diefes



More Information

2009 marks the 40th Anniversary of Jowonio! The school was founded in 1969 by a small group of visionary parents who wanted an individualized educational approach for their children, and grown ever since. Today, with a dedicated staff that includes certified teachers, therapists, and social workers, Jowonio serves 180 young children and their families each year, and is nationally recognized as a model for inclusive education.

Jowonio's 40th Anniversary is being celebrated with two special events, both open to the public. On **May 13, 2009**, **Stickley, Audi & Co.** presents the 4th annual ***Friends, Flowers & All That Jazz***, a festive evening of food, music, and fun in support of Jowonio School. On **October 16, 2009**, Jowonio School will present ***Celebrating the Promise of Inclusive Communities***, an educational conference featuring Keynote Speaker **Paula Kluth**. The day will culminate with a joyous **40th Anniversary Dinner** for Jowonio families and friends, who will gather to celebrate and share the school's remarkable achievements in the field of inclusive education.

More information: (315) 445-4010, ext. 215; cb.iowonio@yahoo.com; www.iowonio.org

Jowonio's mission is to provide model inclusive programs for young children, where diversity is celebrated and all are free to learn and grow.

JOWONIO

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