



For the Love of the Kazoo!

The 10th Annual Ames Main Street MusicWalk, presented by Stoltze and Stoltze Family Dentistry, returns on Thursday, September 29 in downtown Ames! Always a family-favorite, the U.S. Bank Kid's Kazoo Choir is expected to create a big buzz again this year in Tom Evans Park.

"The Kid's Kazoo Choir is a great addition to MusicWalk because usually, if you can hum a tune, you can play a kazoo," said Jennifer Brockpahler, Director of the Ames Community Arts Council. "There is nothing more appropriate for MusicWalk than a group learning to make music together!"

Brockpahler, a voice major in college, is leading the kazoo lessons starting at 6:30 p.m. at Tom Evans Park. She says playing a kazoo is easy and most people learn to do it in just a few minutes. The main thing to remember is, in order to make sounds with a kazoo, you hum rather than blow air.

"Humming creates a vibration, which makes the music," said Brockpahler. Once you've mastered basic humming, you can make different types of sounds by using different syllables like 'do,' and 'who' or even 'brr,' and 'rrr.'"

The first 250 kids interested in joining the fun will receive a free kazoo courtesy of U.S. Bank. After the lesson, Brockpahler will lead the choir through a few familiar songs. She says she is very excited to conduct this year's Kid's Kazoo Choir.

"I got my first kazoo when I was pretty young, and we still bring them out at family birthday parties and other gatherings," said Brockpahler. "It will be a lot of fun to pass on my love for the kazoo to a whole new group of kids and their families."

In addition to the Kid's Kazoo Choir, the Ames Community Arts Council will be helping kids make water bottle shakers at Tom Evans Park, the ISU Memorial Union Workspace will be at Heroic Ink (409 Douglas) where kids can make a "monster" castanet, and the Ames Public Library will be helping the kids make and decorate their own drums and participate in a drum circle.

The annual Ames Main Street MusicWalk allows downtown businesses to host local musicians looking to showcase their talents. Business owners hope you come hungry, not only for great music, but for some great food! Many of the district merchants will have fall food samples for people to enjoy.

MusicWalk will take place in the Main Street Cultural District on Thursday, September 29, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.