

The Music Foundation of Southwest Florida
13300-56 S. Cleveland Avenue, PMB 214
Fort Myers, Florida 33907

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*Spring 2020
News
&
Updates*

*Bringing music programs
to students since 1991.*

**The Music Foundation
of Southwest Florida**



YES, I will support The 2020 Music Foundation's Summer Arts Camps or _____

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Please make contributions online at our website <http://www.music-foundation.org> or make checks payable to:

THE MUSIC FOUNDATION 13300-56 S. Cleveland Avenue, PMB 214 Fort Myers, FL 33907

Questions, please call Ruth Christman 239-275-0057 or JCMFA@aol.com

The Music Foundation of Southwest Florida is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Tax ID #65-0264107.

Visit our website: www.music-foundation.org for more information.

All contributions are acknowledged in our programs and publicity.



The Music Foundation of Southwest Florida

Our 2020 Summer Music & Arts Camps

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we are not able to present our summer music and arts camps as usual. Instead we are going online for one week June 22 – 26, 2020. We will also be offering 4 weeks of online individual instruction for several musical instruments this summer as well. The latest information may be found online on Facebook and our website. (www.music-foundation.org).

2020 High School Scholarship Recipients

This year we are so pleased to have been able to have online auditions and awarded three scholarships! Congratulations to:

Michael Cerbini, voice - Plans to attend Opera Naples this summer.

Daniel Holmes, piano - Plans to attend Florida State University Piano Institute Summer Camp.

Sarah Conley, viola - Plans to attend The Naples Youth Music Makers Summer Camp.

Sadly all of those camps may be cancelled this year. The scholarships will extend through next year for these fine young musicians. Find out more at <https://music-foundation.org>.

Thank you to past donors from 2019 – 2020. If you have not donated this year, please join us again!

The recently-passed CARES Act allows individuals to **claim above-the-line deductions for cash contributions** up to \$300 to organizations like ours – a federal effort to encourage charitable giving during this difficult time. **Consider making a tax-deductible donation to The Music Foundation of SW Florida today.**

2020 Benefit Dinner

Thanks to Reiko Niiya, Violin, and our student performers Lexi McQueary, French Horn, and Gus Bahruth, Alto Saxophone. Also thanks go to Lee Health Foundation and Keepsake Azaleas by Aris Horticulture.

Angel (\$1,000 +)

Continental Woman's Club of Fort Myers
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The Stardust Memories Big Band
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Lynne Criss, Jane Richards Hudson in memory of John E. Hudson, Mary Seal

In Kind Donations

Blue Pointe Oyster Bar & Seafood Grill, Chili's, First Watch, Fresh Market, Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, Publix, Target, Zoomers

Silent Auction Donors

The Southwest Florida Symphony, Sydney and Berne Davis Arts Center, University Grill, AHA, Gulf Coast Symphony, Sunflower Cafe, The Prawnbroker, First Watch, The Roadhouse Cafe, Zoomers, Alliance for the Arts, Chad Perkins Landings Golf, Tom Wallace Landings Tennis, Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Florida Rep, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Wheelhouse at the Landings

Music NOTES

Spring 2020

www.music-foundation.org

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NEWS AND UPDATES

Dear Friends and Supporters of Music and Arts Education,

Many thanks to those who helped to support our Annual Benefit Dinner in January. Our theme this year, "Honoring the Past, the Present and Future" allowed us to take a nice little walk down memory lane about our origins and past. When this organization began, in honor of Jennifer Craig, inspiration came from a poem that she wrote. It's time to print that poem again in light of recent events.

The Musician

By Jennifer Erin Craig (1988 - 16 years old)



Light dapples over clean, strong-boned hands
That move with a sure motion

Across the ivory keys.

The musician sits,

Pouring delicious melodies into the air

For thirsty listeners to imbibe.

Dust floats lazily on a white beam.

Notes of moon and shadow soar and flourish

Like an exotic black vine,

Covering the sluggish afternoon . . .

Spreading untamed and luxuriant,

It shivers in a cold silent wind.

The musician is at work.

Slowly, a small white bud yawns

And flowers with gathering brilliance.

Finally it bursts

into a thousand shattered stars.

The vine withers.

Red and purple twilight

Plays drowsily

Across the strong, square hands.

The musician dances upon the ivory keys

Abandons them if work is perfected . . .

It never is.

The musician leaves an empty room

Quivering with a secret life.



And so we continue! The Board of Directors: **Dorothy Rodwell, Katherine Light, Stacey Gossman, Patrick Newman** and **Jason Thomashefsky** along with **Ruth Christman**, Executive Director, are dedicated to do what makes sense to do during this time when good health is so precious. We wish the best for everyone! Because we are physically distancing but socially connected, please check out our Facebook page. We are also listed on Amazon Smile and you can have a small percent of your purchase come to us.

We wish you good health and the most beautiful music around you!

Please feel free to contact us at 239-275-0057 or JCMA@aol.com if you have any questions, suggestions or would like to assist us in any way. Thank you for your support! (And a donation would help us keep our programs going).

Ruth Kostush Christman – Executive Director

2021 Benefit Event

Stay tuned for news of our annual benefit event. Yes, we have been having Benefit Dinners for many years and they have been wonderful. We may try something different this time around. Thanks for your support!

Fifth Grade Traveling Instrument Program

Our three sets of instruments were making their scheduled routes when schools shut down. When the buildings are again open, we will be able to retrieve all of our instruments and get them ready for next year. When the music stopped, the instruments were at Gateway Elementary, San Carlos Elementary, and Pelican Elementary. We do appreciate **Jason Thomashefsky** for his good work setting up this current rotation system and monitoring it for us!

Professional Development

This year we offered scholarship opportunities for continuing musical education workshops to music teachers after the FMEA Conference. Here are the results! Congratulations to all!

Kevin Devitt – Challenger Middle School - Will attend Florida Bandmasters Association Summer Institute

Christine Koller – North Fort Myers - Will attend Kodaly Training at Indiana University

Thomas Dubbert – Mariner High School - Will attend Florida Summer Band Workshop

All of these music teachers want to attend FMEA sponsored workshops currently scheduled to be held this summer. We are waiting to see if they will happen.

The Music Foundation of Southwest Florida aims to enrich and transform the lives of young people by igniting and nurturing the life-long joy of making music.