CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MusicLink began as a simple idea—link an eager student in financial need, who has a passion to learn music, with a caring teacher who can be a mentor over years of lessons. MusicLink has reached a milestone of 30 years with totals shown below of students, hours of instruction, and in-kind scholarship donation. As an incentive to see MusicLink grow during this 30th year, we are reaching out to teacher colleagues across the country who share this simple idea to join us by registering students they may already be teaching at a discount (50% or less of normal fee). Our goal is to reach a total of 8,000 students during this anniversary school year.

MusicLink teachers are eligible for discounts or free music from our business partners and their students can receive music camp scholarships. We encourage any teacher reading this annual report to “join us!”

MusicLink celebrates its 30th Anniversary with accomplishments documented in a book, MusicLink Foundation—30 Years of Creating Musicians, One Student at a Time. The volume contains memories starting with the early years of the MusicLink program in Virginia, its growth to the national level through its partnership with MTNA, and the emergence of the MusicLink Foundation as a non-profit organization reaching thousands of students across the country. The book includes photos of our Teacher Laureates (20 years) and all MusicLink Senior Achievement Award and Ruth Stenson Award winners. We include memorable events, such as receiving MTNA’s Achievement Award in 2017 recognizing the MusicLink Foundation’s significant and lasting contribution to music and music teaching.

Donors who support the MusicLink Foundation with a contribution of $500 or more will receive this commemorative volume with our thanks. Our Annual Report contains statistics on MusicLink’s progress as well as showing the accomplishments made across the country during this past year.

MUSICLINK® FOUNDATION STATUS REPORT

As of October 10, 2022, the MusicLink® Foundation has reached 7,875 students; provided over 588,400 hours of instruction, equivalent to over $16.54 million of in-kind scholarship donation.
The maps show the total of students served by MusicLink® over the past 30 years. Stars (★) indicate states adding new students during the 2021–2022 fiscal year.
MusicLink® Accomplishments 2021–2022

MusicLink® 30th Anniversary Videos
MusicLink is celebrating its 30th year by broadcasting online videos of teachers, students, and alumni who have been part of MusicLink for many years. Hopefully you find these short glimpses and performances enjoyable. We encourage any MusicLink teacher to share a short student performance or a personal tribute through video. Send videos or personal stories to musiclink.founda-}

d@c@gmail.com.

Current videos include a testimonial by Tatyana Hearne (VA), a MusicLink teacher in the program since 2005 and performances by two of her students, Richard and Raylen Tang. MusicLink 30th anniversary videos can be found on the MusicLink website.

30th MusicLink® Teacher in 2022
As part of our 30th Anniversary celebration, we recognize our 30th new active teacher of 2022. Welcome to Laura Geissler, a violin teacher from Stanton MN who registered a student for MusicLink in August. Laura is a registered Suzuki instructor for violin. Her hope is that her students develop a life-long love of music and their violin, along with friendships that extend far beyond the violin studio. As a gift from MusicLink, Laura received three levels of Chamber Music Sampler, a set of piano trios edited by Joanne Haroutouian.

30th Anniversary Goals:
• The state that adds the largest number of students in 2022 will be recognized with an article in an upcoming eLINK.
• Goal of reaching 1.3K followers on our Facebook page (currently 1.2K)
• Goal of reaching $100,000 in donations by the end of 2022 ($52,000 to go)

MUSICLINK® HALL OF FAME
The heart of MusicLink lies in our teachers and their dedication to reaching out to deserving students over many years of instruction. We honor teachers who have taught through MusicLink over the years through our Hall of Fame recognition. This year there were 12 teachers who reached our Hall of Fame category (5–9 years): Gio Andollo (NY), Barbara Borries (WA), Jennifer Campbell (NC), Mysti Dye (FL), Pat Dymack (MN), Kris Olson (MN), Ronit Seter (VA) Maureen Spranza (CA), Sandra Statz (WI), Nancy Stone (OR), Mary Swanson (OR). Five teachers reached the Teacher of Distinction category (10–14 years): Kay Hawkins (MN), Caroline Langfeld (MN), Marcia Mally (IL), Rebecca Smith (MN), Gene Swanson (MN).

We were thrilled to have 2 teachers reach the category of Teacher or Coordinator of Distinction with Honors (15–19 years).

SENIOR AWARDS
The MusicLink Foundation Senior Award of Excellence recognizes a graduating senior who has shown ongoing commitment to lessons and has made significant progress in musical studies, performing at an outstanding level. The $1,000 award is made possible by the Arline and Russell Bridge Endowment Fund.

MusicLink® Senior Achievement Award Winner—Samuel Norton
We were pleased to present the 2022 MusicLink Senior Award of Excellence to Samuel Norton, a piano student of Sylvia Lange of Maple Grove, MN. Samuel began exploring music at the age of three through The Kiddie Keys Program in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He started private piano lessons at the age of five, followed by violin lessons a few years later. Throughout the years, Samuel has performed in the MMTA State Honors Contest, Minnesota Music Teachers Forum Recitals, several duets at the MMTA Ensemble Festival, and performed Beethoven’s Sonata Pathetique at the Senior Honors Recital last summer.

He continues to advance his musical knowledge and skills through the completion of MMTA Theory and Syllabus Exams. Additionally, Samuel has played for the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphony as a violinist and sings with the Chesterton Academy Choir. He has earned High Distinction on seven levels of piano exams and has received several Honors ratings in MMTF recitals. Additionally, he has participated in the MMTA Honors Concert as a State Contest winner. Samuel currently attends Thomas Aquinas College, in Santa Paula, California.

Samuel’s essay includes his thoughts on learning the Classics in piano. “I love sharing with others what I was fortunate enough to have had shared with me by my parents and music teachers, namely the often-forgotten beauty in Classical music. To me, there is no better feeling than introducing someone to a completely new style of music and then watching them enjoy it even though they were initially hesitant. As I move forward into college, I am sure I will cross paths with those who were not as fortunate as I was. Thankfully the college I will be attending has a strong musical culture and curriculum.”

SENIOR GRADUATE RECOGNITION
Each year we feature MusicLink graduating seniors in the July issue of the eLINK. We are so proud of these young musicians as they continue to seek out music as they enter young adulthood. This year there was a total of 9 student graduates: Michelle Benitez (CA), Imani Esbrand (MD), Kylie Frush (TX), Chavah Kuraz (WI), Sophie Pancoast (WA), John Perez (CA), Carla Becerra Sabrera (VA), Emily Schmidt (ND) and Avery Stevenson (TX). Their writeups are available through our website under the News Archives, eLINK July 2022.

MUSICLINK® CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS
We were pleased to help send MusicLink students to music camp this summer. The MusicLink Summer Camp Scholarship program offers camp scholarships to any student who has taken lessons through the program for at least six months and has been accepted into a camp prior to applying for the scholarship of up to $250. This year scholarships were given to 16 students who attended summer programs in Virginia, Georgia, Texas, and North Carolina. The photos below feature Taylor and Callie Wood, students of Sherry Frush (TX) who enjoyed the Abilene Performing Arts Music Theatre Production Camp.
KURZEN CAMP SCHOLARSHIP

The Dorothy B. and Mel Kurzen Camp Scholarship provides an annual scholarship of $1000 to a select MusicLink student who is seeking a summer experience at a music camp where tuition fees exceed our normal $250 camp scholarship. This year this scholarship was awarded to Malik Muhammad who attended the Interlochen Center for the Arts Summer Music Camp in Michigan.

He performed in the Intermediate Concert Orchestra under Orchestra Director Liber Cuervos. He notes the repertoire that we went over were the most difficult pieces I have ever played. The camp helped me learn to sightread and I improved in my posture. Aside from music, the experience of walking freely on campus was almost like a college. I met a variety of people from all over the world at all different levels of proficiency who are serious about their musical studies. Going to Interlochen is something I would recommend to every musician and is something I intend on going to next year.”

FUND RAISING EVENTS RAISE $11,000 FOR MUSICLINK®

Virginia: The holiday season wouldn’t be complete without the Fairfax-Loudoun Music Fellowship (FLMF) Holiday Serenades Concert at the Dulles Town Center. This year holiday music was provided by students of eleven FLMF teachers. The performers were predominantly pianists, but there was also a vocalist, a clarinetist, as well as accompanying percussion instruments. FLMF is proud to be able to donate $1,000 to the MusicLink Foundation from this benefit concert!

Minnesota: The Minnesota MusicLink Playathon returned to the Mall of America this year after missing a year due to the pandemic. The playathon featured 154 performers with 27 teachers represented. The playathon raised over $10,000 for the MusicLink Foundation. Our thanks to the Minnesota Music Teacher Association volunteers, Kathryn Karg for coordinating emcees and livestreaming and event founder Gary Wege for photos. Sue Wege has organized this amazing event each year—quite special to students, teachers, parents, and shoppers!

Other Fund-Raising Events

If you or your organization would like to include a fund-raising event for the MusicLink Foundation in the next few months, consider the following possibilities, described fully on the website www.fundmusiclink.com.

- Playathon or Benefit Concert—an event that brings music to the community and helps our kids. Ideas to get started are on the website.

- Promise to Practice—a private studio teacher or school organization can pledge a certain amount per hour of practice over several weeks. This is a novel way to encourage practice and help our kids as well. Details and practice grids are on the MusicLink website.

WEBSITE SPOTLIGHTS

The MusicLink Foundation website features Student, Teacher, and Alumni Spotlights on its homepage. When surfing the web, do click on these spotlights to learn more about the outstanding people that make the MusicLink Foundation so special.

Coordinator Spotlights were featured in eLinks throughout the year to acquaint MusicLink teachers and readers with our all-important team that link teachers and students. Articles featured Pam Jensen, National Administrative Assistant; Bonnie Callahan, Northeast Regional Coordinator; Alissa Dorman, Southwest Regional Coordinator.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI—30th YEAR UPDATES

The MusicLink Foundation has established an Alumni Group to reach out to over 1400 alumni who are enjoying music in their lives thanks to their connection to MusicLink as they grew as student musicians. We invite our alumni to be part of our 30th Anniversary celebration by submitting a short description of what they are doing now so we can share through our Alumni Spotlights on our website as well as in the eLink newsletter. If we gather enough articles, we plan to make a special Then and Now book of alumni.

Alumnus David Kim is the chair of the MusicLink Alumni Group and is eager to hear about what is happening in the lives of our alumni through Facebook or our website or email: MusicLinkalumni@gmail.com.

TEACHER REIMBURSEMENT AND GRASS ROOTS GRANTS

The MusicLink Foundation provides reimbursement for teachers for student music and event fees. This year we raised the grant to amounts up to $200. These grants are distributed in October, February and June. This fiscal year (July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022) teacher reimbursements totaled $1,038.73. They were sent to 16 teachers representing AK, CO, IL, IN, MN, ND, NJ, OK, TX, WA.

Our Grass Roots Grant program assists new MusicLink programs or projects that may include moving a piano for a student. This year we raised the amount of the grant up to $500 with applications accepted in October, February, and June. This year the foundation awarded grants totaling $4,584 to Minnesota Music Teachers Association, Hopewell North Music Cooperative (MN), Saving Grace Music School (SC), Sara Anderholm, (AK), Oregon MusicLink (OR), Denise Ondishko (OR), Francesca Hurst (VA), Nancy Vanderslice (NJ), Phyllis Caldeon (IL), Steve Waters (MO), Amanda Snell (WA).

INSTRUMENTS IN-KIND DONATIONS

This year the MusicLink Foundation received instrument and music donations of $25,000, not including over $25,000 in discounted and free music distributed directly to our MusicLink teachers through our business partners. These donated instruments are distributed to our students throughout the year. In-kind donations are italicized in our donor list in this report. Instrument donations can be made on both MusicLink Foundation websites: www.musiclinkfoundation.org, www.fundmusiclink.com.

NEW MUSICLINK® BUSINESS PARTNERS AND ALLIANCES

The MusicLink Foundation received the 2022 Great Nonprofit badge designating the organization as outstanding for the ninth year in a row.

We invite you to visit the Business Partner and Alliance Partner pages on our website to...
view the full roster of businesses and organizations supporting us across the country. We recognize the following added to the roster this past year:

**Business Partners:** Instrumental Angels, Boston, MA; School of Rock, San Ramon, CA; All Keyed-Up Piano Shop, Kansas City, MO; Bloomington Symphony Orchestra Children’s Instrumental Recovery Program (CHirp), IN; PianoCycle, MN; Duet Partners; Elizabeth Borowsky, Piano Prodigies.

**Alliance Partners:** Headwaters Music & Arts, Bemidji, MN; Presentation Arts Center, St. Louis, MO.

We thank Lucy Chu Stokes and Lucy Chu of EZ Notes as they close their business, after decades of partnership with MusicLink.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO MUSICLINK—MANY OPTIONS**

At this time of year, we ask our readers to support MusicLink’s mission that “any child who has musical potential deserves the opportunity to nurture this talent to its full extent, creating musicians, one student at a time.” You may choose to donate online through our website or send a check to our national office. Other options below may appeal to you to personalize your donation. You can keep track of our donation process on the thermometer on the home page of our website during this giving season.

We are always pleased to see donations that represent meaningful support of our mission to help students in need have access to ongoing musical training. Louis Fidel spread the word of the MusicLink Foundation through his dental practice. This year he closed the practice and donated $10,000 to MusicLink. The Kanter Kallman Foundation supports the New York MusicLink program each year with donations of $3,000 to $5,000. The Michael R. Rezendes Family Foundation provides a recurring donation of $500 monthly to the organization. The Mattlin Foundation and Severude Family Foundation also provide continuous support with donations of $1,000 each year. We recognize all silver and gold donations on the Donations page of this Annual Report.

**Recurring Donations** are a simple way to contribute on a regular basis—monthly, bi-monthly or every six months. Online donations through Network for Good on our website provides this type of choice for interested donors.

**The MusicLink Camp Sponsor Program** is a wonderful way for donors to personalize their contributions of $250 or more for a specific MusicLink student seeking a music camp experience. Simply designate your contribution as a camp sponsor along with the name you would like to use for the scholarship. This program is especially worthwhile for larger contributions that can send an outstanding student to music camps where fees easily surpass $1,000. We will personally keep camp donors abreast of the progress of these students who will use these scholarships. Simply email us at info@musiclinkfoundation.org for details.

**Legacy Partners**

The MusicLink Foundation is fortunate to have a group of donors that are part of our Legacy Partners, donating from $5000 (Bravo) to $10,000 or more (Encore) annually to guarantee ongoing funding to link teachers with students and provide lessons, instruments, camp scholarships, and other opportunities for students and teachers. You may wish to join this important group of donors to secure MusicLink for years to come.

We enjoyed eight years of Legacy Partner support (Bravo level) for the MusicLink DC program from the Louise P. Zarano Fund. Before closing, their fund this year, the MusicLink Foundation received a final donation of $5,000. We thank them for their support.

We thank Bill and Brigid Brakefield (Encore Level) who were the first donors to the MusicLink Foundation when it was originally established as a 501 c3 charity. Bill and Brigid have hosted several playathons in their home where they performed along with MusicLink students and many of their friends. William and Joanne Haroutounian (Encore Level) established and developed the MusicLink Foundation in 1992. They enjoy the Legacy Partner status and established an endowment fund in honor of Joanne’s parents to support the MusicLink Senior Achievement Award each year.

The MusicLink Foundation Board of Directors (Bravo Level) has pledged to support the MusicLink Foundation through the Legacy Partner program. The board includes Joanne Haroutounian, William Haroutounian, Sue Wege, Andrea Shore, Charles Kinney, Linda Christenson, Virginia Gutierrez, Nora Martin, and Kathryn Karg.

**Endowment Funds**

The MusicLink Foundation is fortunate to have donors who decided to establish an endowment fund in honor of a family member to foster ongoing musical training to disadvantaged students. The endowments are named for Arline and Russell Bridge, Gerard Christoff, and Dorothy B. and Mel Kurzen. These funds ensure ongoing senior scholarships, camp scholarships to prestigious summer music programs, and ongoing lessons for MusicLink students. Those interested in establishing an endowment fund should contact the national office: info@musiclinkfoundation.org.

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**Planned Giving Ideas**

We have received questions from donors regarding how to establish an estate plan that includes the MusicLink Foundation. Planned Giving (or legacy giving) gifts are payable to a charity upon the donor’s death, like a bequest or a beneficiary designation in a life insurance policy or retirement account. These gifts do not generate a lifetime income tax deduction for the donor, but they are exempt from estate tax.

You can tell us to use your bequest for a particular state or program (like summer music camp scholarships) or allow us to use it for the needs and opportunities that are most relevant to us when your gift is received. The IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals over age 70½ to directly transfer up to $100,000 per year from an IRA account to one or more charities. This transfer counts toward the minimum required distribution rule for IRA accounts and such distributions are free of both income and estate taxes.

Legacy gifts can make a huge difference in the long-term health of a nonprofit. Legacy gifts are not just for the wealthy, they’re for anyone who believes in our mission and who wants to see us continue into the future. Consider leaving a legacy…so your cherished values live on.
We thank all of our donors—foundations, corporate sponsors, and individuals—who share our passion to music in children in need. We have included donations from September 2021 through August 2022. Italicized individuals and business partners provided in-kind donations of instruments and/or music.

**Benefactor: $10,000 or more**
- Bill & Bridget Brakfield, Legacy Encore
- Louis Fiedl
- William & Jeanne Hansvathuin, Legacy Encore

**Gold: $5,000–$9,999**
- Rosemary Christoff Dolan/Christoff Endowment Fund
- Jo & Howard Harlow
- Elizabeth McGoldrick/Providence Family Giving Fund

**Silver: $1,000–$4,999**
- Sandra J. Baker
- Mary Anne Bonnek
- Row Allen Hamilton/Bevoni Community Impact
- God A. Johnston
- Victoria & Andrew Kerger
- Wilma Lane
- Richard Marshall/Atlas Family Foundation
- Blaine & Heidi Michaelis/Blaine and Heidi Michaelis Giving Fund

**Bronze: $250–$999**
- John Adelman
- Kell Bergh
- Meghan Bovis
- Robert & Elizabeth Dyson
- Merle Greene
- Mitchell Grading
- Peter & Marilyn Haase
- Brooke Houghton
- Bill Penny
- Gail A. Johnston
- Booz Allen Hamilton/Benevity Community Impact

**Sustainer: $100–$249**
- Anonymous, in the name of Gerald and Concetta Formosa
- Alan & RD Becker
- Christopher Behrnan
- Susan Benoit
- Ben & Bonnie Bitterer
- Alexander & Tracy Boardman
- Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Boardman, The Boardman Family Giving Fund
- Beth Ann Bove
- Janine Brumley
- Emily Brown, dedicated to the Lang Family
- Bevan R. Coates, III
- Beth Chapman
- Maggie Dahl, dedicated to Grace Dahl
- James & Robert DeWitt
- Sara Detrow
- William Dunn
- Melissa Gergel, in honor of Ken McDermott’s 60th birthday
- Douglas and Megan Gilles
- Adam & Heather Green
- Sarah Holsen
- Holly Hopper
- Melissa Harris
- Steve Hendrickson
- Jay & Mary Henshaw
- Bill Howarth
- Jana Holley, Julia Hayes Memorial Fund
- Diana Jaggiello
- Deborah & Robert Jorgens
- Richard & Elizabeth Juhlin
- K & S Conservatory of Music
- Liz Lin Li
- Jenny Kuphal
- Matthew Lawch
- Kristine Leavonian
- Mara Martine
- Irene Mathilde
- Staci McKinley-Cox
- Dan & Kelly Mitchell
- Ophelia Nativestanis
- Scott Rockna
- Michael Nonara
- Debra Murphy
- Christina Dishburn, dedicated to Nora and Quinn Bawek
- Kaye M. Go
- Kristin Remer
- Christopher Ruark
- Romina Scalfi, dedicated to Barbara Joan Scalfi
- Andrew Shaheen
- Raymond Smith
- Eric Soares
- Maria Stiglitz
- Thomas & Martha Stistman
- Catherine Thacker
- Mary Thompson
- John & Edwigeen Triney

**Sustainer: $100–$249**
- Raymond Toshner
- Laura Utley
- Lyndal Vogel
- Jill White

**Friend: $10–$99**
- Jessica Alberts
- Eric and Alyce Aman
- Kandan Anandapara
- Laura Ballough, dedicated to Mr. Beverly
- Carolene and Nicholas Banek
- Kimberly Berg
- Jannan Birdman, dedicated to Evelyn Scully-Birdman
- Linda Birdman, dedicated to Evelyn Scully-Birdman
- Rokus Boae
- Brea Brathwaite
- Natalie & Michael Brady
- Robert & Paula Brand
- Mary Brezil, in honor of Annette Demsey and Erik Richmond
- Eric Cameron
- Jill Campbell
- Applejoy Connors
- Keith Christensen
- Tiffany Cobby
- Andrew Czogora
- Claire Denis-Cobette
- Robert and Jennifer Danos
- Loren and Beverly Denning
- Nancy Dennis
- Chris & Laura Doveine
- Christopher Diamant, dedicated to Sidney Diamond
- Lee Dodge
- Donald Dahl
- Myri Dye
- Holly and Gregory
- Emily Fishwick, in honor of John Fishwick
- Fred Friedberg
- Bruce Friedberg
- Gary Frisch
- Leslie Furth, dedicated to Anna Dahl
- Katherine Gokaron, dedicated to Anne Barrant
- Robert Gollon
- Gregory Harris
- Janet Hanson
- Ken Hecker
- Bryan Hines
- Jim Henry
- Marilyn Henry
- Bruce Roland Herbst
- Tucker Hott
- Jeffrey Hill
- Jonathan Jakobson
- Mary Jelinek
- Christian Jungerson
- Anna Kijko
- Jacqueline Lamb
- Lai Lan Ko
- K & S Conservatory of Music

**State Coordinators**

**Regional Coordinators**
- Northeast: Bonnie Callahan
- Southeast: Nora Martin
- Mid-Atlantic: Alona Colon
- Midwest/South Central: Sue Wege
- Southwest: Alicia Dorman

**MusicLink® Foundation Staff and Coordinators**
- Joanna Hansvathuin, PhD, Executive Director
- Pam Jansen, National Administrative Assistant
- Sue Wege, National Director of Coordinators

**MusicLink® Foundation Donor Support**