

SALINE: Saline Fiddlers pair up with Shar Music to present Instrument Petting Zoo

Published: Friday, November 11, 2011



The lobby outside the Performing Arts Center at Saline High School was transformed into a zoo Nov. 5. Not the kind with lions and tigers and bears, though. It was an Instrument Petting Zoo,

For an hour before the **Saline Fiddlers** 18th annual Fall Hometown Concert, and during the show's intermission, concert patrons of all ages were able to get up close and personal with the stringed instruments they see members of the Saline Fiddlers play on stage.

The instruments - violins, cellos and basses - came in all sizes - from tiny one-eighth sized instruments to full sized. They were provided by **Shar Music in Ann Arbor**, one of the country's largest providers of stringed instruments and accessories.

Representatives from Shar were on hand to guide the young zoo participants on how to hold the instruments and coax sounds from them. And although some of those sounds may have been more akin to those that you hear at a real zoo, they were just as thrilling to young folks and their parents as a perfectly performed symphony, said organizers of the event.

The Saline Fiddlers and Shar Music present the Instrument Petting Zoo two times per year at the fall and winter Saline Fiddlers' Hometown Concert. Through the zoos, the Saline Fiddlers and Shar introduce young people to the possibility of playing a stringed instrument, and encourage them to participate in the school orchestra programs.

The next Instrument Petting Zoo will take place March 3, 2012.