

- Special Edition-

Dear Friends,

Maestro held its "Mini-Program" during the week of December 18-24, 2005, at the Daniel de Pitchoto Music Center in the northern town of Ma'alot-Tarshiha.

Members of the teaching staff were:

Mr. Hagai Shaham (violin) of Israel - Musical Director of *Maestro*; Prof. Moshe Epstein (flute) of Hamburg; Prof. Uri Vardi (cello) of Madison, Wisconsin; Prof. Atar Arad (viola) of Bloomington, Indiana; Prof. Gad Lewertoff (viola) of Tel Aviv; Mr. Eli Kalman (piano) of Madison, Wisconsin; Mr. Zvi Carmeli (viola) of Berlin; and Dr. Nadav Ziv (woodwinds) of Israel.

Guest instructors included:

Prof. Mimi Zweig (violin) of Bloomington, Indiana; and Prof. Shmuel Magen (cello), Dr. Asaf Zohar (piano), Ms. Chana Shalgi (piano), Ms. Dafna Peled (flute), and Mr. Pablo Ariel (theater director), all of Israel.

Joining them were the *Maestro* trainees, young musicians, who are graduates of music academies:

Cello: Elroi Luria, Marina Katz, Roni Cohen;
Violin: Elina Gurevich, Keren Lipker, Shiraz Ben-Yehuda;
Flute: Hagit Caspi; Gili Schwarzman; Shiri Katz;
Piano: Sharon Tsaiad.

Together, the *Maestro* participants engaged in a multifaceted program featuring a variety of events:

1. The encounters between faculty and trainees included individual instruction and master classes.
2. Program trainees were given support and guidance in preparing chamber repertoire for concert programs with explanations for young audiences.
3. Trainees had instruction and practice in music teaching of different age groups, with the participation of staff and pupils of Ma'alot -Tarshiha's Music Center and from the north of Israel.
4. Musical events were held for the community, at the Music Center and at local schools.
5. A musical weekend offered concerts open to the public.

In the course of the week's activities, program participants encountered some 800 people, residents of Ma'alot-Tarshiha and the surrounding area.