



Spring 2016

The Tenuto

Noteworthy News at Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester

A publication of Pakachoag Music School, an independent, not-for-profit community school of the arts, providing news and information on school programs and activities for donors, students & family members, friends, educators, and community organizations.

Music for Life!

Investing in Students, Today and Tomorrow

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Grantors and Donors Expand Access Through Music for Life!

New Website Strengthens How We Engage

While our mission remains the same, you can now experience a richer, faster and more intuitive face of Pakachoag.

Many thanks to those who are

generously supporting technology investments as part of the three-year **Music for Life!** (MFL) Campaign.

In addition to software and hardware upgrades in office, our newly re-designed website will allow us to implement on-line registration this summer. The new site complements our MFL goals connected to access and strengthened partnerships.



(Continued on page 6)

Your Past Investments Still Paying Big Dividends

Alumna Rachel Hanauer, Coloratura Soprano



Still making Music for Life!

Meet Rachel Hanauer: Flute and Voice. Class of 2009. From Oxford, MA
 Bachelor's Degree: UMass, Amherst
 Master's Degree: Roosevelt University

We asked graduating senior Abbie O'Connor (cellist in photo above) what she would like to know about Rachel.

Abbie: When was it you first realized that you wanted to make music your career?

Rachel: In high school and middle school my music teachers impacted my daily life greatly. The creative outlet of making music as part of a team gave my school life a purpose and I found myself thinking I wanted to be just like these individuals and influence others.

... I can't imagine life without giving art back to my community, wherever that may be.

Abbie: What is your favorite memory from the years you spent at Pakachoag?

Rachel: My favorite memories involve being in lessons with Sarah [flute] and Sylvia [voice]. I know now they were constantly bettering my musical knowledge and creative personality.

(Continued on page 9)

Music for Life Enabling ...

Donor support impacting students and community, well beyond our core programs.

Boys & Girls Club Welcomes “Pak at the Club”

“
Upon entering the B&G Club it is immediately apparent ... that it is home to a high level of positive energy and excitement.

Josh Goldman, Guitar Teacher for “Pak at The Club!”

Partner No. 1: B&G Club

Donors Donate Guitars; Grantors Grant Funding AND ...“Pak at The Club” is Now Strumming 😊

We have been thrilled to receive such enthusiastic response from the students at the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester for our pilot test run of “Pak at the Club!” Guitar classes.

Pakachoag guitar teacher Josh Goldman received a warm

welcome by the staff and students at the Club starting in March. He now visits each Friday after-school to teach students the basics of playing the guitar.

Students were so excited at the prospect of learning to play the guitar, that the club had to put some students on a waitlist.

Josh, who has lots of prior experience teaching young people in city and suburban settings, is equally excited to be involved:

“It has been a great pleasure for me to work with the enthusiastic and talented people associated

with the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester. Upon entering the B&G Club it is immediately apparent, through the numerous educational and entertaining activities occurring simultaneously within the facility, that it is home to a high level of positive energy and excitement. I am so pleased to be given the opportunity ... to work with the B&G Club children on a variety of musical activities – and to be one facet of this energy and excitement.”



Boys & Girls Club students try out new guitars made possible by generous Pakachoag donors.

Thank you to Jayna of Boston, Ellen Gugel, and Union Music, Worcester for your guitar donations.

Your Support Brings Music into Community

Partner No. 2: CFCE

Spencer Families Enjoy Music Learning

With Donor support growing, we are able to invest this spring in supporting The Spencer / E. Brookfield Community Partnership, part of the state funded

Coordinated Family & Community Engagement program.

Pakachoag’s Julie Holston visits monthly to bring early childhood music and movement to the Spencer and Paxton libraries.



Early Childhood teacher Julie Holston leads a music and movement class at the Spencer public library.

& Strengthening Partnerships

Afternoon Tunes All A-Buzz

40 Young Musicians Gathering Weekly

No. 3: Afternoon Tunes

Afternoon Tunes, a Pakachoag partnership organized under the auspices of All Saints Church, continues to buzz on Friday afternoons with roughly 40 neighborhood students learning to play instruments.

Fifteen student teachers from Pakachoag and area high schools are teaching piano, violin, saxophone, recorder, guitar, and new this year, music theory, and a jazz combo.

In February, AT students and parents attended a performance of the Polish Symphonic Orchestra with tickets made possible through Music Worcester's "Tickets to Opportunity" program.

In the spring, a "Music Share and Movie Evening" brought AT students and All Saints choristers together to play for each other, with a demonstration of the church organ by All Saints choir director and organist Graeme McCullough.

Nike Beaudry, Pakachoag faculty member and AT mentor teacher and program liaison, writes, "Our

two jazz combo teachers led an introduction to jazz improvisation [that evening] with AT students which piqued new interest among students and families. Afterward we all had pizza, popcorn and movie in an adjoining hall."

Thank you, Nike, for working hard to make the program so successful; to All Saints Church for providing volunteer support and hosting the weekly program during the school year, and Liz Butterworth, program founder/manager (and Pakachoag Alumna) for on-going program management.

More Opportunities for Students More Diversity of Music for Audiences

No. 4: Partners in Music

Pakachoag's continued partnership with the Worcester Youth Orchestras and the Worcester Children's Chorus, as *Partners in Music*, brought forth some wonderful shared music-making in recent months.

In March, Andrew Lefferts, piano student of Inna Muravnik, played the first movement, Vivace, of

Haydn's Piano Concerto in D Major with WYO's Baroque Orchestra. Pakachoag Church's Steinway concert grand (and Great Hall) made a perfect venue for the collaborative concert.

Also in March, WCC vocalist Simone Brown participated in the School's Honors Recital.

In December, Pakachoag cellist Renae Renihan of Auburn soloed with the Orchestra with a

performance of Faure's Elegy.

Also in December, Suzuki Violin students participated in the Worcester Children's Chorus holiday concert at Assumption College.

Thank you WYO and WCC for your invitations to participate.



Andrew Lefferts, of Oxford, performs a movement from a Haydn piano concerto with the Worcester Youth Baroque Orchestra in March.

Donor Spotlight: Rod O'Connor

“ I believe that music as a recreational pursuit, as a career, or an expression of personal joy is truly underrated by many people. Pakachoag, through its programs aimed at young students, has helped open the door to many.”

*Rod O'Connor,
Grandparent , Harmony
Fund Donor since 2005*

*New Music for Life
Campaign Donor*

Grandad , Son, and Grandson: Each Making *Music for Life* In Their Own Way

Pakachoag grandparent and donor Rod O'Connor recently signed on to become a Music for Life! campaign donor.

Sarah asks: *How long have you been connected to the School? And how did you come to be a Pakachoag donor and friend?*

Rod: My granddaughter, Ashley O'Connor, took piano lessons at the school for a number of years beginning in about 2001. The school was a bit smaller then, but the quality was excellent and student concerts, as well as the Cabarets, were great. Later on my grandson as well as his father began lessons; that is when I became more deeply interested in the school.

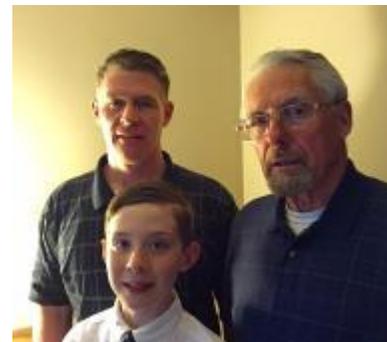
S: There are other ways to learn music and an instrument. What is it about Pakachoag that has kept your family coming back?

R: Yes there are, but the quality, sincerity, and dedication of the faculty and the administration are difficult to match and at what I consider to be a reasonable cost.

S: A few years ago, you increased your annual pledge by making on-going monthly contributions. Was there any specific activity or "happening" that inspired you to make that change?

R. Most people of modest means are able to support two to three organizations through donations. After my first year of donations, I decided that Pakachoag was offering something to the community that was and is of great value. That decision prompted me to increase my gift each year by a modest amount to where I am now.

S: As a Donor, is there any particular program or activity in



Donor and Granddad Rod O'Connor (right) with Son, Matthew, and grandson, Declan. Both Matthew & Declan are Pakachoag piano students.

which the school engages that you value the most in terms of your personal financial investment in the School?

I believe that music as a recreational pursuit, as a career, or an expression of personal joy is truly underrated by many people. Pakachoag, through its programs aimed at young students, has helped open the door to many who otherwise would have missed the opportunity. That in itself is a truly worthy endeavor.

Thank you so much, Rod, for your generosity and sincerity, too.

In Memory of Dr. Arthur M. Pappas



Dr. Arthur and Martha Pappas have carved a legacy of philanthropy locally and regionally. Dr. Arthur Pappas died in March. He lived here in Auburn in the house in which he was born.

Dr. Pappas was the former team doctor for the Red Sox.

He and wife Martha are School donors. Martha serves on the School's advisory board.

We continue to keep Martha in our

thoughts, and express our appreciation for your support of the Auburn community which has included spearheading the construction of the Pappas Sports Complex here on Pakachoag Street behind the Church and School.

2015-2016 Harmony Fund: Thank you for Helping Secure the Future (As of 5/1/16)

♪ 5+ consecutive years ♪♪ 10+ Year Donor ♪♪♪ 20+ Year Cavatina Society ☀

Leading Music For Life (\$5,000; \$10,000+)

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Carol Stewart-Grinkis
Martha & Kevin Toth

☀ *The Cavatina Society recognizes donors
who give leading gifts of \$500 and above.*

*For more information on giving and membership, please speak
with Sarah, Executive Director or
e-mail Sarah@pakmusic.org.*

*We'll be acknowledging all of our Music for Life
Campaign donors starting in the Fall.*

*Thank you, again, to our "leading the way" donors
and grantors.*

Parents Join in Giving Back

New Parent Association: Everyone Welcome



From Crystal Jiang, Pakachoag Parent and Board Member

I am happy to introduce the formation of the Pakachoag Music School Parent Association (PPA). The purpose of this association is to get Pakachoag Music School

families involved with the school in their child's musical growth outside of the regular weekly class so that parents can become active participants in their child's learning process.

PPA will utilize meetings and online communication to share students' success stories, provide opportunities to volunteer, and support school events to further enrich our students' learning experiences.

We believe parent engagement and partnership with Pakachoag

Music School, volunteerism, and regular and frequent communication will expand more opportunities for Pakachoag students today and tomorrow.

We want to hear from you and need your participation. To connect, share ideas, and be engaged with PPA, feel free to contact Crystal Jiang at Crystalwj@gmail.com or Sarah Smongeski, Executive Director, at Sarah@pakmusic.org

Donors/Grantors Invest in Students through Technology

(Continued from page 1)

Financial aid, a core piece of the access puzzle, is more prominently placed and easily seen for those seeking to find a musical home, but with limited financial means. Multiple payment options in the near future, along with easier to find information, will make it easier for families to jump on board for the high quality instructional opportunities the website so artfully reflects. In addition to our appreciation to grantors and *Music for Life!* donors, we thank board member Andy Weigl who volunteered hundreds of hours over the past three years to capture the many

varied photos that bring the web site alive.

Technology Phase 1 and Phase 2 Investments

Hardware, software upgrades; new website; on-line registration with new database.

Thank you for your investment in access through technology:

- The George F. & Sybil H. Fuller Foundation
- The Schwartz Foundation
- The George A. Ramlose Foundation
- Generous *Music for Life* donors

Dear Donors: Visit Our 'Featured Student' on the Home Page

Great learning happens every day at Pakachoag Music School because of our donors.

Visit the home page of our web site, scroll down and you'll see a new "Featured Student" content block. Every month or so, we'll feature one of our students so you can see how your investment in students today is making a difference, for life!

Introducing Kamilla Isanbaeva Irving, Piano Faculty

Kamilla Isanbaeva Irving joined Pakachoag this May as the newest member of our piano faculty.

Kamilla has performed in concert halls throughout Europe, including Amsterdam's Concertgebouw and Vienna's Musikverein. In 2011, Kamilla released her first CD with Dutch cellist Harriet Krijgh, considered one of today's most exciting and promising young cellists on the international music scene.

More recently, Kamilla was invited to perform in several major music festivals in Switzerland and Germany, with additional solo tours in China and Japan.

In 2015, Kamilla relocated to Worcester to join her new family which includes mother-in-law Silvia Irving, Pakachoag voice faculty.

Kamilla holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the Conservatory of Amsterdam .

Kamilla was born in Uzbekistan; emigrated with her mom to the Netherlands as a teen, spent several years living in Austria (post degrees), and most recently lived in London where she worked for the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the Royal College of Music, and the Royal Academy of Music.

Welcome Kamilla!



Kamilla Isanbaeva Irving, Piano Faculty

Student News & Congratulations

Congratulations to our Graduates

Dave Gunaratnum, of Auburn, guitar student of Jeff Dostal; attending Fordham University.

Abbie O'Connor, of Putnam, CT, cello student of Betsy Bronstein.

Renae Renihan, of Auburn, cello student of Betsy Bronstein; attending Worcester State for Music.

Seven Students Awarded Twinkle Pins

Congratulations to the following Suzuki Violin students who completed the requirements for a Twinkle Pin:

Dylan Burke of Auburn
Beckham Chouinard of Barre
Abram Engelhardt of Auburn
Alan Liu of Shrewsbury
Briana Pascoal of Shrewsbury
Alaia Phillips of Northborough
Addison Sobiech of Shrewsbury

In order to be awarded a Twinkle Pin students have to:

- Submit a video of all five of the Twinkle Variations and the Theme performed with accompaniment, demonstrating good violin position, tone, intonation and tempo; and
- Perform a variation and the theme in a performance class or recital.

The process generally takes a year or more to complete.

Congratulations for learning the five variations and theme!

Afternoon Tunes Volunteer Acknowledgement

We extend thanks to

Matthew McCoy, of Shrewsbury, Piano; and

Kyle Durant, of Oxford, Piano and Trumpet.

Both students have volunteered this year as part of the Afternoon Tunes outreach program.

Honors Recital Acknowledges Commitment & Musicianship

Congratulations to all of the students who took the challenge to audition for the Honors Student Recital held in March.

The following students successfully completed an audition in order to participate:

Simone Brown, Voice & Piano*
 Leah Cammuso, Piano
 Davepriyan Gunaratnam, Guitar
 Gabriel Johnson, Violin
 Paul Mara, Violin
 Caitlyn Myers, Voice
 Abbie O'Connor, Cello
 Renae Renihan, Cello

**Partner in Music, representing the Worcester Children's Chorus*

You're Invited: June Special Events



From Paris to Pakachoag:

Nico Duchamp,
Internationally Recognized
Flutist and Teacher

Masterclass & Concert

Sunday, June 12th, 2016

Masterclass: 1:00 to 3:00 pm*

Concert 7:00 pm – Free

The Great Hall at Pakachoag Church

With Pakachoag faculty :

Jung-Yi Hsieh, Flute

Andrey Karpyuk, Piano

Nicolas Duchamp is an internationally acclaimed performer and respected teacher, in the tradition of the Paris Conservatory French school of flute playing. He has served for many years as principal flutist for the National Opera Comique in Paris and toured extensively in his native France as well as Europe, Japan and North America.

Faculty member Alice /Jung-Yi studies with Nico in New York and has made Nico's visit to Pakachoag possible.

Senior Recital

Saturday, June 4th

1:00 pm

Abbie O'Connor and

Renae Renihan, Cellists

Students of Betsy Bronstein

The Great Hall at Pakachoag Church

Studio Guitar

Concert - Pakachoag & Boys & Girls Club

Wednesday, June 8th

6:30 pm

With Club students and Pakachoag students of Jeff Dostal & Josh Goldman

The Music School extends our thanks to Pakachoag Church for on-going use of the Great Hall and Steinway Concert Grand for many of our annual events

Sedgwick Family Concert Received with Appreciation

Family Concert Resonates as We "Talk" Music for Life!

Sedgwick's Raise \$350 to Support 'Save the Instruments' Fund

What a nice way to reflect on the full meaning of making music a life-long endeavor, with a family concert, on April 2nd, that included faculty member Debby Sedgwick and her two professional musician sons, Dan and Eric. Both Dan and Eric hold advanced degrees in music, one as composer and theory



teaching assistant at Harvard University; one as a NYC based collaborative pianist.

Marji Gere, violinist and wife of Dan, rounded out the program.

Thank you, Sedgwicks, for volunteering this special free community concert.

Thanks to our over-flowing audience for receiving the Sedgwick family so enthusiastically.

Dan, mom Debby, and Eric Sedgwick (L to R) performed a six-hands piano arrangement as part of the April 2nd Sedgwick Family concert.

Harmony Fund FY16: \$7,000 Still to Raise

Can you help? As important as the *Music for Life* Campaign is, it is only with the sum impact of all Harmony Fund donors that the school can remain strong for the future.

- **A gift of \$25** pays for a new drum for Music Together.
- **A gift of \$90** covers the cost of one piano tuning. (Total annual cost to tune our 7 pianos, 2-3 times annually: \$1500.)
- **A gift of \$175** underwrites tuition for a Music Together student to attend class for 10 weeks.
- **A gift of \$920** (the average financial aid award for FY16) sponsors a student in need for a full year of lessons.

Please consider giving the gift of music. Your gift helps all our students reach their full music potential.

Cover Story: Alumna Reflects

(Continued from page 1)

Abbie: What advice do you have for others who want to pursue a career in music?

I advise those starting out to never let "no" stop you. You are in charge of your own future. The best thing I learned after college was that if you tell people what you want and need, 99% of the time they want to help you find the opportunities or even personally give them to you. The more people who know you are a hard worker, the more opportunities will present themselves. And if they don't, make your own. You CAN perform a small concert at a church, or community center, or start a small chamber group that performs even in a warehouse ; all you need to do is ask people for the resources. Art

brings people joy.

And questions from Sarah, Executive Director:

Do you feel that music and theater impact other areas of your life in terms of ability to be successful or experience satisfaction?

“ The more people who know you are a hard worker, the more opportunities will present themselves. “ There are so many reasons that performing art affects my life. There's always an exciting goal to work towards with your colleagues. This process has taken me through so many journeys of learning how to work with other people, no matter their personality. Once I started consistently performing in college my social skills and anxieties, which I had a hard time with, started becoming easier to deal with. Learning that a performance never happens

without some type of hitch or mistake makes it easier to deal with life's problems.

If you had to pick one experience at Pakachoag that had a lasting impact on you, what would that be?

Besides my teachers being incredibly positive, understanding and supportive, I will never forget the performing experiences in the Great Hall. When I got my first church job in college ... I had enough experience performing in front of crowds that I could start to focus on creating art instead of my nerves. When you can turn off the effect stimuli have on you while performing and start focusing on the art, it becomes more meaningful to you and the audience.

Thank you so much Rachel for staying in touch, taking time to share and for wonderful teaching memories.

“ Learning that a performance never happens without some type of hitch or mistake makes it easier to deal with life's problems.”

*Rachel Hanauer,
Soprano; Pakachoag
Alumna (2006)*



Sponsors Help Keep the Music Playing

Thank you sponsors!
Your support helps keep School special events
free and open to the public.
We appreciate your investment in Pakachoag and community.



2015-2016 Event Sponsors

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- ◆ Dodge Park Rest Home & Day Club
- ◆ Karbowski Remodeling
- ◆ Reliant Medical Group
- ◆ The Verderese Family
- ◆ Price Chopper Golub Foundation

New Board Members



Brian Perry is recently retired from the Webster Five Cents Savings Bank where he spent his entire career, moving from teller to eventually becoming the Bank's Treasurer and Senior Vice President prior to retirement.

Brian has served on a number of non-profit boards including Tri Valley, Inc, the United Way of Webster-Dudley and the Health Foundation of Massachusetts.

Brian is a resident of Webster and currently enrolled as a Pakachoag student, learning to play violin/fiddle with Betsy Bronstein. Brian

is also an avid scuba diver and diving instructor. He has been appointed Treasurer for the Pakachoag Board and will be overseeing the formation of the School's new Finance Committee in the coming months.

If you have a background in accounting, finance or investing and would like to lend your support to the School's new finance committee, please e-mail Sarah Smongeski, Executive Director, at Sarah@pakmusic.org.

Crystal Jiang is an associate professor in Management at Bryant University with expertise in strategic management. Crystal is also CEO of Ivy Education Group, LLC, an organization which provides educational consulting services. She is a director of New Garden Foundation which provides support for girls suffering trauma in developing countries. Crystal is a Pakachoag parent and Auburn resident, and is spearheading the new Pakachoag Parent Association. Crystal is also serving on the Board's marketing committee.



William Ness, Organ Faculty Presents Concerts & Lecture

William Ness is presenting and performing for the Monadnock Chapter of the American Guild of Organists on August 6 in Keene, NH. He will accompany a

performance of Faure's *Requiem*, lecture on organ registration and present a 40 minute organ recital at the United Church of Christ, Keene.

Mr. Ness will also be presented in two recitals for the Wyoming Chapter of American Guild of Organists in Casper, Wyoming in October.



Popular

Facebook Posts

Please visit our Facebook Page and give us a 'like' whenever you can. Your 'likes' help us spread the word and share all good news happening at Pakachoag Music School.

No. 1: Back to School (post - February Vacation) with Arden.

Violin student Arden pleasantly assures director she was practicing during vacation week.

No. 2: Looking for Guitar Donations. For the Boys & Girls Club. We were successful!

No. 3 New Videos Posted: Including Renae playing Faure's Elegy.

Summer Programs

Visit www.pakmusic.org > summer session
 Register early and you may be able to save \$.

NEW

Come Check out a Class with Rhythm Kids

Rhythm Kids is a new, fun class this spring on Wednesday at 5:45 to 6:30. Call or email if you'd like to drop in.

Rhythm Kids inspires children to integrate and assimilate rhythm into their lives, as they:

- learn multicultural drumming patterns;
- develop new repertoire on various percussion instruments;
- explore movement and dance while singing songs;
- play games based on music and drumming;
- have fun with a host of rhythm activities.

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- I would like to learn more about including PakMusic in my will.
- I would like to learn more about the Music for Life Campaign.

*OR, donate with a credit card on-line.
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OR Give online today at www.pakmusic.org and click on "Donate." Questions? Call 508 791-8159.
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The Tenuto



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This Issue: *Music for Life! Donors* Investing in Students, Today and Tomorrow



Explore our Musical Community

Our *Music for Life!* Promise

At Pakachoag, we make Music for Life!

We're challenging students to stretch for high standards, take risks, recover from mistakes, and gain confidence to succeed in not only music, but in life.

New Web Site

Now On-Line

Take a Look!

www.pakmusic.org