

Berks shines 2025

reading musical foundation

Berks Shines features students of all ages and music genres who are connected to RMF's scholarship and outreach programs.

Proceeds support RMF's efforts to provide access to music education through scholarships and instruments, and further RMF's advocacy work to make music education a priority in our schools.



for the love of music...

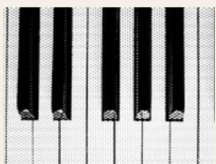


ABOUT RMF *for the love of music*

RMF believes that every child in Berks should have access to high quality music programs, and events like Berks Shines allow us to make that possible. Not every student musician will become a professional musician, but the skills they've learned through choir and band will play an important role in whatever direction they choose. Students who participate in music have a tangible advantage when it comes to developing a strong work ethic and positive attitude.

Celebrating its 100th year in 2027, RMF is a public charity that provides financial support to music presenters in Berks County; awards music scholarships based on auditions and financial need; and conducts extensive music outreach, including programs in most of Berks County's public and parochial schools. RMF is governed by a self-perpetuating board of volunteer trustees and is administered by a staff of three full-time and one part-time employee. The Foundation relies on public support each year.

RMF'S ANNUAL EFFORTS TO SUPPORT MUSIC EDUCATION AND APPRECIATION INCLUDE:



Investing more than \$250,000 in scholarships for Berks County student musicians, divided equally between audition-based awards and awards that respond to financial need.



Supporting local music organizations with \$200,000 in program grants that advance and advocate for music education and appreciation.



Advocating for Berks County's strong music network by strengthening the capacity of school music programs, supporting the economic development generated by the arts, and expanding community access to concerts and ensembles.

Ensuring quality instruments are available to students-- regardless of their ability to afford them--through Operation Replay, RMF's instrument recycling program sponsored by Zeswitz Music.

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www.readingmusicalfoundation.org

BERKS SHINES PROGRAM

Celebrating extraordinary student musicians
with Reading Musical Foundation



WELCOME

Paul G. Oxholm, Chair
Keri Shultz, President
Dr. Willis Rapp, Host

PERFORMANCES

Ethan Zhou | *piano*

Piano Sonata No. 9 in E Major, Op. 14 No. 1 by Ludwig van Beethoven

Evangeline Salvaterra | *violin/fiddle*

Blue Moon of Kentucky (*Bluegrass*)

Rockingham Cindy (*Appalachian*)

Goldenrod (*Celtic*)

Serafina Salvaterra | *violin/fiddle*

12th Street Rag (*Bluegrass*)

Foxchase (*Appalachian*)

The Star of Munster (*Celtic*)

Ellen Rochlin | *voice*

Accompanied by Kevin Cooper

Simple Little Things from *110 in the Shade*

#5

Reid Justeson (*Saxophone*), Mary Hess (*Guitar*), Ethan Herrlin
(*Drums*), Elijah Sicher (*Bass*), Connor Christ (*Piano*)

performing the following jazz standards:

There Is No Greater Love

Recoda Me

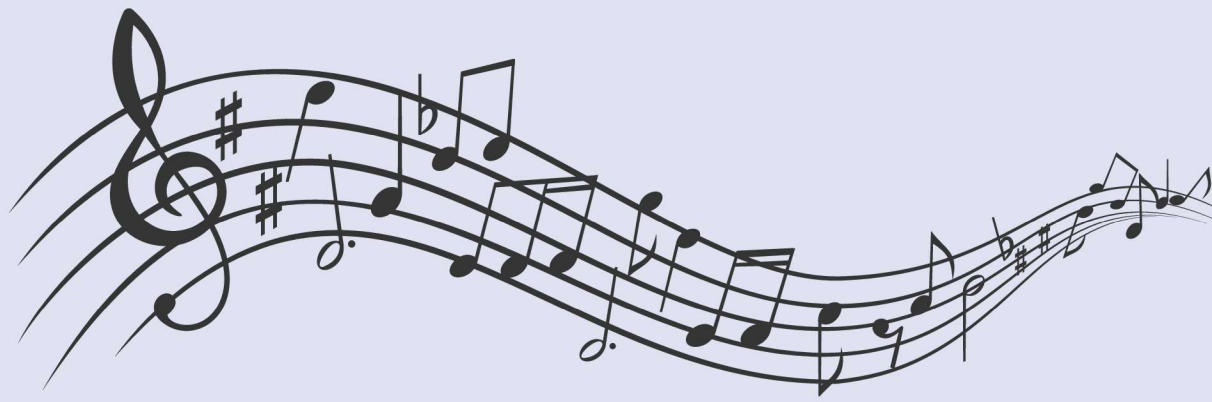
Footprints

CLOSING

Fran Post, Chair of Development



Table cookies are provided by Andi J's Cookies – one of our esteemed
music educators in the Oley Valley School District.

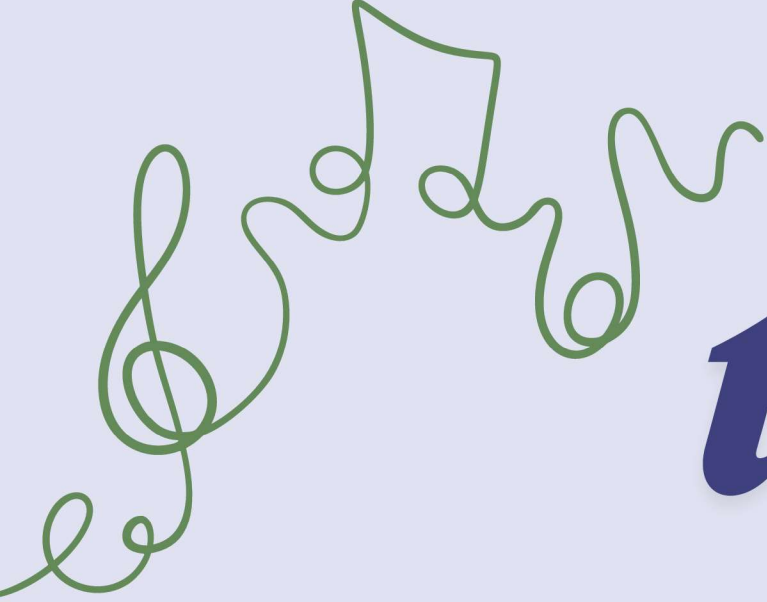


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meet our performers



Ethan Zhou

Ethan is a tenth-grade student at Lancaster Country Day School. He plays the clarinet in the school band and the cello with the Reading Symphony Youth Orchestra. Outside of music, Ethan enjoys flying drones, playing chess, and exploring 3D printing. Ethan has been a participant in RMF merit auditions for many years and is thankful that such a generous foundation exists.

Evangeline & Serafina Salvaterra

Evangeline has played violin since she was four. She loves playing Celtic, bluegrass, and Appalachian music as well as classical.

Her other hobbies are rollerblading, reading, and drawing.

Serafina has been playing violin since she was five. She also plays the mandolin, banjo, tin whistle, and piano. Her other hobbies are crafting, playing outside, and rollerblading.



meet our performers



Ellen Rochlin

Ellen Rochlin is a current second semester Integrated (Musical Theatre) student at AMDA College in the Upper West Side. Some of Ellen's past credits include: Reno Sweeney (Anything Goes), Snow White (Disenchanted), Philoclea (Head Over Heels), and Jo March (Little Women). Ellen was most recently seen at 54 Below in NYC as a soloist in a cabaret show called *All Grown Up: A Tribute to the Roles You've Outgrown*. Ellen has performed in various community productions in her hometown of Pennsylvania, and occasionally sings for The Ringgold Band of Reading, Pennsylvania.

#5 | Reid Justeson, Mary Hess, Ethan Herrlin, Elijah Sicher, Connor Christ

The #5 Jazz Combo was founded 2 years ago by 5 members of the Kutztown High School Jazz Ensemble. The group performs at numerous events around Kutztown and Berks County. The group was a finalist and runner-up in the RMF combo contest last year. Several members of the group also play professionally and have been a part of various county, district, and state jazz bands. The #5 is entirely student-run; they pick the songs, rehearse the group, and negotiate payment - all things a pro combo would do! "Thank you for the opportunity to play for you all today!"





ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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making Berks Shines possible!*

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Thank you!



2025 Performer Sponsor



READING MUSICAL FOUNDATION

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

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