

SHARING THE JOY

Little Stars spread holiday cheer to seniors

Before Christmas 2006, three siblings — Amy, 13, Alan, 8, and Anna Sun, 5 — from Canton walked into a nursing home, the Four Season Nursing Center in Westland, for the first time to perform violin music for the seniors.

They noticed that most seniors were in wheelchairs and could not move easily without help. Many of them were waiting in the hallway next to their room, hoping someone would visit them. The Sun siblings realized that the holidays are not just about families feeling joyful and exchanging gifts, but they are also about sharing and caring for others, including those who are less fortunate.

A year later, the siblings founded the Little Stars and they've invited friends to visit local nursing homes and senior centers with free concerts ever since.

"While many lucky children and their relatives think of the holidays as a warm, happy time, countless others around the world are struggling to cope with illness, loneliness or

other serious difficulties," said Alan Sun, director of the Little Stars Foundation.

This year marked their 10th year to visit the seniors. This year before Christmas, the group visited six nursing homes and senior centers and performed seven holiday concerts. Centers visited included Hope Health Care Center in Westland, Four Season Nursing Center in Westland, Waltonwood at Carriage Park Assisted Living in Canton, Waltonwood at Carriage Park Independent Living in Canton, Halsted Place Senior Residences in Farmington Hills and Fleischman Resident in West Bloomfield.

They raised the funds through fundraiser activities and brought fleece blankets and fuzzy socks to the seniors as this year's Christmas gifts.

"The Little Stars' visits continue to bring joy to hundreds of local seniors during this holiday season," Sun said. "Many residents have expressed their wishes for the young musicians to come back soon."



Anna Sun and other Little Stars distributed red fleece blankets to seniors at Four Season Nursing Center in Westland.



Alan Sun and Little Stars distributed fuzzy socks at Waltonwood at Carriage Park Assisted Living in Canton.



Little Stars with seniors at Waltonwood at Carriage Park Independent Living in Canton.