From partnerships to technology, donors are shifting how Pakachoag engages.

As the School works to fulfill the goals of Music for Life, we see all around us change in the faces and music of our students. Those changes are in part the natural shifts that come as we grow institutionally and individually as teachers and learners. The changes we see also reflect a growing diversity among our student population that comes with greater regional exposure for the School, combined with efforts to strengthen and integrate partnerships more tightly into our School culture.

(Continued on page 6)
Investing in Partnerships, With Your Support

New Hanover Theatre Partnership Extends Reach for Little Ones

We are excited to partner with the Hanover Theatre in Worcester, starting January, by bringing Pakachoag’s popular Music Together® program to the Hanover’s new Conservatory.

The Conservatory, which primarily offers after-school and summer theater programming, adjoins the main theater downtown, at the corner of Main and Southbridge Streets.

Music Together at the Hanover will be offered on Monday mornings with Pakachoag faculty member Linnea Lyerly. Tuition includes free parking and discounts to many shows.

The Hanover partnership extends Pakachoag’s reach to now include five class locations: Auburn, Worcester, Sterling, Sturbridge and W. Boylston; with classes available at one or more locations on Monday through Saturday mornings, and Thursday afternoons.

Meghan Montaner, Director of Education for the Hanover Theater, writes:

“We are very excited to be partnering with Pakachoag Music School to offer Music Together at our new Conservatory for the Performing Arts. Offering performing arts education in downtown Worcester is central to our mission to foster a love and appreciation for the performing arts and we look forward to a long partnership with Pakachoag in accomplishing this goal.”

Youth Leaders Teach Free Music Lessons

Thirty Plus Children Receiving Free Music Lessons; Twelve Youth Honing Leadership Skills.

Afternoon Tunes, an All Saints Church outreach program, with Pakachoag serving as a lead partner, is off to another busy year. This year, Pakachoag faculty member Nike Beaudry moves from mentor teacher into an expanded role as Interim Program Director.

Fourteen high school volunteer teachers are teaching 37 children. The majority of students receiving free instruction live in the Main South / All Saints neighborhood.

In addition to weekly private lessons, programs include two theory groups, a jazz ensemble, and master classes conducted with All Saints choristers.

A winter student recital is scheduled for January at All Saints, and a second annual teacher recital (with the student teachers) is planned in February. An African drumming group will do a presentation for students in April.

All Saints Choir director Graeme McCullough, along with two choir member volunteers—Bruce Foss (also an adult voice student at Pakachoag) and Sarah Okerlund—are providing additional program support.

Pakachoag students Matthew McCoy (piano, Shrewsbury) and Shannen Lin (violin, Worcester) are among the volunteers for this year’s program.

*** Afternoon Tunes, founded by Pakachoag alumnus Liz Butterworth, is one of several partnerships where Pakachoag provides administrative, teaching or leadership support.
Music for Life!

Investing in Students, Today & Tomorrow

**SYMPHONY CIRCLE - $20,000+**

Board of Directors, Pakachoag Music School
Patti and Paul Verderese

**CONCERTO CIRCLE - $10,000+**

Alison Snyder & Donald Allison
John and Susan Howland
Anonymous
The Stoddard Charitable Trust

**ARIA CIRCLE - $5,000+**

Robert and Beverly Bachelder
J. Christopher and Catherine Z. Collins
The Fletcher Foundation
The George F. and Sybil H. Fuller Foundation

**PRELUDE CIRCLE - $1,500+**

Tom & Barb Ingrassia
Crystal Jiang & Yong Wang
Rev. Perry Kingman
Rod & Kathleen O’Connor
Brian & Maria Perry
The Greater Worcester Community Foundation
The George A. Ramlose Foundation
The Schwartz Charitable Foundation
Bonnie & Andy Weigl
Susan Wobst
Sarah and Joseph G. Smongeski

As of 12/15/2016
Giving Cycle Open & Continuing
Thank you!

Music for Life Jingle Contest Winner

Congratulations to Henry Wang of Auburn who wrote the winning jingle for our Music for Life Jingle Contest.

Henry is very involved in the school and so enthusiastic about everything he does.

Thanks so much Henry for a great jingle. We’ll be working to get the jingle posted on the website so everyone can hear it.
If we value the school, it is important to contribute to the organization. Tuition doesn’t cover all the costs of attending Pakachoag. We need to keep the cost of lessons reasonable so music education can be attainable for everyone. A strong annual fund equals a strong school. That’s why the Harmony Fund is a priority today.”

There are many charitable organizations in Central Mass, what makes Pakachoag a priority for you and your family?

“I believe in music education. I believe all children should be able to express themselves musically. I believe Pakachoag has an extraordinary program. It is a high caliber program with our support as donors. There are many important things in our community and the arts are one of the most important.”

Pakachoag is experiencing a time of great growth and change. What are you most excited to see as the school continues to grow?

“There is a lot to be excited about! This is a time full of opportunities for growth. The chance to have an increased presence in Worcester is exciting. Reaching out to underserved communities to give boys and girls a chance to enjoy music is something I’m very excited to be a part of.”

Meg Gallo, long-time donor, former board member, and Pakachoag parent, takes a moment to visit with Pakachoag.

Did you know that even in the midst of the Music for Life Campaign, it is critical to have a strong and growing Harmony Fund? Help us keep the School strong!

- 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 Theater student to participate in our school-year or summer theater shows.
- A gift of $920 (the average financial aid award for FY16) sponsors a student in need for a full year of lessons.

Thank you.
2016-2017 Harmony Fund:
Thank you for Helping Secure the Future
(As of 12/20/2016)

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

Maestros ($2,500+)
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Pakachoag Church
Martha Pappas, In Memory of Dr. Arthur M. Pappas ♪☼
Bonnie and Andy Weigl ♪♫ ☼

Director’s Circle ($1,000+)
Bob & Beverly Bacheldor ♪♫☼
Susan Kraft and Donald Michaels ♪☼
Jane and Dennis Neslusan ♪♫ ☼
Alison Snyder and Don Allison ♪♫ ☼

Composers ($500+)
Diane Paradis Degon & David Degon ♪☼
Julie and Andrew Kelleher ♪♫ ☼
Rev. Perry Kingman
Jill & Michael Lorion ♪♫ ☼
Kathleen Monbouquette ♪♫ ☼
Beth and John Paul Verderese ♪♫ ☼
Susan Wobst

Conductor ($250+)
Barbara and Dick Granger ♪♫
Barbara Groves ♪♫
Pam and Tom Johnson ♪
Masterman’s ♪

Nydia and Charles Moser ♪
Mary Anne and Bryan Slack ♪
John T. Verderese ♪

Soloist ($100+)
Alden Anderson ♪
Rex & Janeen Baker ♪♫
Tina and Peter Balesano ♪
Stanley Berman ♪
CGT, Inc./Gabe Simon
Dorothy and Donald Favreau ♪
Carolyn and Bruce Field ♪♫
Janice and Robert Gallo ♪
Dory and Rich Huard
Silvia and Donald Irving ♪
Paul Jourcin ♪
Gail and John Leferts ♪
Kristina Johnson-Most ♪
and Mathew Most
Heather and Taylor MacFarlane
Cristina and Greg Canning ♪♫

Section Leader ($50+)
Anonymous
Joan and John Butterworth ♪♫
Sherri and David Elkinson
Julie Holston ♪
Dorothy and David Julian ♪
Jean and John Jesensky ♪

Ryan Kittredge
Dennis Knight ♪
Maxim and Isabella Korn ♪♫
Christa Mansur
Carla and Rocco Morano
Maria and Brian Perry
Kate Shan and Hongju Liu ♪
Tina and Allen Reid
in honor of Trixie
Marge St. John ♪
Amleslie Tew and Adam Chau
Irene Urmeneta in honor of Ruby Urmeneta Burke

Friends
Anonymous
Nancy Avila ♪
Susan Burak in memory of Doris Burak ♪
Melissa Culafi
Ford’s Hometown Services ♪
Diane and Paul Mara
Inna Muravnik ♪
Patricia O’Leary
Louise and Salvatore Ventriglia ♪♫

☼ The Cavatina Society recognizes donors who give leading gifts of $500 and above.
For more information on giving and membership, please speak with Sarah Smongeski,
Executive Director or e-mail Sarah@pakmusic.org.

The Harmony Fund:
In addition to sustaining a strong school for today and tomorrow.....
• Your contribution is tax deductible.
• Your contribution signals to Foundations and others that those closest to the organization are standing behind the School’s mission.
The Tenuto

Shifts in technology are also helping us expand and connect in new ways. Many of our MFL activities are summarized here in our newsletter. Some have not yet come to fruition—but the work is in progress.

I and our Board of Directors wish to thank you, our donors and grantors, for your trust in the School. We’re working hard to ramp up, to change, to learn, to grow. None of this would be possible without your generosity.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Donors/Grantors Invest in Students through Technology

(Continued from page 1)

With the unveiling of our new website in May, Andy’s photos brought the site to life through artistically captured images. Beyond the camera, Andy has dedicated hundreds of hours over six years, watching over the health of the school and providing advice on all things strategic, in particular marketing activity.

When asked what has been most fulfilling about his personal commitment to Pakachoag, Andy writes:

- “Helping to work on issues that are important to the school, and making a difference along the way.
- “Watching, hearing and photographing, the students during performance - capturing the emotion.
- “Being able to give back to a worthy cause ...
- “Seeing first-hand how a small non-profit organization operates. It’s way more challenging than I would have imagined!”

We thank Andy for sharing his time, his talents and dollars in support of Pakachoag students.

Andy Weigl, 2016 Volunteer of the Year

Andy Weigl Joins Illustrious Group of Verderese Volunteers of the Year

At the School’s May 2016 student recital, we extended our heartfelt thanks to volunteer School photographer and board member, Andy Weigl.

Andy’s change of profession, from business consultant to professional photographer, was fortuitous in the life of the School. Over the past three years, Andy visited numerous recitals, lessons and special events to capture the life of Pakachoag in photos.

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We thank Andy for sharing his time, his talents and dollars in support of Pakachoag students.

Verderese Volunteers of the Year

1998: Antoinette Giannini
1999: Judy MacQueen
2000: Linda Chadwick
2001: Joan Butterworth
2004: Marcia Reich
2007: Linda Roach
2008: Renihan Family
2009: Alison Snyder
2010: Susan Kraft
2012: Patti Verderese
2016: Andy Weigl

The Verderese Volunteer of the year award was founded in 1997 to recognize the dedication of our key volunteers and is named for Patti and Paul Verderese, long time volunteers and benefactors to Pakachoag.

Welcome Heather MacFarlane

Heather MacFarlane joined Pakachoag in October as our new part-time Development Associate. Heather will be working with Sarah to make sure our donors, grantors and sponsors have the opportunity to see how their support is impacting students and strengthening Pakachoag.

Heather has extensive prior experience in the development offices at Clark University and Assumption College. She holds a BA from Wheaton College and an MBA from Assumption.
Sponsors 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.

If your business would like to sponsor a program or event, please contact Heather MacFarlane, Development Associate at Heather@pakmusic.org.

Thank you to the following restaurants who have generously donated gift cards for special event door prizes:
- A&D Pizza
- Calabria Ristorante
- Elm Draught House
- Padavano’s Place
- Park Grill & Spirits
- Pepperoni Express

Student News & Congratulations

Matthew Morales (Brimfield) student of Silvia Irving, was accepted into Senior Central District Chorus. Matthew received an All State audition recommendation.

Paul Mara (Auburn) and Shannen Lin (Worcester), students of Amy Matherly, were accepted into MMEA Central District Senior Festival Orchestra.

Olivia Curnen (Auburn), voice student of Silvia Irving, has been awarded the role of Mrs. Potts for Stageloft Theater’s production of Beauty and the Beast.

Thanks to the piano students of Inna Muravnik, Andrey Karpuk, Debby Sedgwick and Janeen Baker who volunteered for a special concert at the UCC of Millbury in October. The concert celebrated the newly refurbished piano and organ at the church.

Participating pianists:
- Katelyn Aho (Worcester)
- Eowyn Bach (Paxton)
- Leah Cammusso (Worcester)
- Bennett Ebinezer (Shrewsbury)
- Lily Engquist (Worcester)
- Lauren Engquist (Worcester)
- Laura Le (Auburn)
- Declan O’Connor (W. Boylston)
- Grace Quimby (W. Boylston)

And organists:
- Lauren Engquist and Chris Lobo (Holden) also participated.

Andrew Lefferts, student of Inna Muravnik, from Oxford, was accepted for the Lyra Summer Music Festival in July 2016. Andrew’s recital performance at Smith College’s Sage Concert Hall received accolades from the Hampshire Gazette as “the most satisfying performance of the afternoon”. Andrew was also highlighted in a Sunday Sitdown feature article in November’s Worcester Telegram & Gazette.

Congratulations to the following students who completed our fall challenges:

Big Ear Challenge (Sept/Oct)
- Albert Afonso, Clara Dowdle
- Elizabeth Elkinson, Okko Kleino
- Eva Knorr, Ethan Most
- Maya Pascoal, Henry Wang

Practice challenge (Oct/Nov)
- Graciella Baublitz, Cayleigh Burke
- Dylan Burke, Okko Kleino
- Eva Knorr, Ethan Most, Maya Pascoal
- Reina Patel, Alaia Phillips
Alumnus Martin Palacios Shares Beautiful Music

Concert Inspires Students of all Ages

In October, Martin Palacios (originally of Auburn) flew up from Tennessee to present a special Music For Life alumnus concert. Martin is currently completing a master’s degree in Suzuki Pedagogy. Following the concert, Martin asked one of our young attending violinists, “What is your favorite piece?” “Aunt Rhodie,” replied Beckham. “I love that piece”, responded Martin. Clearly, Martin is well on his way to being a wonderful teacher, as well as accomplished violinist.

A reception, generously provided by parents, followed the concert which included works by Bach, Saint-Saens and Schostakovich.

Thank you Security Engineered Machinery, program sponsor; and Music for Life donors. The additional expense of hosting an out-of-state musician was only possible because of your support.
On Friday, December 16th, twelve Pakachoag fiddlers visited UMass Memorial to share musical cheer. Thank you students and parents for taking the time; also Amy Matherly and mom Ketaki for organizing the visit.

Monday Evenings with Parent Association

You’re Invited:
Are you new to Pakachoag?
A grandparent?
Interested friend or donor?

Please join us the last Monday of each month. Next Meeting:
Monday, January 30, 2017
6:00 to 7:00 pm
As a PPA participant, you can get to know other parents and share ideas for strengthening the School.

Please RSVP to let us know if you will attend or for more information, please e-mail:
Crystal Jiang at Crystalwj@gmail.com or
Sarah Smongeski, Executive Director, at Sarah@pakmusic.org

Alumni News

John Butterworth (piano; 2010) is in his first of four years at Weill Cornell Medical School. John wants to either be a pediatrician or pediatric oncologist. John is also doing research at Cornell in the area of pediatric neuro-oncology.

Ben Lefferts (piano; 2015) is attending the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA).

Claire Lefferts (piano; 2005) has been accepted into the master's program for Latin and Classical Studies at UMass/Boston.

Gregory Paradis (Piano/Voice; 2005) has been appointed Musical and Drama Director at the James Caldwell High School in W. Caldwell, NJ. Greg just finished producing Godspell and is now preparing for a spring production of Legally Blonde.

Greg also teaches voice, piano, and acting at Fine Arts Connection in Pine Brook NJ, and is a new teaching artist for the education program at Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ. Four times a year he writes and arranges music for student-written children’s plays at Montclair Kimberley Academy, and during the holiday season, he is a professional Christmas caroler with the Yuletide Carolers.

Renae Renihan (cello; 2016) is attending Worcester State College majoring in Music. Renae is also teaching Cello for the Bancroft School in Worcester.

Dustin Weigl (Trumpet; 2009) won, in July, the individuals (non-pro) division of the New York City Triathlon (out of 3500 entrants). Dustin entered school this fall at MIT double majoring in Transportation and Technology/Policy. Dustin continues to play his trumpet as a member of the MIT concert band. Dustin wrote earlier this year, in response to a “we’re excited” Facebook post by Pakachoag: “My [trumpet] lessons with Jon absolutely helped me manage my breathing this weekend!”

Follow Us on Facebook

Your 'likes' help us spread the word and share all the cool stuff happening at Pakachoag Music School.

Most Popular Posts:

No. 1: Fiddlers Visit UMass Memorial bringing musical cheer. in December.

No. 2 First Day Back with Dylan and Caleigh. Violin students look pretty excited! As they return late August for their first official lesson of the new school year.

No. 2: Video Thank You from Thursday Music Together. Toddlers and parents thank School donors on Giving Tuesday.
Introducing New Faculty

Joining the School as new faculty in September 2016 are:

**Katie Beisel Hollenbach, Clarinet, Theory Classes:** Katie earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Denver. She also holds a Master of Music degree in musicology from Northwestern University and is currently a PhD candidate in musicology at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

**David Siegel, Violin,** holds a Bachelor of Music degree, in violin performance, from the Manhattan School of Music. He has performed on a regular basis for many years, often as concertmaster, with a variety of organizations, including the Boston Landmarks Orchestra and Boston Ballet.

**Usha Verma, Indian Classical Sitar,** joins us in January. Usha holds an MA in Music from Punjab University. She was a Music Professor for 6 years at Arya College in Ludhiana, India, and has taught previously at the LearnQuest School of Music in Waltham.

Visit the website, and look for:
About > Faculty
To learn more about our new faculty.

Faculty News

**The Matherlys Announce Release of New Book**

**Amy Matherly** (Suzuki Program Coordinator / Violin Faculty) and husband Christopher Matherly announce the release of their latest book: *Group Classics: Strategies and Ideas for Inspiring Suzuki Group Classes*

As a veteran teacher, Amy offers advice and student tested lesson ideas gleaned from over 30 years of group class teaching experience. Amy notes, “Group class is the heart of a successful Suzuki program and needs to be approached with thoughtful planning.”

**Group Classics** is available at campublications.com, at amazon.com and at Johnson String Instruments.

**Julie Holston** (Music Together) could be seen around southern Worcester county in December with the *Very Merry Dickens Carolers*, singing traditional carols as well as swing and doo-wop.

**Linnea Lyerly** (Music Together) sang an itinerary of different genres, time periods, languages and styles for *A Musical Journey in Song* presented in November as part of the FCC of Shrewsbury’s Arts on the Green concert series with pianist Malcolm Halliday and other vocalists. In December, Linnea appeared in the “1940’s Radio Hour” production with Calliope Theater in Boylston.

In October, **William Ness** (organ faculty) brought Worcester Memorial Auditorium’s Kimball organ “back to life” after three decades of silence. William’s performance was part of a Worcester chapter American Guild of Organists festival week at the Auditorium.
Donor Provides Nice Quality Piano for Lessons

Music Lover Donates For Teaching & Learning

Thank you Rev. Perry Kingman and family for donating this past year a very nice, lightly used Yamaha upright piano.

Rev. Kingman is a Pakachoag Board member. He also sings and volunteers with the Salisbury Singers. Perry is genuinely enthused when he sees young people engaged in making music. We’ve noticed he particularly enjoys hearing a young person play Bach.

We appreciate all of the offers we receive from community friends who are looking to put old instruments to good use.

While our school piano needs are quite specific, we are happy to refer donations forward to families in need of an instrument.

We continue to accept some wind and string instrument donations, on an as-needed basis, on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club and All Saints’ Afternoon Tunes partnerships.

Yes, I would like to give students the Gift of Music!

Name: ________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please print your name as you wish to be recognized.

Address: __________________________ City/State/Zip: __________________________

Telephone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

☐ Check enclosed, payable to PakMusic.
☐ I pledge a total of $________. Please send me a reminder.
☐ I wish to remain anonymous, and do not wish to be listed as a donor.
☐ Please list my gift “In Honor/Memory of __________________________.” (Circle one.)
☐ My gift will be matched by (company name): __________________________.
☐ I would like to learn more about including PakMusic in my will.
☐ I would like to learn more about the Music for Life Campaign.


Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Thank you.
Address Update:

☐ Please change my address as noted on the right.

☐ I am receiving duplicates; please delete my name as shown on right.

☐ Please remove me from your mailing list.

You may also email requests to info@pakmusic.org.

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This Issue: *Music for Life! Continues Full Throttle*

Investing in Students, Today and Tomorrow

‘Let the Music Change Your Life’

Anouncing

Music for Life Jingle Winner

Congratulations Henry Wang of Auburn!

Watch our Facebook page and e-news in the new year for a link to hear Henry’s jingle.

Henry’s Jingle Lyrics:

*Lovely music everywhere.*

*Music for Life. Pakachoag.*

Everybody loves music. *Do Re Mi, Do Re Mi, Mi Re Do, Mi Re Do.*

Come join our music school.

Let the music change your life.

Everybody loves music. *Do Re Mi. Mi Re Do.*

---

NEW!

Learn to Play The Sitar

Please call us at 508-791-8159 for more information.