

Klezmer band will get toes tapping

By MYRNA PETLICKI | Contributor

Klezmer music evolved in the 15th century, but its lively, soulful sounds still appeal to audiences of all ages. Kids should particularly enjoy hearing their contemporaries play and sing traditional tunes when the Skokie-based Maxwell Street Junior Klezmer Orchestra performs a free concert 3 p.m. Sunday, at Highland Park Public Library, 494 Laurel Ave.

The orchestra, started in 1992, is a project of the not-for-profit Klezmer Music Foundation of Lori Lippitz's acclaimed Maxwell Street Klezmer Band. Most members are in junior high school and high school, although children as young as 9 have participated. Members come from as far away as Oak Park and Aurora.

"The band studies two areas of traditional Jewish music," Lippitz reported. Klezmer music is instrumental band music performed on such instruments as clarinet, violin, trumpet and saxophone. The group also learns vocal music in the

form of Yiddish folk songs and songs from the Jewish theater.

"We put the two of them together and we end up with a very nice variety show, alternating between these traditional dance instrumentals and these Yiddish songs," Lippitz said.

For details, call (847) 432-0216.

A sure hit

Marilyn Price always travels with a small group of friends — or should we say a group of small friends. The popular puppeteer will use some of her buddies to teach a little religion to kids ages 4-8, plus their families, when she presents "Punch and Judaism," 4-5:30 p.m. Saturday at Adas Yehuda V'Shoshana, 2548 Jasper Court, Northbrook. The free storytelling event, sponsored by the JCC of Chicago, will also feature a Havdallah service and snacks.

For details, call (847) 412-4225.

Insightful entertainment

Young performers will enter-



Kids will enjoy watching the lively show put on by the kids of the Maxwell Street Junior Klezmer Band.

tain kids and parents by sharing traditions of their heritage during "Chinese Music and Dance," 2 p.m. Saturday, at the Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave. The free, drop-in event is part of the library's "China Insight" series, designed to introduce patrons to that country's culture.

For details, call (847) 256-6925.

Prehistoric projects

Bet you didn't know that to-

day (Thursday) is "Dinosaur Day." That's what they are calling it at the Lake Forest Library's Children's Library, 360 E. Deerpath.

Bring your child there between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and the two of you can work on a free dinosaur project.

For details, call (847) 234-0636.

If the shoe fits

...the title lady will win a

princely prize and escape household chores in "Cinderella," 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturdays and noon and 3 p.m. Sundays, through February 4, at the Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka.

The Winnetka Theatre production of Marc Robin's lively version of the fairytale is part of its "Especially for Kids" series. Tickets are \$10.

For details, call (847) 604-0275.