




Pakachoag
Music School of
Greater Worcester

**‘Mind the Gap’, with Music
Annual Report 2020-2021**

Student Voices

“

Dear Donor,

Thanks to you I'm very good at the violin now.

Before I met my new teacher, my violin playing sounded so bad that my cat ran away every time I played.

And now thanks to you he loves listening to me play. Thanks for helping.

Stephanie, Violin

Age 7

From Milford

Front Cover: Graduate Serena Veilleux (R) from Charlton accepts her alumna certificate with teacher Elizabeth Vysin (L).



Changed Realities: The Future of Music with Pakachoag

Dear Friends,

Mind the Gap! Have you ever stood on a UK train platform where the gap that appears as a train pulls in brings visions of tripping, falling, maybe disappearing? Pandemic anxiety could be compared with that loudspeaker echo “Mind the gap, please.”

We knew, with the pandemic continuing, that this past school year would be abnormal and challenging. As the year progressed, donors and grantors rallied. You showed up in full force, helping us navigate the gaps, adapting as circumstances shifted season to season.

The biggest impact of the COVID-19 pandemic for Pakachoag has been lost enrollments. Even so, we have had many moments during the year to cherish. From the families who committed to making music throughout the year, no matter the venue; to the teachers embracing creative ways to teach with masks or online; to a program director refusing to give up on student performance opportunities; to an office manager improving enrollment processes during calmer than usual weeks - we all found new ways to teach, learn, perform and improve.

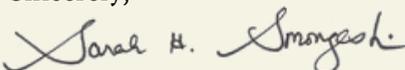
While enrollment dips bring financial challenges, we’ve nonetheless been able to hold tight to the lasting value of music during uncertain times. Sadly, we have also observed or felt directly the losses of a pandemic. As well as loss of life, we are aware many babies, toddlers, children and teens are moving through windows of development absent the rich experiences of community music-making.

While these developmental gaps will likely reveal themselves more clearly in the future, we are not discouraged. Rather, we are more determined to do everything we can to bring quality music learning and engagement to as many as possible.

Your support this past year was critical to our ability to keep going. Your continued support ahead is needed and appreciated.

Thank you for filling the pauses, the disruptions, the unknowns — all the gaps — with music.

Sincerely,



Executive Director

Student Voices

“

Dear Donor,

My dream is to play the piano and to sing.

I have been playing the piano for 5 years and singing two years.

Thank you for your generosity. I would not have this chance without you.

Thank you.

Adrian, Piano / Voice

Age 11

From Worcester

Partner Spotlight

Black Excellence Academy (BEA)

Black Excellence Academy (BEA) is a new after-school program founded by Worcester's Gloria Hall. Gloria contacted Pakachoag after learning that our diversity-building activities linked to her vision for BEA.

BEA is designed to highlight culture and close academic gaps. The program and curriculum are designed by Black educators. The music component of the program encourages students to explore musical expression as a deeply rooted element of Black excellence.

BEA is free to families, and the music classes are made possible with support from both BEA and Pakachoag, as part of our Financial Aid and Outreach Program budget.

Students span Grades 1 to 6. Thirty-seven students enrolled for the program's debut run in Spring 2021.

Chris Carney, Pakachoag voice faculty, taught by zoom on Friday afternoons when the program started, and more recently in-person with classes held at Worcester State University. His curriculum includes inspiring students through the music of Black jazz musicians, creators of the first "original" American music. The partnership is continuing for a second session for Fall 2021.

Unrestricted capacity-building support grants made all the difference in our being able to quickly respond this past winter with a 'yes, we can do this'.



How do you feel when you listen to the music of Motown? Chris Carney, Pakachoag faculty, leads students at the Black Excellence Academy after-school program in learning about Aretha Franklin and other legendary Motown singers who led social and cultural change through their music.





Project Spotlight

Technology Transformation Project & Pakachoag Connects



CREATING FLEXIBLE CHOICES; BOOSTING ACCESS

While Pakachoag Connect evolved out of the need to teach remotely during the pandemic, using technology for teaching was actually part of the School's 2020 pre-pandemic strategic plan.

Technology for teaching music has long been a point of contention among musicians. Sound vibrations, integrally linked to ear training, pitch memory and tone quality, live outside the world of electrical and digital transducers. Our intention in using technology is not to replace in-person learning, but to provide an alternate option when in-person is sometimes or mostly not an option.

Remote teaching not only helps with pandemic challenges, but is a great option for those with health issues, scheduling or transportation challenges.

Transportation in particular has been identified as one of several challenges impeding equal access to after-school programming. A report from The Worcester Mayoral Commission on Latino Education and Advancement reports that Latino "families testified that lack of transportation was a significant barrier in enrolling children in early education and career as well as after-school programs."

The Technology Transformation Project, made possible by generous donor and grantor gifts, allows us to maintain a commitment to excellence, while also creating more flexible program access alongside streamlined administrative support.

Technology Transformation Project

It's Happening, thanks to donors and grantors.

GOAL: \$52,000

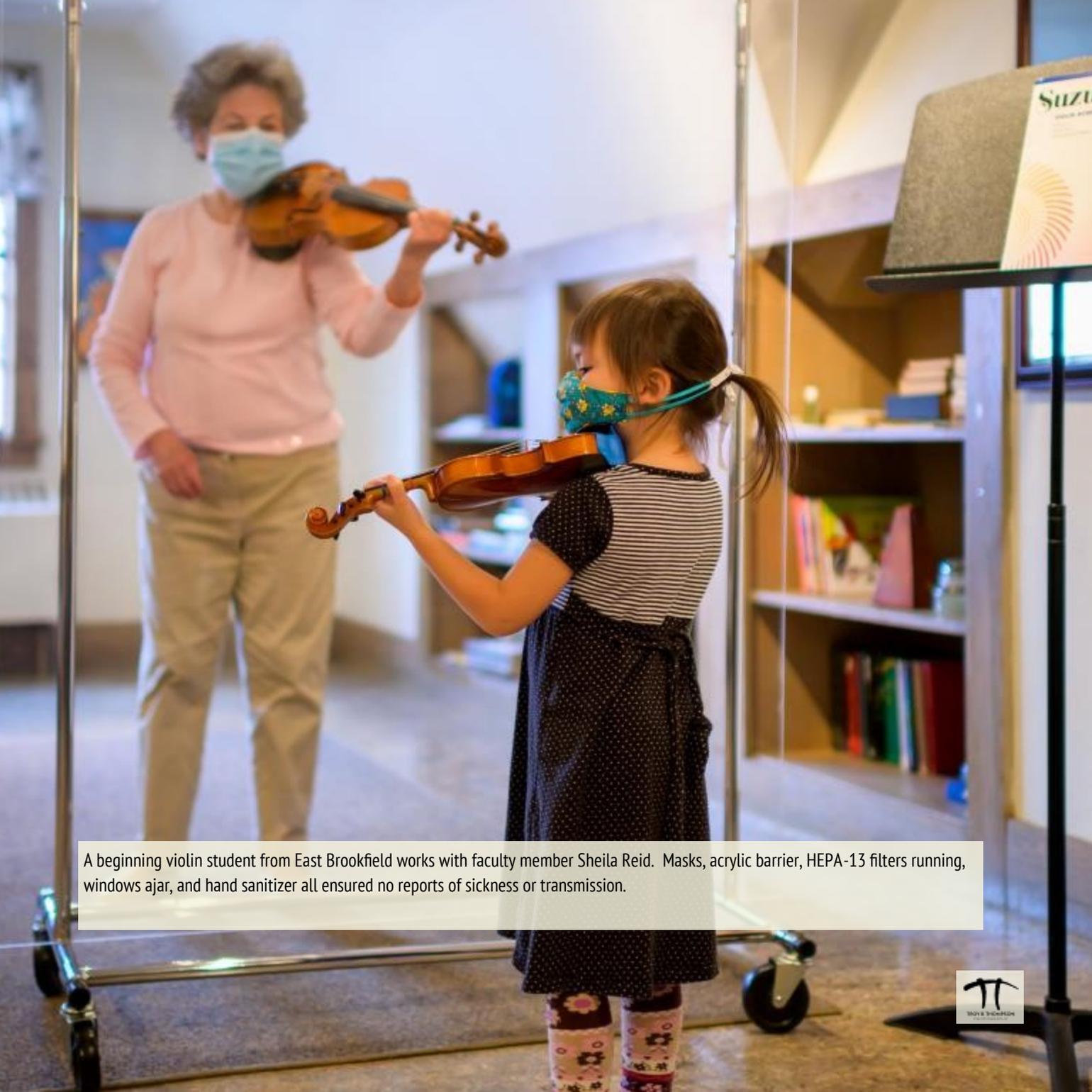
AT CLOSE OF FY21: \$26,000

Donor Gifts: \$10,000

Grantors: \$16,000

The Technology Transformation Project means that no current or potential student needs to opt out of music lessons due to the pandemic, on-going health issues, scheduling or transportation challenges; or lack of adequate hardware for zooming.

We now provide technology support for remote lesson set-up and will loan a Chromebook and ethernet cable for families lacking access to hardware.



A beginning violin student from East Brookfield works with faculty member Sheila Reid. Masks, acrylic barrier, HEPA-13 filters running, windows ajar, and hand sanitizer all ensured no reports of sickness or transmission.

FY21 Disruptions, Strategic Planning & Priority Shifts

The 2020-21 school year was the second year of the school's latest three-year strategic plan. As might be expected, many action items were put on hold.

Despite a 35% drop in overall enrollment, as well as time needed for implementing safety protocols and policies for in-person activity, the disruptions also provided opportunities.

Using technology to expand access moved from year three of the strategic plan to first priority. In addition to addressing teaching/learning needs, we moved all admin software to the cloud and upgraded admin technology to ensure the ability to work without interruption, whether in-office or from home.

Organizational learning around issues of DEI, diversity/equity/inclusion, also part of our strategic plan, was actually easier, thanks to zoom and fewer competing activities.

We updated our faculty handbook after 10 plus years, reviewing both policies and language to ensure an inclusive, welcoming work-place and culture for our faculty.

While our growth time-line has been extended by an additional three years, we are nevertheless a stronger organization thanks to the time invested in technology and learning. We have more work to do, continuing in FY22, and will undertake a new round of strategic planning recognizing the world around us has changed.

~ Student Spotlights

~ Faculty Features

Building A YouTube Presence

Thanks to our marketing committee, a sub-group of our board with parent participation, alongside tech-savvy Program Director Kristjon Imperio, we created some wonderful videos of both faculty and students this past year.

Why do this? Videos allow those outside to look in on the School's work and culture. For those enrolled, we were able to create another level of connection and community.

During FY21, School videos were viewed 3,923 times.

Program & Enrollment Trends

ENROLLMENT DISRUPTIONS

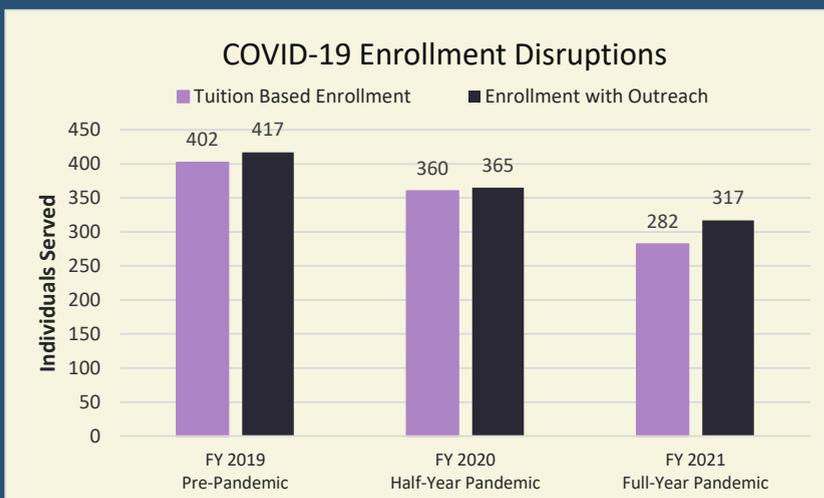
'Continuing disruptions' is the best way to describe the impact of the pandemic on enrollment. Music Together remained the hardest hit program continuing at 50-60% below normal levels.

BRIGHT NOTES FOR 2021

Safety protocols = 100% good health. No reported transmissions for the full year.

Summer Session lesson enrollment was strong for a second year, reflecting reduced opt-out weeks for vacations.

Two Suzuki First-Steps in-person groups were able to meet in-person during the summer. These classes are key for rotating new students into the school-year Suzuki Program.



FY21 Programming

~ Music Together®

Birth to 7 years old

Fall, Winter, Spring Online.

~ Suzuki Violin & Cello Program,
ages 4.5 and up.

*In-Person distanced classes with
online invited.*

~ Private Instruction,

Keyboard Class

5 years through retirement

In-Person and Online.

~ Ensembles: *Online*

◆ Fiddle Band

◆ Choir partnership

~ Summer Session

◆ Lessons *Online & In-Person*

◆ Early Childhood Music & Movement
Samplers, *Online & Outside*

◆ Keyboard Class *In-Person*

~ Outreach

◆ Black Excellence Academy (BEA):
After-School Music Classes. *Online.*

◆ Worcester Family Partnership: *Online
Music Together.*

◆ CENTRO: *Referrals and community
building.*



Dear Donor, Thank you very much for your support of Pa. Kachoo Music School because of your support, I am able to take music lessons. This is my first year studying piano. I hope to be a musician when I grow up. Thank you very much.
Sincerely Naizir



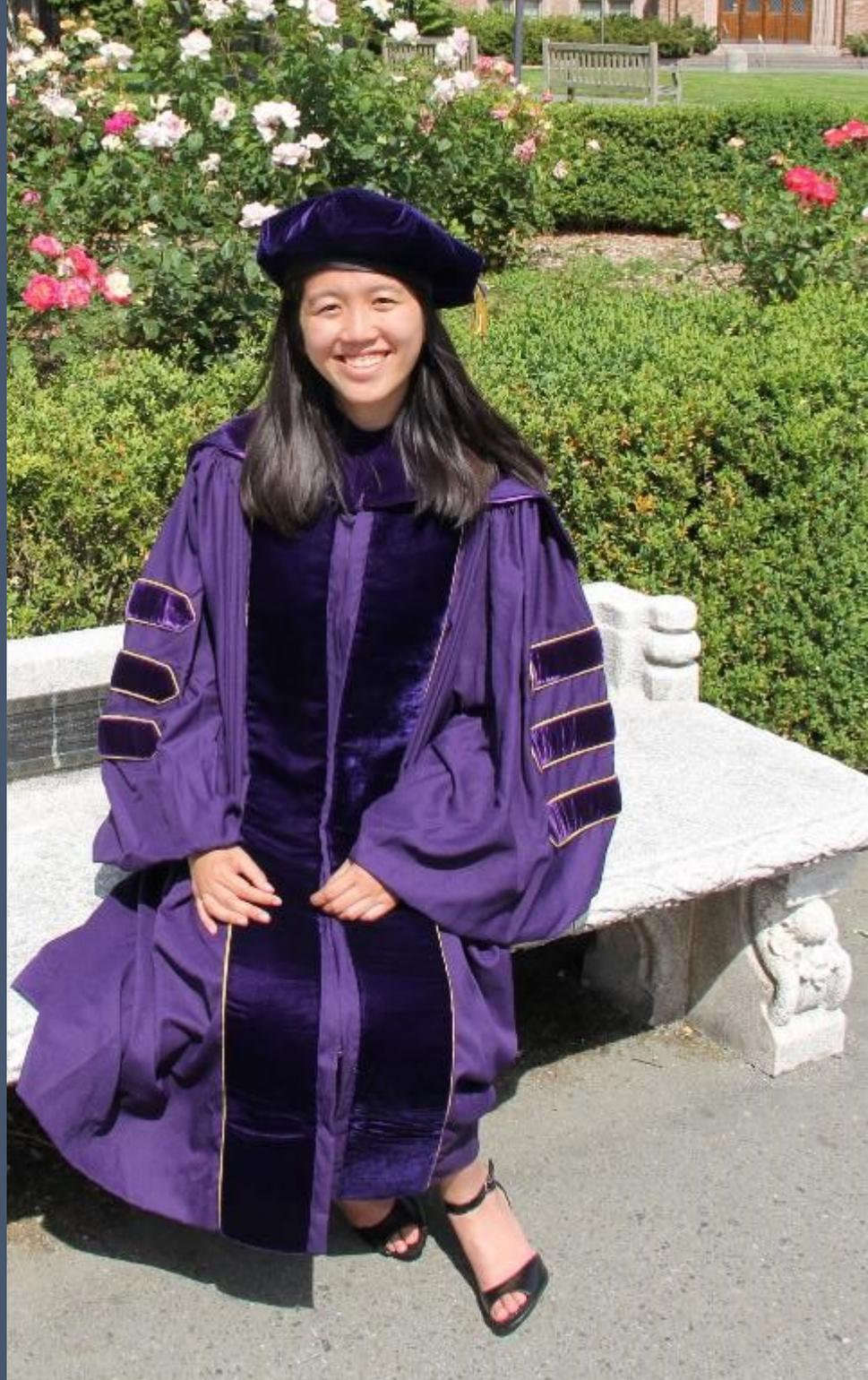
Special Events

In the absence of in-person, events throughout 2021, many of us experienced a big gap in our musical lives.

Kristjon Imperio, Program Director, proposed filling the gap locally by challenging us, through music and conversation, to think more broadly about the role of the arts in identifying or creating shared experiences.

Five of seven planned features aired during our FY2021, with more to come as we move into FY22.

Features are available to view by searching for 'Pakachoag Music School' on YouTube.



21 Ways to Harmony in 2021

Alumna Focus: Dr. Julia Nguyen

Feature No. 1: *From Music Lessons to Life in the Sciences*
Seattle, Washington– Originally Auburn, MA

It is hard to put into words the gratitude I felt when I saw close up this past year all that Julia has accomplished, now age 29, in her professional life.

~ Gratitude to her parents who cared enough to walk Julia into Pakachoag Music School in 2003, asking to sign her up for piano lessons.

~ Gratitude to her very gifted piano teacher, Lea Lucia Lipner, with whom Julia studied for six years through high school graduation. Lea is now retired, but forever a part of the School's history.

~ Gratitude for both our faculty and School families who create a community of support for all of our students, especially during performances when students celebrate the culmination of their hard work.

And equally, gratitude to every donor. Your gifts have impacted so many lives, like Julia's.

If you missed the 21 Ways February Feature with Julia, you can find it posted on our YouTube channel.

Thank you for helping every Pakachoag student achieve their dreams in music and in life.



MUSIC, CONVERSATION,
REFLECTIONS.

ONLINE

Julia Nguyen

- ◆ Ph.D., Chemistry,
University of Washington
- ◆ B.A. Chemistry / Economics,
Williams College
- ◆ Data Scientist with PNNL /Pacific
Northwest National Laboratory, Seattle,
Washington

“One of the top things I learned [at Pakachoag] is how to be calm and confident in front of a crowd. ...I'm not a huge fan of talking and being in front of a crowd...but sharing ideas with colleagues is really important to ensure your work benefits your field and drives innovation.”

New Record for the Annual Harmony Fund

- ◆ FY21 Goal: \$42,000
- ◆ FY21 Gifts: \$54,429
- ◆ Total Donors: 117

While FY21 was not a record year for number of donors, it was a record for dollars gifted.

Your support during a challenging year is greatly appreciated.

The outcome of this past year could have been very different without you. Your gifts made every moment you see captured in this report (and many more) possible.

Thank you.



The Harmony Fund Supporters & Grantors 2020-2021

September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021

♪5+ *consecutive years*

♪♪10+ *Year Donor*

♪♪♪ 20+ *Year*

Cavatina Society ☀

The Board and Executive Director extend our thanks to all of our donors.

Your support sustains Pakachoag year-to-year.

Visionaries (\$10,000+)

Greater Worcester Community
Foundation, in Partnership with
The Barr Foundation
The Klarman Family Foundation
Jane & Dennis Neslusan ♪♪☀

Maestros (\$5,000+)

The Arthur M. and Martha R.
Pappas Foundation
The George F. &
Sybil H. Fuller Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council
Alison Snyder & Don
Allison ♪♪♪☀
The Stoddard Charitable Trust
Patricia & Paul Verderese ♪♪♪☀

Composers (\$2,500+)

Catherine Z. &
J. Christopher Collins ♪♪☀
DCU For Kids
The Fred Harris Daniels
Foundation
Hoche-Schofield Foundation,
Bank of America,
N.A., Co-Trustee
The Ruth H. and Warren A.
Ellsworth Foundation

Conductors (\$1,000+)

Diane (Paradis) Degon &
David Degon ♪♪♪☀
Bruce Foss ☀
Susan & John Howland ♪♪☀
Kallin & Linda Johnson ♪♪☀
Susan Kraft & Donald Michaels ♪♪☀
John Lake, The Kathleen Lake
Memorial Scholarship
Kristin Morales-Lemieux &
Harry Lemieux ☀

Roderick & Kathleen

O'Connor ♪♪☀
Brian & Maria Perry ♪♪☀
Robinson Mountain Trust
The Schwartz Charitable
Foundation
In Memory of Joseph L. &
Georgette C. Smongeski☀♪♪♪
Vickie & Bob Thebeau ♪♪☀
The Webster Five Foundation

Soloist (\$500+)

Randolph & Edla Ann Bloom ☀
James & Josephine Castano ♪♪☀
Linda & Norm Corbin,
In Memory of Kathy Lake☀
Jennifer & Michael Dowdle ♪♪☀
Susan & John Howland ♪♪♪☀
Tom Ingrassia ♪♪☀
Catherine & Daniel Ivascyn
Crystal Jiang & Yong Wang ♪☀
Julie & Andrew Kelleher ♪♪☀

☀ The Cavatina Society recognizes donors who provide leading gifts at the level of \$500 and above.

The Annual Harmony Fund: Thank You for Helping Secure The Future.

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

(Continued from page 15)

Kristin Morales-Lemieux ☀

Gail Morgan &

Bernard Lempicki ♪♪ ☀

Debra Mudge & Mark Aho ☀

Dr. & Mrs. John Paul

& Beth Verderese ♪♪ ☀

The White Companies Charitable

Trust, In Memory of ☀

Leonard & Ann White

Concert Master (\$250+)

Emrah Cakir ,

In Memory of Engin Cakir

In Memory of

Antoinette Giannini

Roger Greene ♪♪

Barbara & Donald Groves ♪♪

John & Gail Lefferts ♪♪♪

In Memory of

Leonard McLaughlin

Rosemary Metcalf

Patricia O'Leary ♪

Erin & Joseph Simpson

Edward J. Smongeski

& Mary Rocheleau

Dr. Karen Way ♪

Section Leader (\$100+)

Christian & Melissa Adamiak

Alden Anderson ♪♪

Janeen & Rex Baker ♪♪♪

Paul Bertler

Susan Burak, In Memory of

Doris P. Burak ♪

Ruby Burke ♪♪

Joan & John Butterworth

Melanie Donegan

Jeff Dostal ♪

Marjorie & John Farr

Joyce Fuller ♪♪

Janice and Robert Gallo

Ann Gallup

Silvia & Donald Irving ♪♪♪

Tom & Pam Johnson ♪♪

John Verderese & Susan Kendall

Ryan Kittredge ♪

Michele & Joe Lyons ♪

Heather & Taylor MacFarlane ♪

Jennifer & Ryan Maloney

Dottie Manning

Amy Matherly

Sharon McLaughlin ♪

Frederick &

Kathleen Monbouquette ♪♪

Anne & Pat Morris

Sonia Paulino

Ronald & Mary Plutnicki ♪♪

Mary Ann Preskul-Ricca &

Joseph Ricca ♪

Rick Quimby

Tina Reid, In Honor of Service

Dog Franklin Reid

Vidya Sambasivan

Debby & Paul Sedgwick ♪

Bryan and Mary Anne Slack ♪♪♪♪

Candace & D. Neel Smith ♪♪

Lincoln & Robin Spaulding

Carol Stewart-Grinkis,

In Honor of Betty Stewart

Betsy & Jack Wertheimer

Susan Wobst ♪

Harry Woodell

Vicki & Charles Zelnick ♪

Dr. Leah Zelnick & Ryan Lauria ♪

Music Friends (Up to \$100)

Anonymous

Linda L. Acciaro

Amazon Smile Foundation

Nancy Avila ♪♪

Eleanor Bergquist ♪♪♪♪

Stanley Berman,

In Memory of Eileen Berman

Cristina (Verderese)

& Greg Canning

Kim Ciborowski, In Memory

of Henry Ciborowski

Donald Combes, In Honor of

Thomas Ingrassia

We've made our best effort to include all of our donors. If we missed you, please let us know.



Photo: Early Childhood Music, Summer 2021 at the Pappas Pavillion, Auburn. While outdoor classes require a bit more prep work (sound system, blankets, bug spray, check-in policies), everyone's enthusiasm meant we didn't miss a beat!

MUSIC FRIENDS *CONTINUED*

Marie Laure Couet
Louise Downie ♪
Durant's Appliance Service
Nike Erskine
D. Favreau
Judith A. Freeland, In Memory
of Barry Freeland ♪
Janice A. Gallo ♪♪
Ann Gallup
Marcos & Devin Gouveau
Melodie Hanks ♪♪
Julie Holston ♪♪
Pat Knowlton, In Memory of
Leeroy Knowlton ♪♪
Sarah Libby
Sharon McLaughlin
Anne & Pat Morris ♪♪
Inna Muravnik
Jason Perry
Kevin Perry
Ron & Mary Plutnicki,
In Honor of Janet Carvelli ♪♪
Marion Rabinowitz
Barbara & John Ramian,
In Memory of Frank &
Betty Kalones ♪♪
Sheila & Don Reid ♪♪
Ruth Russo,
In Memory of Al Russo
Ryan Saunders
Sharon Shepard
Curtis Smith
Betsy & Carl Soderberg
LeighAnn Soucy
Anna Spencer
Usha Verma
Chris Wychorski

Financials FY2021

PRIOR FY20 POST-External REVIEW		
FY20 Income	Income	Percent of Total
Programs	\$ 305,557	62%
Grants & Gifts (Unrestricted)	\$ 111,535	23%
In-Kind, Sponsorships, Misc.	\$ 14,002	3%
Net Assets Released From Restriction (Grants & Gifts)	\$ 57,378	12%
Total Income:	\$ 488,472	
FY20 Expenses	Expense	Percent of Total
Wages & stipends	\$ 291,388	60%
Rent	\$ 36,572	8%
Financial Aid Awarded	\$ 31,456	6%
Licenses, Insurance, Prof. Fees & Similar	\$ 33,115	7%
Depreciation	\$ 53,879	11%
Technology, Marketing, & Similar	\$ 40,647	8%
Total Expense:	\$ 487,057	
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$ 273,956	
Net Assets End of Year	\$ 249,371	
FY20 Change in Net Assets	\$ (24,585)	

FY21, PRE-External REVIEW		
FY21 Income Pre-Review	Income	Percent of Total
Programs (Tuitions and Fees)	\$ 279,294	62%
Grants and Gifts (unrestricted)	\$ 129,279	29%
In-Kind Gifts, Sponsorships, Misc.	\$ 1,042	0.23%
Restricted Gifts and Grants	\$ 39,350	9%
Total Income:	\$ 448,965	
FY21 Expenses Pre-Review	Expense	Percent of Total
Wages & stipends	\$ 261,602	63%
Rent	\$ 31,980	8%
Financial Aid Awarded	\$ 28,333	7%
Licenses, Insurance, Prof. Fees & Similar	\$ 20,084	5%
Depreciation	\$ 33,932	8%
Technology, Marketing, & Similar	\$ 40,649	10%
Total Expense:	\$ 416,580	
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$ 249,371	
Net Assets End of Year - Estimated	\$ 281,855	
FY19 Change in Net Assets - Estimated	\$ 32,384	

Summary Financial Position			
	FY19	FY20	FY21
Assets			
Current Assets	\$ 237,885	\$ 311,152	\$ 267,181
Fixed Assets	\$ 105,104	\$ 57,087	\$ 23,155
Total Assets	\$ 342,989	\$ 368,239	\$ 291,817
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities	\$ 69,033	\$ 62,868	\$ 8,742*
Long-Term Liabilities	\$ -	\$ 56,000	\$ -
Net Assets -Unrestricted	\$ 221,138	\$ 222,553	\$ 269,075
Net Assets - Temporarily Restricted	\$ 52,818	\$ 26,818	\$ 14,000 (estimated)
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 342,989	\$ 368,239	\$ 291,817

*Reflects change in accounting procedures

Fiscal Year 21 COVID-19 Budget Impact

The original FY21 budget was the third year of a three-year budget plan to grow in order to adjust to the obligations of a new home.

As one might expect, that budget growth plan will be extended, reflecting the current reality.

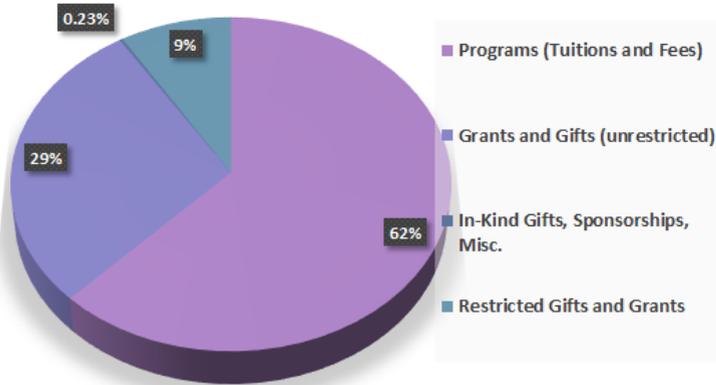
A PPP Loan converted to grant played a significant role in keeping the School on firm footing.

Pandemic disruptions are clearly visible when looking at programs as a percentage of total income. Pre-COVID, program income represented 73% of the budget. For both FY20 and FY21, that percentage dropped to 62%.

Your support has assisted us in slowing the draw from cash reserves. In turn, we have the stability needed to deal with ongoing or new challenges in the future.

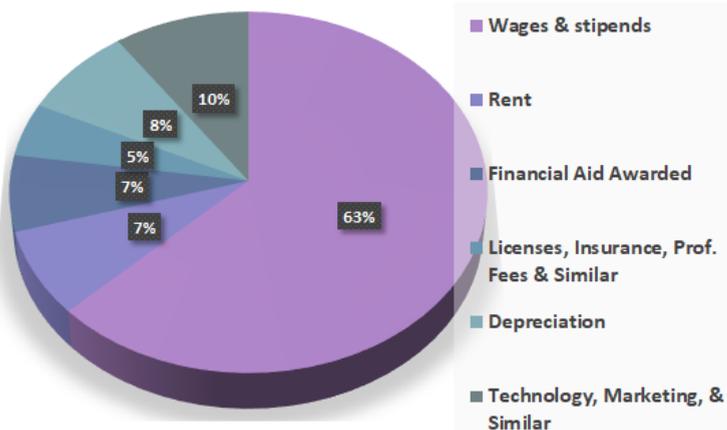
Thank you.

FY21 Income



Financial Aid Awarded \$ 28,333 10% decrease over prior year

FY21 Expense





Student Spotlights: 2021 Reinburg Award

- ◆ *Mai Caslowitz, Voice*
- ◆ *Ksheeraja Ramanujam, Violin*

In the absence of a 2020 awardee due to pandemic disruptions, the School voted to award The Reinburg Award for Effort, Commitment & Attitude to two deserving students for 2021.

Mai Caslowitz of Sturbridge has been enrolled at Pakachoag for over 10 years, starting at age two! Mai later enrolled in the School's Suzuki Program as a violin student, and in 2018 narrowed her focus to private vocal studies with faculty member Silvia Irving.

Mai has excelled during her music studies, most notably being selected for the 2021 All Eastern Music Festival Chorus which draws vocalists from across the northeastern US. Mai is now a freshman at Ryder University pursuing an MFA in Musical Theatre.

Ksheeraja Ramanujam, of Shrewsbury, studies violin at Pakachoag with Amy Matherly. She has been enrolled for seven years. In addition to her activities at Pakachoag, Ksheeraja participates in the Shrewsbury High School Orchestra and studies the Carnatic style of classical Indian violin at the Anubhava School of Music. She was accepted into the 2021 MMEA Senior Orchestra.

Ksheeraja has just entered her senior year of high school and plans to pursue a career in biochemistry.

Faculty Sentiments

“

Mai's consistent focus and effort have allowed her to gain richness and flexibility in her vocal expression and to sing an impressive array of songs from classical to music theater.”

Silvia Irving, Voice Faculty

“

Ksheeraja loves playing the violin and views it as a pleasure to be enjoyed. She listens to music with interest and sets goals for herself. A dedicated and enthusiastic student, she practices thoughtfully and comes to her lessons well prepared. ”

*Amy Matherly,
Violin Faculty*

Photo Right: Ksheeraja Ramanujam, Violin, of Shrewsbury.
Back Cover: Mai Caslowitz, Voice, of Sturbridge.

Student Voices

“

Dear Donor,

I would like to thank you for helping me pay for my piano lesson. I really love doing it. It makes me happy. I also do karate and swimming as well.

Sincerely,

*Thatcher, Piano
Shrewsbury*

Thank You

- ◆ Target of Worcester
- ◆ Target of Millbury
- ◆ Target of Westborough

Your generous support paid for the photos and frames. We provided the students. Everyone provided the inspiration!

Why The Faces of Pakachoag?

The Faces of Pakachoag photo display provides a visual representation of all that we are—every age, instrument, every level of musician, beginner to advanced, different skin tones, hair and eye colors. I particularly love how you can see in a photo a little of what a student is experiencing through music.

The display is comprised of twenty photos of current and recent students viewable on one's way to the third floor studios.

Those of us on staff learn to know most enrolled students as the year progresses; and many become like family when here over repeated years.

Enrolled families and guests however, only see the students scheduled during the time of their visit.

Even with performance classes and recitals, which also create cross-connections, many paths do not always cross during the year.

The Faces of Pakachoag is our way of capturing visually the full diversity of who we are and letting everyone who visits know that they are welcome at Pakachaog.

We extend special thanks to the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, in partnership with the Barr Foundation, whose two year grant award, for FY20 and FY21, has supported our efforts to create more equal access to high-quality out-of-school arts opportunities.





Student Voices

Music Safari: Beginning Keyboard & Music Literacy

“

I am proud because I can play Country Cowboy and Skipping Stones without the music.

Zofia, age 6, Worcester

I like playing and singing the music. I am proud that I can play with two hands.

Sara, age 8, Dudley

Connecting In New Ways

Faculty Spotlight Sarah Okerlund

“When it was obvious classes would be continuing on-line last fall, I was determined to make on-line teaching a consistent, high quality, experience. Cameras were purchased, lighting installed and a large monitor set up. At class time, all I had to do was plug in my laptop and I was ready to go! (So much nicer than the laptop on a music stand that I used at the beginning of the shut-down!)”

Sarah Okerlund, Music Safari Classes

Sarah’s commitment to teaching, to community arts education and to Pakachoag are attributes shared among all of our faculty.

Sarah, who joined Pakachoag in 2019, received her Bachelor and Master’s of Music Education from Oberlin College Conservatory of Music where she studied piano and voice. She has a broad range of teaching experience which includes pre-school, elementary, and middle school music. Sarah has also directed school chorus’ and musicals for children in grades 4 to 6.

As a member of All Saints Church, Sarah sings with the All Saints Choir, teaches theory at summer choir camp, and supervises and guides the young choristers in the choir.

The Music Safari classes are part of our strategic focus to create more equal access to out-of-school arts opportunities. Because classes require a lessor practice commitment than private lessons, they work well in building basic skills while also introducing students to the focus and discipline needed to transition successfully into private lessons.



Faculty member Sarah Okerlund of Worcester celebrates a refreshed home teaching studio maximized for teaching Music Safari keyboard classes remotely, from home, as part of the Pakachoag Connect online learning options. program



Photo: Faculty member Elizabeth Vysin works with a group of second year cellists. Due to distancing, we stitched the photo to get everyone in view

Back Cover: Graduate Mai Caslowtiz receives her alumna certificate with family and teacher looking on..

Our Faculty

Janeen Baker, Piano
Marilyn Butler, Violin / Fiddle
Christon Carney, Voice
Leonardo Ciampa, Piano
Deb Cole, French Horn
Colton Ray Cox, Oboe/English Horn
Madalyne Cross, Violin / Viola /
Suzuki Violin
Alice Daugherty, Flute / Fife
Scott Daugherty, Trumpet
Jeff Dostal, Guitar
Emma Gregory, Clarinet / Sax
Myoung Han, Voice / Piano
Julie Holston, Music Together
Susan Howland, Harp
Kristjon Imperio, Piano
Silvia Irving, Voice
Kamilla Isanbaeva Irving, Piano
Tammy Kaye, Violin/Viola/
Suzuki Program
Laurie Knorr, Violin / Suzuki Violin

Outreach Programs

Black Excellence Academy/BEA with
Chris Carney Faculty
Worcester Family Partnership with Julie
Holton, Faculty

Linnea Lyerly, Music Together
Amy Matherly, Suzuki Violin
Inna Muravnik, Piano
William Ness, Organ
Sarah Okerlund, Music Safari
Sam Politz, Accordion
Sheila Reid, Violin / Viola / Suzuki
Violin
Debby Sedgwick, Piano
David Siegel, Violin
Curtis Smith, Piano
Sarah Smongeski, Flute / Recorder
Michael Stubblefield,
Guitar / Ukulele
Luis Torres, Violin
Usha Verma, Sitar
Elizabeth Vysin, Cello*
*New Faculty for 2020-2021

Staff

Sarah Smongeski, *Executive Director*
Kristjon Imperio, *Director of
Programs & Outreach*
Amy Matherly,
Suzuki Program Coordinator
Jacob Waltz, *Admin Assistant*
Chris Wychorski,
Office Manager / Registrar

Board of Directors

2020-2021

Kallin Johnson, President
Randy Bloom
Emrah Cakir
Melanie Donegan
Bruce Foss
Sharon McLaughlin
Kristin Morales-Lemieux
Sonia Paolino
Brian Perry
Vidya Sambasivan
Erin Simpson
Karen Way

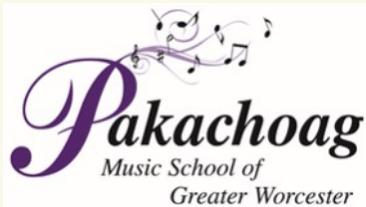
Advisory Board

2020-2021

Catherine Z. Collins
Adrien Finlay
Daniela Fraga
Barbara Granger
Paul Jourcin
Gail Morgan
Troy Siebels
Alison Snyder

Our Mission

*Pakachoag Music School is
dedicated to nurturing musical
journeys that cultivate the
imagination, inspire creativity,
and develop artistry.*



Primary Home:

Worchester

10 IRVING STREET, 2ND FL
WORCESTER, MA 01609

info@PakMusic.org

Music Together

Worchester, Auburn, West Boylston (Also lessons),
Sterling, Sturbridge

www.PakMusic.org