



**For Immediate Release**

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**McLean County Arts Center Grants YWCA with \$500 Grant for Music Program**

Bloomington, IL, June 3, 2019 – The McLean County Arts Center has granted YWCA a \$500 grant for their “Arm Up Your Environment with Music” classes for their Young Wonders Early Learning students. The money will go toward one hourlong service training for Young Wonders teachers, 15 sessions of music class for the students, supplies for the classes, and supplies a community drum circle.

The program be held every Monday at 9:30 am starting Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> and will be led by the Founder and Clinical Director of Developing Melodies Music Therapy Center, Board Certified Music and Developmental Therapist, Meryl Brown. Sessions will be an hour long, breaking into three 20 minute classes for each three pre-K classroom, 20 kids per room. The students will learn about music and rhythm, and make their own instruments. These activities will provide therapeutic rhythm lessons focusing on cognitive and creative skills for the students.

At the end of the summer session, there will be community drum circle held as the finale event. Students will be able to show off their new musical skills using the instruments they created out of recycled materials and “found sound” with the help of the grant. The event is meant to bring unity to the community while celebrating it through shared music as members empower each other through rhythm and music.

YWCA Young Wonders Staff, children and their families, and community members are all invited to join in on this fun, family friendly event. All levels of musical expertise and abilities are welcome.

**YWCA McClean County** is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, stand up for social justice, help families and strengthen our community. YWCA Association Name is part of an international movement serving over 2 million in the United States and 25 million worldwide. For comprehensive information about this important work, go to: [www.ywcaassociationname.org](http://www.ywcaassociationname.org) and [www.ywca.org](http://www.ywca.org).

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**YWCA IS ON  
A MISSION**

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
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