

"What Makes You Alive" by May Erlewine
Benefit Concert for the Red Cedar Elementary School
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http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=B3milrZSWw

When my daughter May Erlewine Bernard and her husband are not performing at concerts and festivals, they do a lot of benefit work with family, churches, schools, and kids. In the fall of 2011 they did about a six-day concert tour of Michigan that included a concert at the progressive Red Cedar Elementary School in Lansing Michigan. In their work with schools May and her husband Seth Bernard often find that the school kids already know many of their songs and sing along. In this video a whole choir of kids had learned May's new song "What Makes You Alive" and sing along.

Here are some notes by Marcus Sigh and Michigan Music Monthly (www.facebook.com/michiganmusicmonthly) and a recently released video of May singing that song. I hope you enjoy it.

Marcus Sigh:

"Please share the "What Makes You Alive" video featuring Red Cedar students to raise awareness about the beauty of Red Cedar Elementary. Consider attaching the following message or whatever you want to say. Below is the link to our FB page, if you could share from there -- I'm working from there until I make a Red Cedar Is Beautiful group."

"Red Cedar Elementary is a beautiful and unique treasure that has been targeted for closure by the East Lansing Public School District. Red Cedar is a working model of multicultural values and practices. It is a rarely seen example of honoring individuals of all shades and cultures...A rare example of creating a culture of safety and belonging to achieve high academic standards. It is wrong to close Red Cedar and dismantle its model. Rather, it should be studied and replicated. Action is needed to save Red Cedar. Can you help?"