



"Olympics" judges Judith Pearce & Kenneth Hamrick confer with Ann Trombley in February.

## Arts in Education Project 2010 - 2011

### Steps & Sounds of Different Cultures

The past few years' Artist Coaching Project expansion into a broader Arts-in-Education curriculum at Monticello High School worked at integrating music into non-music subjects. While this produced lively involvement on the students' part, it also became clear that with the focus spread among more subjects, & the consequent reduction of time available for work on basic musical principles, the students' musical skills were suffering. To counter this, MHS music teachers created an in-school "Chamber Music Olympics" in February, in which the students were scored by 2 WCM artists on a single ensemble skill – intonation. The winning Gold, Silver & Bronze ensembles received i-Tune gift cards, paid for by the students' own \$3 entry fees. The idea was successful and quickly produced better musical results.

This year, WCM & the MHS Performing Arts Academy continue in that vein of workshops & competition, in a project for 2010-11 titled, "Steps & Sounds of Different Cultures." There was a rhythm workshop in October; and another competition - this time for soloists performing scales in different rhythms will be held in December. Then, from January through June music students will collaborate in MHS's dance curriculum, learning basic steps of early dance forms and coaching in their chamber music ensembles with WCM artists. They will also research, write & prepare introductions to the music, all for performances in February & public concerts in June. The culmination of their studies is presented at "Last Night" on Monday, June 13 at the St. John's Street Theater in Monticello. The WCM artists working with the young musicians this year include Judith Pearce, Artistic Director & flutist, & Kenneth Hamrick Harpsichordist & early music specialist. MHS teachers for the project are Nancy Wegrzyn, Lead Teacher Instrumental Music; Ann Trombley, Music Department Head, and Karissa Mollicone, dance teacher.



Kenneth Hamrick & Judith Pearce talk with students after their performances.