Pharaoh's Daughter

92Y’s Musical Introduction Series final concert of the season blended pan-Mediterranean influences with Basya Schechter's Hasidic musical background introducing dazzling tunes to 5000 elementary students in Kaufmann Concert Hall. Vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Basya Schechter lead the ensemble, Pharaoh's Daughter through swirling chants, Ashkenazi
and Sephardic folk-rock, and spiritual stylings filtered through percussion, flute, strings and electronica.

Basya’s ability to invite students into her multi-lingual songs discovered throughout her travels to Israel, North Africa, and the Middle East was masterful. Students traveled with Basya through Egypt on camel motioning up and down on their seats, they swayed back and forth traveling by boat from North Africa to the Middle East, and finally lifted their arms and flew back to the United States.

92Y Center for Educational Outreach prepared over 25 schools from four boroughs through professional teaching artists' classroom instruction. In order to best meet the curricular and instructional expectations placed on classroom teachers, the 92Y Center for Educational Outreach integrates into each lesson the Common Core standards in English/Language Arts including in-depth reflection lessons after each concert. This allows teachers the option of fulfilling core literacy requirements using fun, multidisciplinary activities.

Common Core Literacy skills were addressed, for example, by analyzing the lyrics to Basya’s songs, identifying the point of view, as well as comparing the etymology of Ladino to students’ prior knowledge of their spoken language, Spanish. Because of this instruction, students were able to sing with Basya in Hebrew, Yiddish, and Ladino at the concert.

At the close of the final concerts on May 21 and 22, students sang the Goodbye song closing out the Musical Introduction Series Women in Music 2013-2014 season. A final wave between 92Y Center for Educational Outreach staff and New York public school students signaled the conclusion of this year’s appreciation of women in music.

This was a wonderful program! Thank you!

-Lenora Walters, teacher, PS 3

We say good-bye to the 2014 Musical Introduction Series and gear up for next year’s wonderful selection of artists, leading us through the magic of musical storytelling!
2014/15 Season: Musical Storytelling

We are excited to announce the 2014/15 theme, musical storytelling, which will enrich students' understanding of how music can be interpreted and that will revive traditional cultural tales.

Some highlights for the 2014/15 Season: 92Y Center for Educational Outreach will deliver two New York premières, as well as a World Première commissioned choreography and composition.

The Musical Introduction Series ignites the season with *Maximus Musicus Visits the Orchestra of St. Luke’s*, the first New York première based on the book by Hallfríour Ólafsdóttir, is a wondrous and creative musical story introducing young children to the instruments and instrument families of the orchestra. Not only is this a New York première, but composer, Trggvi M. Baldvinsson, has been commissioned to compose the finale, *Fanfare for the Common Mouse!*

Hazmat Modine returns blending elements of early blues, hokum jug band, swing, klezmer, New Orleans R&B, jazz and Jamaican rocksteady to create a musical experience both familiar and refreshing for all audiences.

The NY premiere of the film, *Who Stole the Mona Lisa?*, immerses students in Parisian culture as they discover *Who Stole the Mona Lisa* and witness utensils dance their way through an episode of kitchen life in a commissioned ballet, *La Revue de Cuisine.*

The season’s final performance will captivate audiences with Kotchegna Dance Company. Through traditions of stilt dancing, elaborate masks and the driving force of a corps of energetic drummers, Kotchegna brings to life the ancient stories and legends of the Ivory Coast, delighting audiences of all ages.
Highlights of 2013/14 Women in Music Season:

On #GivingTuesday, students received balloon creations while entering Kaufmann Concert Hall on December 2 at 92Y.

Women of the World had students on their feet dancing a traditional African song.

A K/1 student at Ella Baker School’s new found enthusiasm for Marian Anderson. She writes: Marian Anderson is the best person ever!

Students dancing to traditional children’s music from East Asia with Elena Moon Park and Friends.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS! WE LOOK FORWARD TO CREATING MUSIC TOGETHER NEXT YEAR!