

Private Lesson Program Gears Up for Expansion

This season there is more excitement than usual around the Private Lesson Program! Thanks to generous grants from Bader Philanthropies and the Mockingbird Foundation, the program is expanding and will soon be able to serve almost twice as many students!

CIVIC MUSIC's Private Lesson Program was established in 1982 with funds provided in part by Norbert J. Beihoff. It awards one-year of private lessons to young musicians who have not previously had the benefit of private music study and whose family can use a financial helping hand. Four years ago the

demand for this program increased, and enrollment went from an average of 17 to 36 students. We were thrilled at that time for the opportunity to have more students involved.

Yet feedback from school teachers, private instructors and parents told us that there was still a need for more lessons after this single year. Students

can lose their curiosity about music when after school programs like this are no longer available to them. Some quit playing their instrument altogether and lose the opportunity to develop important skills that are integral to musical study – like working collaboratively, thinking critically and solving problems creatively – that help them succeed in school and beyond.



Proud 2016-17 students gathered after their recital performances.

Generous support from Bader Philanthropies and the Mockingbird Foundation will allow CIVIC MUSIC to develop a 3-tiered Private Lesson Program, which will reward students recommended by their private teachers with

Continued on Page 3

Were You Pinned?

Is there a CIVIC MUSIC gold lapel pin in your jewelry box? If there is, congratulations on receiving it AND on keeping track of it all of this time! Join us as we prepare for our 100th Celebration by snapping your photo wearing that

pin. Send the photo via email or post it on our Facebook page. Share your story too! (And if you don't have the pin any more, we can lend one to you for your photo!)



Supporter and future board member Debra Chomicka proudly wears her pin that she received from Bay View High School on Honors Day back in her senior year. She wrote in her diary that "Mr. [Donald] Mohr made a speech about me and about my playing trombone - "women's lib" and that what I did was unusual." She also wrote that she would get a citation for the award at the War Memorial in the following week.



From The Executive Director



Mission

CIVIC MUSIC of Milwaukee provides and supports music education and performance opportunities for young musicians in the greater Milwaukee area.

Music Notes

Music Notes is published twice annually to provide ongoing information to CIVIC MUSIC Friends about our programs and events.

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The gift of music came full circle to CIVIC MUSIC this summer. Memorials flooded in for someone whom we had never met. The common thread? The love of music. We've all known someone like this – someone who, even though their life was cut short, touched so many lives. It is apparent that Don Ostrowski was just that kind of guy and I so wish that I had known him.

"Don was a charismatic and truly gifted and unique individual," his obituary read. "Generous and kind, his humor, laughter, and ability to make people smile will resonate and live well beyond his shortened time on earth. A gifted and talented musician, his love for music transcended his voice and appreciable talent..." And now you wish that you had known him too.

I met Don's wife Dianne one day this summer to talk about her family's ideas about these substantial memorials. I was so pleased with what I heard – they wanted to address the need for helping students find careers involving music. The timing was uncanny. My high school aged son's sophomore career planning meeting left his counselor with little advice when he shared his thoughts about majoring in music. "Do you know about Juilliard?" he asked.

This year, CIVIC MUSIC would like to thoughtfully consider how we can become a resource for students wanting a career in music. When I was entering college, our choices seemed only to be playing (if you were lucky) or teaching. Now those are just a few of the many options. If you have a passion for this subject, I invite you to join our programming committee as they add this worthwhile project to their work. Please contact me with any thoughts or questions.

In one year, CIVIC MUSIC will begin celebration of its 100th season! The kick-off will be at Celebrating Music in Milwaukee, our Awards Banquet in October/November 2018. Stay tuned for the day and time. Here's what you can do this season:

- Nominate someone for the Lifetime Achievement and Distinguished Citizen awards. *Find a Nomination form on our website.*
Deadline: 6/1/2018
- Join the 100th Celebration Committee to help plan this special season.
- Share your CIVIC MUSIC story with photos, recordings and programs.

Milwaukee has a vibrant arts community. I look forward to meeting up with you at a concert or event this fall!

Nancy Herro

continued study for an additional year up to three years. This season, with the addition of 14 students in Year 2, enrollment has risen from 38 to 52 students. And next season with the addition of Year 3, CIVIC MUSIC will be able to provide private lessons to more than 60 students.

It is a bit of musical chairs as the students move from Year 1 to Year 2 and eventually Year 3 – not enough seats for all those deserving – but the rewards will be great. Parents are part of the plan as well as each year they assume more responsibility for co-payment. Our hope is that they become less dependent on the scholarship and will find the resources to fully fund their child's lessons after Year 3.



"I want to let you know how much my family and I appreciate this amazing opportunity! Words could never tell you how much I appreciate the openhearted gesture of being granted the chance to continue studying my flute. I won't let you down and will make everyone proud of my progress – I promise!"

Paris Pavelchik

Remembering Don Ostrowski

Don Ostrowski lived a full life with music always present. Sometimes the songs were front and center, and sometimes they were in the background; but they were always there. Don never stopped playing his beloved guitar, and he loved performing for multitudes of people throughout his life. When illness cut short his ability to play his guitar and to sing, he continued to listen to music and loved watching others perform, his head held high and full of encouragement for those other performers.



Milwaukee, close to our extended families, where he could stay firmly connected, and not out "on the road."

And so began Don's "Renaissance Man" conversion. A third generation carpenter, he realized that getting his credentials in that field would provide a solid income supporting his now growing family. As our children Martin and Andrew grew up, Don rose in the ranks, ultimately becoming Carpenter Foreman and Project Manager for Sid Grinker Restoration. Don was our family's spiritual leader, a very good father and husband, and hilarious. A man of boundless energy, Don coordinated the construction of our beautiful custom home that we built. Those 6 acres in New Berlin provided Don with an outlet for his great love of the outdoors. We both enjoyed the visits from pheasants, foxes, turkeys and deer. Fond memories of Don include him energetically hopping on one of his full size tractors after a day at work to mow the fields,

plow the driveway or turn over one of our gardens.

And yet, he always made time for his beloved music. How lucky was I to be serenaded by his guitar and his beautiful tenor voice as I made dinner, or on those quiet evenings at home in front of our fireplace! And he always generously shared his talent with others in clubs, coffee shops, and even on Summerfest stages, until he got too ill to perform.

My family and I had Don's shortened musical career in mind when we selected CIVIC MUSIC as the beneficiary of the generosity of his employer, friends and family. We appreciate that CIVIC MUSIC gives opportunities to students who would not otherwise have the means to know the joy of making music – music of all kinds - and hope that Don's Memorial will help others with a proclivity to perform discover avenues to make music not only their avocation, but their vocation as well.



Dianne Ostrowski

Opportunities for Young Musicians

CIVIC MUSIC *High School Competition*

APPLY ONLINE
DEADLINE: 12/8/17

ELIGIBILITY: Vocal and instrumental musicians in grades 10-12 who are performing at the WSMA Class A level or above and residing in the five county greater Milwaukee area.

COMPETITION AWARDS:
**High School Showcase
Recital Performance**

Up to 8 musicians will perform. Each receive an honorarium of \$250.

**YOUNG ARTIST
SCHOLARSHIPS**

\$2,000 in scholarships awarded to 2-4 musicians.

Our distinguished panel of judges will be announced soon. Mark Davis and Scott Stewart return to lead a Mindful Performance workshop and Vocal Master Class respectively. Both sessions are open to the public.



Daniella Brusubardis, one of the 2017 Young Artist Scholarship recipients.

AUDITION DAY:

Saturday, January 27

First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Auditions, Workshop and Master Class

SHOWCASE RECITAL:

Sunday, February 11

Milwaukee Art Museum
2:00 PM – High School Showcase Recital & Presentation of Young Artist Scholarships

CIVIC MUSIC *Private Lesson Program*

APPLY ONLINE
DEADLINE: 2/8/18

ELIGIBILITY: Instrumental musicians in grades 4 - 9 and vocal musicians in grades 8 - 9 new to private lessons whose family could use a financial helping hand. Students must be recommended by a teacher.



Trumpeter Connor Schmidt, now taking Year 2 lessons.

AUDITION DAY:

Saturday, March 24

First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa

FINAL RECITAL:

Wednesday, April 18

First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa

All program applications are available at civicmusicmilwaukee.org
All recitals are free and open to the public.

Nominate An Outstanding Music Educator

**NOMINATION
DEADLINE
1/5//18**

Music teachers can make all the difference in a child's life. Do you know an educator who should be honored for their work? Show your appreciation for a music teacher or an administrator who supports music in their school by nominating them to receive a **Certificate of Excellence**

award, **CIVIC MUSIC Teacher of the Year, CIVIC MUSIC Administrator of the Year** or the **MSO ACE Teacher of the Year**. Visit CIVIC MUSIC's website to find the nomination form. Please feel free to contact the office with any questions.



Award winning educators gather for the Music Educator Awards Ceremony in March 2017. From left to right, they are: Heather Cheslock, General Music, Marjorie Flanagan, Vocal Music, Adrien Zitoun, Studio Music, Jane Borden, MSO's 2017 ACE TEACHER OF THE YEAR, Megan Aswegan, Instrumental Music, and Michael VanPelt, 2017 CIVIC MUSIC TEACHER OF THE YEAR

John Paradowski Joins Board



John R. Paradowski is Minister of Music and Worship and Organist at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wauwatosa, one of Wisconsin's leading ELCA houses of worship, where he leads an extensive worship and music department including multiple graded

choir programs, comprehensive worship planning, and a concert series. During his time at St. Matthew's, he has built an exemplary and nationally acclaimed music program, earning him the 2005 National Religious Music Alliance Award of Distinction "for developing and maintaining one of our nation's finest worship music programs." John's choral music is published by Augsburg-Fortress, Choristers

Guild, and Hal Leonard Publishing. He began playing organ for worship when he was eleven years old and hasn't stopped. He holds a degree in Organ Performance graduating with distinction from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. John is an extraordinary organizer and gifted videographer in his spare time and we are thrilled to have him join the team!

Honor a Distinguished Citizen!

Show your appreciation for the special people in your musical life by nominating them to receive an award at CIVIC MUSIC's Celebrating Music in Milwaukee - 100 Years now being scheduled for October/November 2018. This

will be an extra special evening. Who will be awarded at the 100th celebration? Deadline is June 1, 2018. Nomination forms are available at www.civicmusicmilwaukee.org.

Lifetime Achievement in Music

honors music educators and/or performers for their exceptional professional expertise and commitment to the community.

Distinguished Citizen-

Professional in the Arts recognizes professional musicians and arts administrators who have demonstrated significant professional achievements and leadership.

Distinguished Citizen-Patron of the Arts

honors music supporters who have distinguished themselves by their leadership, generosity and passion for music.

Thank You to Our Generous Supporters

The following CIVIC MUSIC Friends contributed \$50 or more between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017:

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Help Shape the Future of CIVIC MUSIC

This will be an exciting year of planning for CIVIC MUSIC's Centennial Celebration and beyond! What should CIVIC MUSIC look like on the other side of 100? The Board of Directors is seeking individuals to join them in serving on the Board of Directors and/or committees who are enthusiastic about helping bring to life our mission of supporting young musicians and their teachers in the Greater Milwaukee area with programs that meet the needs of our community. Grab this great opportunity to work alongside old and new friends who have the same passion for music as you!

Board and committee members guide our efforts to continuously improve our programming by being good stewards of our finances, participating in fundraising efforts, introducing new friends to our organization, actively promoting and working on our programs and special events, advocating for CIVIC MUSIC in the community, and engaging in strategic planning.

If you have skills to share and are interested in being involved in shaping the future of CIVIC MUSIC, please contact Nancy Herro at info@civicmusicmilwaukee.org or 262/370-6129 to find out more about how you can help.

Share Your Heart!



Heart of Canal Street is Potawatomi Hotel & Casino's community program that raises funds for children's charities – and CIVIC MUSIC is in the running to be a beneficiary. *Heart of Canal Street* has

raised nearly \$16 million for hundreds of area children's charities since 1994. The program honors the Potawatomi

tradition of nurturing younger generations so they grow to lead healthy, productive lives.

Half of each \$3 or \$7 Canal Street Bingo game purchased goes to the *Heart of Canal Street* fund, which totaled more than \$1 million last year! Share your *heart* by playing the *Canal Street Bingo* game now through Dec. 15. Visit paysbig.com/heart to learn more.

This month kicks off our 2017-18 annual fundraising campaign. We rely on your contributions for a sizable portion of our income. Gifts of any size are welcome. By adding \$20 to your annual gift, you make one lesson possible for a young musician.

CIVIC MUSIC Annual Campaign Gift Form

Yes, I want to be a CIVIC MUSIC Friend and have enclosed the following gift:

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

I wish to add _____ Private Lesson Sponsorship(s) @ \$20

I wish to add _____ Private Lesson Full Year Scholarship(s) @ \$500 Total Gift \$ _____

Gifts of \$50 or more are recognized in our newsletter. Please print your name as you would like it to appear:

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Eve.) _____ E-Mail _____

I wish to remain anonymous.

Please include the above email in your monthly eNewsletters.

Employer matching gift form enclosed.

I intend to remember CIVIC MUSIC in my will or estate plan.

Please make your check payable to: CIVIC MUSIC, 2625 S. Greeley Street, Suite 3A, Milwaukee, WI 53207

Please bill my VISA MasterCard Discover Account No. _____

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2625 S. Greeley Street, Suite 3A
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Saturday, January 27, 2018

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC COMPETITION

First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa
Application Deadline: December 8, 2017

Sunday, February 11, 2018, 2:00 PM

HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE RECITAL

Milwaukee Art Museum

Saturday, March 10, 6:00 PM

MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARDS

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra concert
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts
Nomination Deadline: January 5, 2018

Saturday, March 24, 2018

PRIVATE LESSON PROGRAM AUDITIONS

First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa
Application Deadline: February 8, 2018

Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 5:30 PM & 7:30 PM

PRIVATE LESSON SCHOLARSHIP RECITALS

First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa

Congratulations 2017 High School Award Winners

Since 1927, CIVIC MUSIC's High School Awards Program has presented thousands of awards to music students in the five county Greater Milwaukee area. The following students were selected by their music directors to receive the award in recognition of their exceptional musicianship, scholarship, leadership and service to their schools. Each received a certificate suitable for framing and a gold lapel pin at their school's final concert or awards ceremony. Congratulations to the students on their achievement and best wishes for a bright future!

Brookfield Central HS

Gabriella Lammers, instrumental

Brookfield East HS

Riley Gillespie, instrumental

Cedarburg HS

Alexandra Strohbach, vocal

Greendale HS

Natalie Miselem, instrumental & vocal

Hartford Union HS

C. J. Chiefe, instrumental
Courtney MacPherson, instrumental

Lake Country Lutheran HS

Kaelyn Mengel, vocal

Milwaukee Lutheran HS

Hanna Fahl, vocal
Sarah Paepke, instrumental

Nathan Hale HS

Tyler Stepp, instrumental

Oak Creek HS

Jacob Lutzke, instrumental

Oconomowoc HS

Kylei Hoffland, instrumental

Port Washington HS

Elliot Demerit, instrumental

Reagan IB HS

Christopher Hawkins, instrumental
Miranda Ramirez-Vang, instrumental

Rufus King HS

Des Cooper Homann, instrumental

Shorewood HS

Penelope Musto, instrumental

Waukesha North HS

Callie Knoll, instrumental

Wauwatosa East HS

Isabel Gallagher, instrumental
Jenny Heck, instrumental

Whitnall HS

Alex Woo, instrumental