



Trio plays at Smith Island school as part of program run by the BSO



Katherine Needleman and Michael Lisicky play at Ewell School. "Our children here are so close, they're all like an extended family," teacher Janet Evans says. "The down side is that we don't have access to the arts." PHOTO BY GLEN WAGGONER FOR PHOTOGRAPHER

# Bring on the music

BY CHRIS GUY  
FOR PHOTOGRAPHER

SMITH ISLAND / Michael Lisicky had the kids of the Ewell School right where he wanted them yesterday — in their classroom soaking up every note, every passage, even a few bands and squares thrown in for laughs by his Trio Laikipia.

Unlike other music education programs that the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's David Haselbacher has evaluated, this one couldn't have been any closer.

The entire school — 14 students from pre-K through seventh grade — took part. The children listened to the concert while sitting at their desks in their one-room schoolhouse here in the middle of the Chesapeake Bay.

None has ever heard a symphony orchestra. No one could identify an oboe.

Lisicky couldn't have asked for more.

"You do one of those presentations in a huge school auditorium, and you don't reach kids — it's reverse," said Lisicky. "Here, we have the most intimate type of setting. I've been thinking about doing something to bring music like this to Smith Island for years."

Located 13 miles out in the bay from the lower Eastern Shore, Maryland, the island has 100 residents.



Ashley Tyler, 8, looks with her necklars during a performance by Trio Laikipia. The musicians arrived by boat for a weekend residency program.