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**RMF's mission is to advocate for  
and advance music appreciation  
and education in Berks County.**

*Updated 2015*



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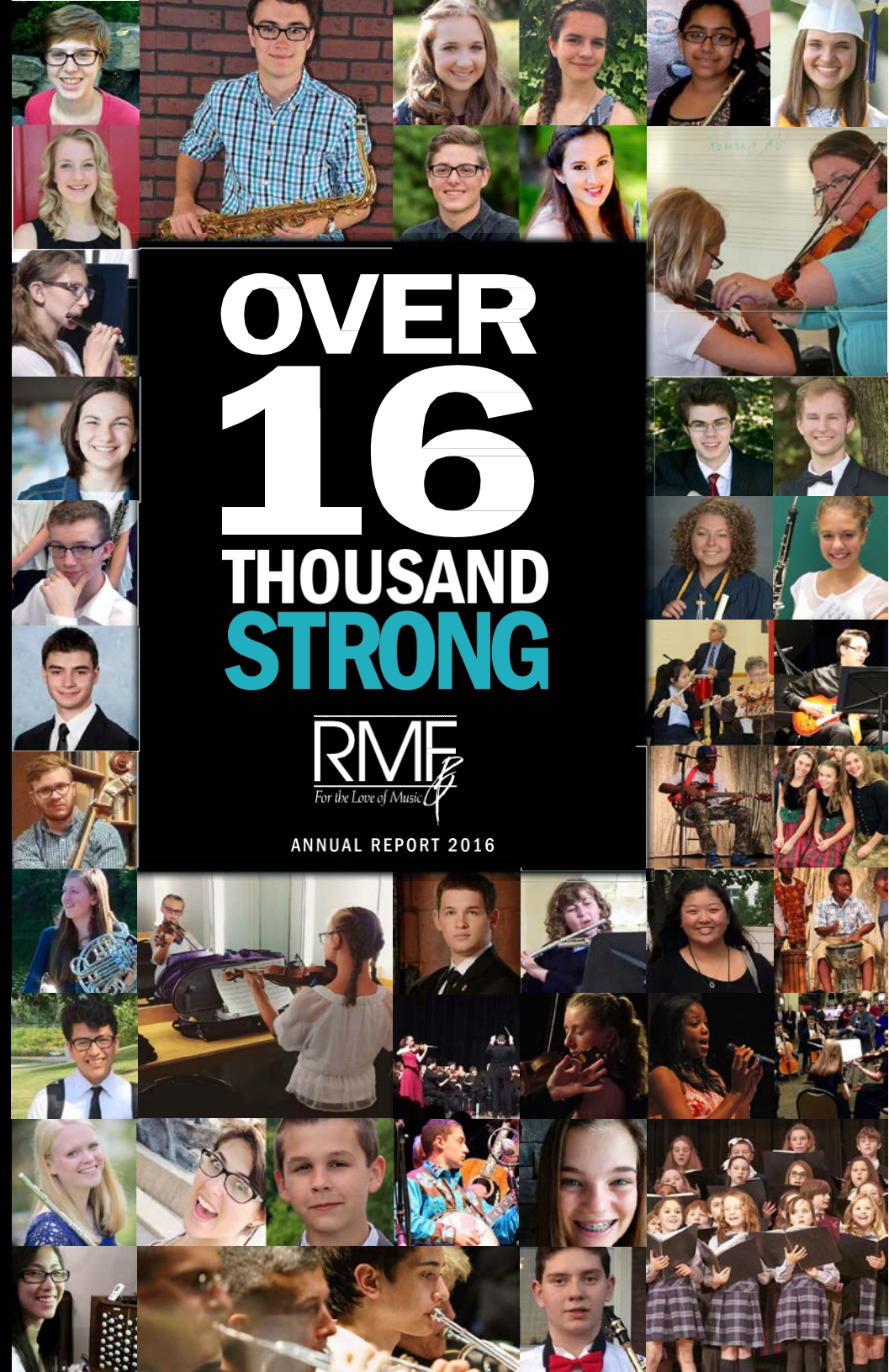
Office Location:  
GoggleWorks Center for the Arts 201  
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Visit our Website:  
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Design:  
The Anderson Group



It was over a decade ago when

**RMF recentered its mission around music education.**

The reason was two-fold: research was just beginning to correlate music-making in young children to building academic, social, and emotional skills; and secondly, a responsibility for RMF to fill audience seats not just today, but also tomorrow.

At that time in 2005, music education in Berks County and across Pennsylvania was continuing to strengthen, with full ensembles and full teaching staff. Little did we know that five years after updating our mission, music programs-particularly ensembles-would come under fire due to tightening school budgets and music ensembles being non-mandated coursework in Pennsylvania.

Berks County's music programs were fortunate to withstand this storm with little damage. While there were soft hits along the way, no school district shut down its music program completely. Neighboring counties were not as fortunate, with some districts in PA still musically empty, and others just starting to reinstate music programs, after years of no ensembles. Music advocates knew the situation was dire, but we had no way to truly quantify hits to programs and the effect on students. While there is a lot of data collected at the state level when it comes to public school education, not one single piece of arts education data was collected.

RMF started advocating for statewide arts education data two years ago, but little progress has been made. Knowing an immediate statewide solution was unrealistic, RMF began its own data collection two years ago. With support from the Wyomissing Foundation, we invested in a Music Education Advisor, who began tracking local data on music programs and students served. **Because of this initiative, Berks County is the first county in the state of Pennsylvania that can accurately state the total number of students who participate in school music ensembles and the percentage of music students compared to the student body, and track movement and trends among these numbers.**

Data collection is quite the task for any organization, but the information garnered is worth the work. From this information, RMF now has the ability to help parents and educators advocate for their music programs using actual numbers instead of estimates, influence educators to develop recruitment and retention initiatives, and study best practices.

For donors like you who invest in RMF's programs, these numbers begin to highlight the magnitude of the difference your dollars are making. There are more than 16,000 active young musicians in Berks County who, like you, believe that music education is important. They are counting on their teachers, their parents, and their advocates to keep themselves, and the music, moving forward.

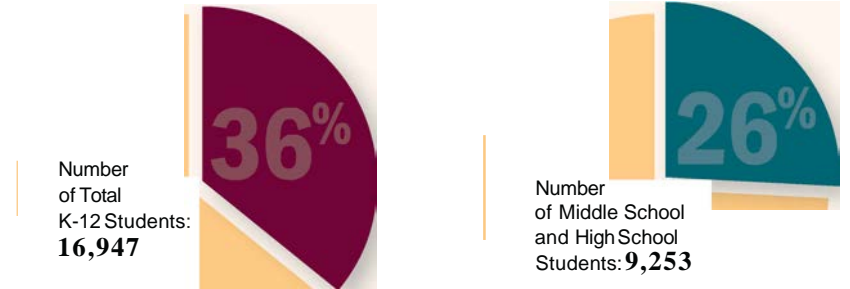
Sincerely,

David W. Swartz, Esq.  
Chair

Keri M. Shultz  
President

## What Our Data Collection Efforts Have Yielded in Berks County...

Unique Number of Students Participating in School Music Ensembles (*Band, Chorus, and Orchestra*)



- % of Total Student Population
- % of Total Student Population

RMF Data Collection Study - Berks County Public Schools 2015-2016



References percent of 13-17 year olds who did not graduate from high school. *The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth* (National Endowment for the Arts) James S. Cattera/1, Gillian Hampton-Thompson (2012)

## Why break out middle school and high school students?

This number represents the number of students who have committed to their instrument beyond the beginner stage. These students have persevered through difficult music, started to master the skills needed for high-level playing, and are receiving the full benefit of skills offered through ensemble training: listening to others, attention to accuracy, reliability, and teamwork, traits that will confidently define them for the rest of their lives.

This Annual Report highlights the work of RMF made possible through our donors over the last year. While we look forward to all we can accomplish in 2017, this report is simply our chance to share our gratitude for your generosity and support of music education and live music performance in Berks County.



## RMF Scholarships

Over 200 students received need-based and merit scholarships for private lessons, instruments, and summer camp, through more than 50 scholarship funds held by RMF.

### 2016 SCHOLARSHIP STATS

#### MERIT AUDITIONS

**Pre-College Awards:** 114 Awards totaling \$33,850

**College Tuition Awards:** 14 Awards totaling \$49,800

\$8,925 increase over 2015, with a 6% increase in the number of awards

#### NEED-SENSITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

**Private Music Study:** 94 Awards totaling \$34,700

**Instrument Upgrades:** 6 Awards totaling \$2,400

**Summer Camp Awards:** 75 Awards totaling \$35,400

\$4,585 increase over last year, with a 12% increase in the number of awards

### NEWSCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

#### ALISA B. VOCAL PERFORMANCE FUND

Alisa B. Anderson was one of RMF's vocal coaches at Olivet Boys and Girls Club and the

after-school program at Reading High School before her unfortunate passing in September 2015. Alisa performed as a solo musician and with groups like Bunch-a-Funk during her music career. This fund was established by Alisa's friends and family to reach students in the Reading School District who have the same love for singing as Alisa.

*"I try my best and if it's not good enough, I try again. Singing lessons will give me the push I need to really show the world my gift."* - Sahara, the very first recipient of an Alisa B. Vocal Performance Fund scholarship, in her application to RMF.

#### WILLIAM L. & REBECCA GASSBITLER ACCOMPANIST SCHOLARSHIP

Say the name "Becky Butler" in any music circle and you're sure to get a smile and a story somehow connected to kindness. Her passing in 2014 left a hole in Berks that is still noticeable today. A beloved Professor of Music at Albright College for 32 years, the RSO's pianist since 1981, and accompanist for numerous RMF scholarship recipients, Becky was extraordinary in her commitment to young people and her craft.

Dedicated to promoting the development of young keyboard accompanists in Berks County, this new fund offers merit awards in keyboard accompaniment, need sensitive awards for the private study of keyboard accompaniment including summer camp, and compensation to students for accompanying children who audition for RMF merit scholarships but are unable to pay for the services of an accompanist.



## Young Music Makers 2016

Young Music Makers, a first-of-its-kind event, celebrated RMF merit scholarship winners who have placed every year for at least the last three years. The three-year landmark is significant because students compete in three-year groupings. When a student wins three years in a row, at some point he/she competed against students with two more years of private lessons and experiences. RMF doesn't take that hard work and musicianship for granted, and created a Celebration of Young Music Makers event to recognize their efforts.

Nearly 30 students celebrated their accomplishments with their families and friends of RMF. Winners received custom awards and heard testimonials from college students and recent college graduates who have carved their own paths thanks to their music studies.

### WHAT THE YOUNG MUSIC MAKERS HEARD THAT EVENING



#### HOW TO SUCCEED IN MUSIC...

*Former scholarship winner and recent Juilliard graduate, Katherine Althen*

1. Find a great teacher who believes in you and can help guide your goals.

2. Work diligently- you are in direct control of how much and how quickly you progress.

3. Don't be afraid to ask others for advice and support.

#### LOVE WHAT YOU DO...

*Brandon Buterbaugh, former scholarship winner and Music Education Major at Penn State University*

Use RMF's financial support to explore new realms of the music world and continue to be musical in everything they do. Students should proactively seek out opportunities to involve themselves with programs and ensembles that RMF supports, even when they embark on their college experience. Lastly, and the hard truth - in order for students to continue to be successful, they must remember why they love what they do.

#### FROM THIS MOMENT, IT CAN ONLY GET EASIER...

*Former scholarship winner and current engineer, Nicole Lacouve*

There's so much in life I can correlate to looking at piano music for the first time. At first glance, it seems impossible to master. But with time, practice, diligence, and hard work, the piece that once seemed impossible now seems easy. I've applied this principle to tough math courses and much more in life.



## RMF Music Education Program Highlights

Donors make music accessible to kids across Berks County through after-school and summer music programs, as well as curricular-based music enrichment.

### MUSIC-IN-THE-SCHOOLS

Dr. Willis Rapp, Music-in-the-Schools director, and his team of musicians delight elementary school students with assemblies dedicated to showcasing instrument families to young children. Combining classical, jazz, and popular songs, assemblies keep students engaged and dancing in their seats. Music-in-the-Schools went to 44 elementary schools last year. Dr. Rapp has designed an interactive curriculum component for this year, which will allow music educators to provide advance and follow-up study of the string family, the instrument focus for 2016-2017.



*Joyce Chen, student at St. Catharine of Sienna School and RMF Scholarship Winner, plays alongside her private flute teacher, Anne Weiser, during a Music-in-the-Schools concert last year.*

### GRAVITY STUDIOS - COMING FALL 2016!

The newest Olivet Boys and Girls Club location, Pendora Park, has partnered with RMF to build our first recording studio. Named after the former Gravity Railroad Line in Mount Penn, Gravity Studios will be state-of-the-art, offering high school teens access to systems and technology used by professionals to record and digitize music files. It's our hope that Gravity Studios will provide a unique learning opportunity for Olivet teens, as well as keep them grounded and connected, much like gravity itself.

This initiative is the most recent music program offered to Olivet through Reading Musical Foundation. Currently, the Foundation offers over 15 hours weekly to students across various clubs in the city of Reading. These include group lessons on keyboard, guitar, percussion, as well as two choruses and a digital music program in partnership with the computer center at GoggleWorks Center for the Arts.

**Gravity Studios is being developed with the following collaborations and goals in mind:**

- 1. Mastering the technology needed to run a music studio.**
- 2. Provide in-house recording studio to existing Olivet musicians and music programs.**
- 3. Business/entrepreneur training for Olivet members.**
- 4. Provide link to newly-designed Music Industry Studies major at Albright College.**

### OPERATION REPLAY

**A total of 199 instruments were collected in 2015-2016!  
Berks County's Instrument Recycling Program**

Alberta & Thomas Siemiakowski of Bethlehem found homes for their extensive instrument collection through Operation Replay. **Mr.**

Siemiakowski, a retired music educator, found a new way to make a difference for young musicians by repairing used instruments in his home. A recent medical diagnosis kept him from repairing the instruments in his workshop. The couple learned about Operation Replay after stopping by Zeswitz during a trip to Reading, and after exhausting other options closer to their home. Their gifts of 138 instruments, mainly violins but also cellos, keyboards, guitars, and band instruments, have already found homes in the Reading School District, Bethany Children's Home, and the Community Music School.



*Credit: Reading Eagle*

*Music and the arts is an essential program activity at the Olivet Boys and Girls club. It allows our club kids the opportunity to explore their talents either in individual guitar or piano sessions or in collaborative groups on stage while they are singing, drumming, or tap dancing. None of this is possible without the support and partnership of the Reading Musical Foundation. At Olivet, we are very grateful for the collaboration, and more importantly, the RMF gift of MUSIC that we share with children and youth who more than likely wouldn't have access to specific instruments, trained instructors, and lessons.*

*Pablo Tejada  
CEO/President  
Olivet Boys and Girls Club*

## RMF Favorite Moments from the Last Year

**Funkfest 2015 at the Reading Fightin Phils stadium.** The event was almost cancelled, but instead turned into a celebration of life for Alisa B. (Alisa Anderson). Musicians and other fans of Alisa from across Berks County and beyond came to honor her and the impact she made on young musicians. Proceeds from the event seeded the Alisa B. Vocal Performance Fund.

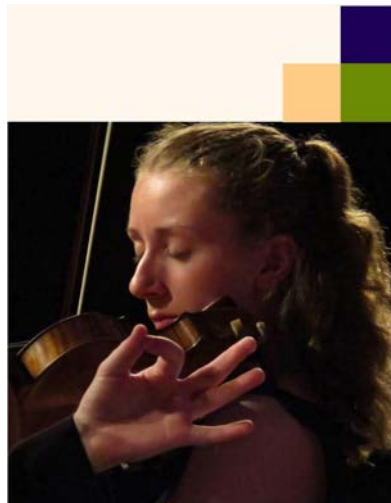
**Updating RMF's mission** to advocate for and advance music appreciation and education in Berks County. Plain English. No jargon. Just the core of our work at RMF - music appreciation and music education.

**Concert for Hope** (on the list for a second year!) giving the gift of Christmas music to the men who live at the Hope Rescue Mission. Student recipients of the D'Addesi Homeschool Fund and other homeschool families shared a special evening of music and fellowship.

**Year of the Mildred Mogel Engle Scholars hip:** This scholarship for college tuition is available only once every four years for students majoring in music. With a dead tie, the award for 2016 was divided between Stephanie Bonk, violin, and Mikaela Krall, baritone saxophone. Each of them will receive \$17,000 to help cover the cost of their college tuition.

**Seeing two students who grew up in Olivet's Guitar Club graduate high school and begin new music studies at Kutztown University.** These two young men have been a part of Olivet's Guitar Performance Group for years, and have performed at the Reading Fightin Phils, Olivet Steak and Burger Dinner, and other community events.

**A need-sensitive scholarship recipient proudly sharing her acceptance letter to MIT.** No doubt her hard work in her music studies will pay off well as she begins her studies this fall!



**Realizing 100% of the final 19 students standing (the 1st through 8th Place Finishers) at the 2016 Berks County Spelling Bee** participate in a school music ensemble, take music lessons, or participate in a music activity.

**Recruitment and retention workshop with more than 100 music educators** in Berks County's public schools. Led by Mike Buterbaugh, RMF's Music Education Advisor, the session focused on strengthening school music programs as whole, rather than an individual school or ensemble.

**RMTA Play-a-Thon for RMF**, where students of local Reading Music Teacher Association members raised over \$5,000 for need-sensitive scholarships.

**Young Music Makers 2016** - an event, the first of its kind, to celebrate RMF merit scholarship winners who have placed every year for at least the last three years. Nearly 30 students received custom awards and heard testimonials from college students and recent college graduates who have carved their own paths thanks to their music studies. With inaugural support from Watsky Investment Management, and pledged support for 2017, this worthy event is able to continue.

# Your Dollars Making a Difference in Music Education and Live Music Performance Programs across Berks County

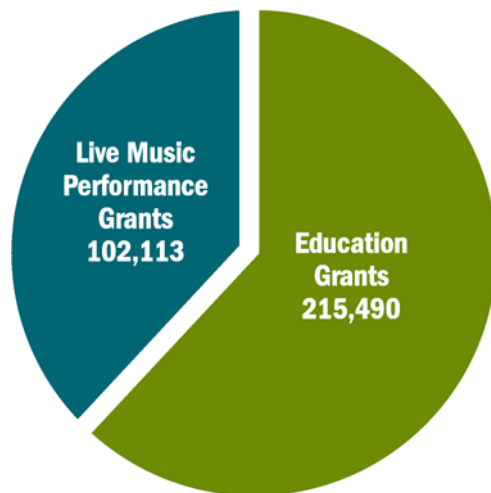
RMF is fortunate to have the ability to spend 100% of donations on music programs and projects - and not on administrative costs. Your donations will allow the following music organizations and projects to receive support for 2016-2017:

- Berks Arts Council
- Berks Opera Company
- Berks Senior Citizen Orchestra
- Berks Sinfonietta
- Berks Summer Band Institute
- Berks Summer String Institute
- Berks Youth Chorus
- Community School of Music
- Friends of Chamber Music
- Full Circle Music Society
- Genesius Theater
- GoggleWorks Arts Festival
- GoggleWorks Music Project
- Greater Reading Encore Choral
- Hannahoe Vigil
- Lyons Fiddle Festival
- Maidencreek Old-Time Music Festival
- Olivet Boys & Girls Club
- Reading Choral Society
- Reading Philharmonic Orchestra
- Reading Pops Orchestra
- Reading Symphony Orchestra
- Reading Theater Project
- Ringgold Band
- Vox Philila
- WCR Center for the Arts
- Yocum Institute for Arts Education

## RMF PROGRAMS

- Artists of Tomorrow Concert
- Gertrude Sternberg Soloist Fund
- Project Penske Middle School Jazz Program
- Parochial School Music Education Initiative
- Music-in-the-Schools Assemblies
- RMF Scholarship Program
- Student Recognition Awards
- Zeswitz/RMF Operation Replay

## GRANTS FOR MUSIC PROGRAMS & PROJECTS 2016-2017



# Thank You to Our Donors

FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC CAMPAIGN 2015-2016  
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- Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
- Penske Truck Leasing
- Reading Eagle Company
- Reading Music Teachers Association
- Paul R. Roedel
- Tompkins VIST Bank
- Tom & Dianne Work
- The Wyomissing Foundation

## PROGRAM VS. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

RMF exhausts 100% of your donations for music programs and projects, with administrative costs paid through investments.

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### **WHAT IS THE GREATEST LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED FROM MUSIC?**

*I think the greatest lesson that I've learned from music is that you can accomplish more than you think. When I first look at a new piece, I immediately think, "Oh, that's hard." However, when I work at it and get everything up and running, it doesn't seem all that difficult anymore. Yes, some pieces are der, nitely challenging, but when you work hard at it, it becomes easier and easier.*

*Jacqueline Wilson, Grade 10, Exeter High School*

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 Mr. & Mrs. J. Richard Smoker  
 St. John 's Center Lutheran  
 Church  
 St. John 's Reformed Church

Geoff & Judy Stoudt  
 Anna Stroback  
 George E. Strobel, Jr.  
 J. Richard Strunk  
 Len Stump  
 Stephanie Sweigart  
 Noel B. Szundy  
 Nettie J. Thomas  
 Linda Tomlinson  
 Eleanor J. Trimbur  
 Madlyn E. Umbenhouer  
 Yolanda Vitulli  
 Keri L. Wagner  
 Kathleen A. Wagner  
 Jiang Wang & Di You  
 Dennise M. Shinn & Mary  
 Wanner  
 Ronald & Shirley Weitzel  
 Marianne Westendorp  
 Mr. Edward H. Wiswesser  
 Sandra A. & Stewart E. Wolf  
 Robert I. Work  
 Harriett L. Ziegenfuss

## Gifts for Scholarship, Education and Outreach Programs

### GIFTS RECEIVED THROUGH JUNE 30, 2016

#### RMF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Anonymous  
 Harriet Baskin  
 Erich Cawalla  
 David & Judith Feick  
 Hazel H. Geracimos  
 Jackie Haeckler  
 Mrs. Judith Merkel  
 Art Moore  
 Jane Masters Nase  
 Hien & Khanh Nguyen  
 Kris & Sarah Nygard  
 Michael & Mary Alice Palm  
 Margitta Pflieger  
 Mrs. Hugh M. Quigley  
 Robert & Susan Showalter  
 Richard G. & Elizabeth Wells  
 Katharine A. Work

#### ALISA B. ANDERSON VOICE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Friends of Alisa  
 Baseballtown Charities  
 Catherine Anderson Chelius  
 The Uptown Band

#### AGO YOUNG ORGANISTS AWARD

Reading Chapter of AGO

#### ATONEMENT BACH SCHOLARSHIP

Atonement Lutheran Church  
 Darryl S. Jeffries  
 Barbara B. Leinbach  
 Mary Ann McDonald  
 Noel B. Szundy

#### BRUCE P. BENTSON KEYBOARD & ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce P. Bengtson

#### PETER J. BRYE CELLO & HARP FUND

Peter & Jane Brye  
 Barbara Spangenberg

#### CHAIRMAN'S FUND

Linda Breyer  
 Millie Eben  
 Greater Reading Economic  
 Partnership Staff  
 Helen M. and Harry O. Hahn  
 Fund of BC CF  
 Suhana Jagadesan  
 Reading Music Teachers  
 Association  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Sallade  
 Barbara Spangenberg  
 Keri L. Wagner

#### ANN L. CUSANO & KIM WEBSTER DOUBLER REED SCHOLARSHIP

Kim Webster

#### D'ADESI HOMESCHOOL FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Dr. & Mrs. Leonard D'Adesi

#### GLADYS & CARL JENSEN SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

Eve & Dan Kimball

#### LEEG & MARIAN KACHEL ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP

Lee. G. Kachel

#### DAVID L. KLINE FAMILY MOUNTAIN FOLK SCHOLARSHIP

Concerned Citizens of  
 Overlook Mountain

Ephrata Farmers Day  
 Association  
 Mr. & Mrs. David L. Kline  
 Grace R. Kline

Mountain Folk Youth  
 Bluegrass Jam Band  
 PA Snowsports Museum  
 Paul & Margie Prutzman  
 Caroline Reese  
 St. John 's Center Lutheran  
 Church

#### ROBERT R. KREITZ - MARK A. HORNERBERGER PIANO SCHOLARSHIP

Mark & Carol Hornberger  
 Mr. Robert Kreitz  
 In memory of Richard Kreitz  
 from:  
 Ann Gagliano  
 Hazel Geracimos  
 Jane Goodman  
 John & Bobbie Hampson  
 Walter Petroski  
 Jeanne Scheneman  
 John Scheneman  
 Lynne & Otto Voit, Jr.  
 Geraldine Weaver

#### SALLY S. BREDEGAM MIKSIEWICZ VOCAL MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

East Penn Manufacturing Co.

#### LEWIS "SKIP" NORCOTT III LOW BRASS SCHOLARSHIP

Anonymous

#### ELAINE BAUSER POST SCHOLARSHIP

William R. Post

#### WILLIS M. RAPP PERCUSSION FUND

Joan E. & Willis M. Rapp



*I would like to thank the Reading Musical Foundation for all of their support over the years. Through their generosity, I was able to attend Penn State's summer music camp in the summers of 2011 and 2012. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought back then that one day I would not only be attending Penn State for music, but also be a counselor for that very same camp! It was such a joy to be on the other side and help give the students the same wonderful and inspiring experience I had when I attended the camp! It really brought everything "full circle" as they say, and has truly been a highlight of my musical journey thus far.*

*Noah Breneman*





## HOW DO YOU BALANCE MUSIC INTO THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?

*I don't really think that I balance music with the rest of my life as much as music is the rest of my life. Aside from my daily practice, I'm always thinking about music as I'm listening for odd time signatures in pop music, figuring out certain intervals in songs on the radio, and playing polyrhythms in my head while sitting in English class... while still paying attention to the teacher, of course...*

*Bramon Rowins, Grade 9, Exeter High School*

### **KATHLEEN REINSEL & KARIN ALLMENDINGER EARLY INSTRUMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

Rev. Thomas H. & Amy H. Reinsel

### **RUNYEON PIANO FUND**

Bill & Diane Runyeon  
Frank & Ann Runyeon

Jane Runyeon

Runyeon Kalvelage Family  
Theodore Wiprud

### **SCHEID-THE SLOP JAZZ FUND**

Masano Bradley Attorneys at Law

Jill M. Scheidt & Chris Heslop

### **ANN W. SOUDERS PIANO SCHOLARSHIP**

Anne G. Constein

Dr. Carl F. Constein

Mildred J. Sawers

### **DR. THOMAS B. SOUDERS STRING SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Erica and Steven Hofmann

Beth Nelson

The Shapiro Family  
Mary Alice Wotring

### **WORKFAMILY WOODWIND FUND**

Martha Hafer

William G. Koch & Associates

Tom & Dianne Work

### **SUMMER CAMP FELLOWSHIPS**

Audrey J. Henderson

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen J. Kindig

Ollie & Natalie Koehler Music

Educators of Berks County

### **EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

Anonymous

12th & Marion Elementary Staff

Carpenter Technology

Corporation

Earth Rhythms LLC

Hazel H. Geracimos

Richard & Nancy Hampton

Joyful Blessings Foundation

John R. and Mary A. Hayes

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The Russell L. Hiller Charitable Trust Fund of BCCF

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Mary Beth Myford

Penske Truck Leasing

Port Family Endowment Fund

Wendy Holt Schmehl

Ruth Shaffer

Martha and David Swartz

Wells Fargo Foundation

### **RINGGOLD BAND**

Steven Hahn

Rick & Marlene Wilson

## Special Gifts

### IN MEMORY OF

In memory of Julia Angstadt by Anne Angstadt

Mrs. Josephine Eaken by Mr. & Mrs. Rod Eaken

Wes Fisher by Barbara & Marlin Houck

Wes Fisher by Brian & Fianna Holt

Edna Frantz Springer by Gail Hesser

Mrs. Ruth E. Gross by Mr. Clair E. Gross

Kim L. Heist by Barbara Spangenberg

Yori S. Kitagawa by The Shapiro Family

Richard Kreitz by Phil & Mary Lou Kline

Jacob Krumholz by Dr. Stuart & Carol Cohn

Robert (Bobby Raye) Lilarose by Mrs. Diane Lilarose

Charles Lohin by Earth Rhythms LLC

Betty Lou McLean by Robert Bruce McLean

Gerald & Ann Meyer Hasbrouck by Allan Meyer Hasbrouck

Mrs. Doris Miller by Hazel H. Geracimos

Glenn Pflieger by Margitta Pflieger

Hugh M. Quigley by Mrs. Hugh M. Quigley

Joseph Rado, Jr. by Elaine M. Rado

Loretta A. Rapp by Curtis V. Rapp

Jill Riggles by Carl & Donna Fiorini

Dr. William K. Runyeon by Jane Runyeon

Jessie Schell by Paul L. Schell

Wayne "Al" Seifarth by Dr. & Mrs. Dennis T. Roule

Kenneth A. Smith by Miriam K. Smith

Gary Trollinger by Laree M. Trollinger

James Troutman by Peggy Manbeck

Gene R. Umbenhauer by Madlyn E. Umbenhauer

Wallburga E. Weber by Oscar W. Weber

Reverend Richard Wolf by Anna Stroback

Thomas B. Work by Robert I. Work

Ralph J. Ziegenfuss by Harriett L. Ziegenfuss

Elizabeth Zug by Donald & Marie Reber

Elizabeth Zug by George & Debbie Pyle

### **IN MEMORY OF MADELINE NAWROCK**

Holly H. Graff

Phyllis Hafer

Alice Hummel

Debra Orbach

### **IN MEMORY OF MILDRED SAWERS**

Gordon and Rigmor Anke

Grace DeLong

Jane B. Himmelreich

Ollie & Nat Koehler

Betty Lehr

Eleanor Schoener

Ginny Stahl

### **IN MEMORY OF FRAY SCHACHT**

Foster Hanson

Steve & Nancy Hanson

Wayne Salmon

### **IN MEMORY OF FRED WITICH**

David Addison & Susan Maack Addison

Martha & Marc Aynardi

Brian Clements

Terry & JoAnn Dowling

Joyce Gromis

Gregory & Lynn Ramsey

Gregory & Alice Reich

Friends of Carlyn at SCU

Superior Credit Union

Steven & Andrea Zebert

### **IN MEMORY OF RICHARD KREIZ**

Ann Gagliano

Hazel Geracimos

Jane Goodman

John & Bobbie Hampson

Walter Petroski

Jeanne Scheneman

John Scheneman

Lynne & Otto Voit, Jr.

Geraldine Weaver

## Special Gifts <cont'd>

### IN HONOR OF

In honor of Chris Chandler by Nancy, Rick, and Vanessa Boyer

Holly Cooper Altenderfer by Mary Jo Cannizzaro

Anonymous gift in honor of Dana, Risa, and Graham Cullen

Virginia Dodge by Meggan Kerber

Virginia Dodge by Nathan & Keri Shultz

JoAnne Earnest by David & Dail Richie

Nancy & Craig Hafer by William G. Koch & Associates

Thomas & Mark Hofmann by Bernard & Pat Hofmann

Kutztown SD Music Dept. by The Nolte Family

The mission of the RMF by The Shapiro Family

Kamille E. Orth by John R. and Mary A. Hayes

Dr. Kathleen Reinsel & Ms. Karin Allmendinger by Rev. Thomas H. & Amy H. Reinsel

William Sandel by Kristen Sandel, MD

Jon Scott by the staff of Greater Reading Economic Partnership

Dr. Tom Souders by Beth Nelson

Keri Shultz by Dr. & Mrs. Steven P. Katzenmoyer & Family

Anonymous gift in honor of Neil Wilson

Tom Work by Martha Hafer

## Operation Replay Donations

**A TOTAL OF 199 INSTRUMENTS WERE DONATED IN 2015-2016 FOR DESERVING YOUNG STUDENTS!**

Robert Ault

Martha & Marc Aynardi

Margaret Bauer

Charles Beem

Bethany Children's Home

Bill Butler

Pierce & Margie Cloud

Felix Cohen

Scott & Lisa Cylinder

Helen Farnham

Fegley's Violin Shop

Lewis Freeman

David Gemmell

Tim Gross

Bobbie Hampson

Stephen Henning

Steve Holgate

David Huyett

George Kinney

Ollie & Nat Koehler

Linda Kovacs

Jackie Kuba

Jane Lim

Cindy Matosky

Mark McDevitt

Lauren Moss

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Steve Philpczak

Rebecca Price

Ralph Reeves

Amy Rittle

Hildegard Roche

Dennis Roule

George Schanzenbach

Fred Schwerdt

Lisa Shakespeare

Linda Shank

Thomas & Alberta

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Nelda Simonson

Daniel Smith

Ann Snyder

Thomas Souders

Jim Thomas

Carol Tornetta

Madlyn Umbenhouer

Darlyn Unger

Clair Wampole

Ben Watts

Anne Weiser

Ann Wenrich

Marie Williamson

Mike & Mary Wolfe

Zeswitz Music

## How donors make a difference

### GIFT TO RMF

Donors who give to RMF make a difference in the everyday lives of student musicians. Thanks to generous contributions from donors, Berks County can offer unprecedented access to music through free ensembles like Berks Summer Band Institute and Berks Summer String Institute, as well as pre-professional ensembles like Reading Symphony Youth Orchestra and Berks Youth Chorus. Donors also want to ensure the greater Reading region thrives as a whole by giving to RMF. Your dollars support high-quality live music performance experiences, which are imperative to our community's well-being.

### GIVING TO SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

It's rewarding to see your dollars impact a particular individual. Donors who provide private lessons or a summer music camp experience see corresponding faces in the annual scholarship publication or read their thoughts in thank-you notes after camp. Much of the success in music is found in one-to-one instruction, and scholarship giving allows students to access instruction and important music experiences. By creating a scholarship fund or giving to RMF scholarships, donors can share their love of a particular instrument or music genre and make a lifelong difference in the life of a young person.

### GIVING AN INSTRUMENT TO OPERATION REPLAY

Operation Replay donations allow used instruments to be recycled and reused by students who cannot afford to participate in their school music program. If your instrument needs a new home, please consider donating it to RMF. All band and string instruments are accepted, but no pianos or organs, please.

### THE NEED

Donors appreciate that 100% of their gifts are spent directly on projects and programs, and not on RMF administrative expenses. RMF supports over two dozen music organizations and initiatives across Berks County through donations received throughout the year.

### THE NEED

Scholarship requests to RMF grow each year, with 12% more need-sensitive requests last year alone. Music can be expensive, and many families need RMF to help with the cost of lessons, new instruments, and experiences like summer music camp.

### THE NEED

The bulk of RMF's Operation Replay instruments serve the Reading School District, where instrument rentals are rarely an option. Thanks to school administrators committing to the music program by creating a dedicated schedule among all four middle schools, the retention rate for music students has increased tremendously. If this continues, more instruments will be needed to fill in for the following years. Reading music teachers in the middle schools are predicting they will need of a few dozen additional instruments to their current inventory to meet demand.