



Share Your Blessings

Enriching the Lives of Individuals
with Special Needs

2021

Share Our Achievements

2021 was another successful year helping a broad range of individuals with special needs and disabilities as we continued to broaden our reach in Arizona, New Mexico and Southern California, as well as with a wide range of individuals and organizations throughout the country. This success was driven by our Project Maestro program, which incorporates the revolutionary Beamz Interactive Music System. By simply touching light beams or virtual instruments with their hands, anyone - regardless of their age, musical experience or ability can have fun creating and playing music, or DJ'ing, while simultaneously receiving a wide variety of learning, physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communicative, and sensory skills & therapy benefits. In 2021, through Project Maestro, we donated 112 Beamz systems that provided such benefits to 1,200 to 1,700 individuals with special needs and disabilities.

Over the past six years Project Maestro has donated about 800 Beamz units, together with ongoing training and support, positively impacting over 10,500 individuals with special needs and disabilities, as follows:

- * *Over 270 Beamz systems were provided to teachers and schools, reaching more than 5,300 students with special needs*
- * *Over 80 Beamz systems were provided to nonprofit organizations, including senior care and memory facilities, reaching over 2,500 individuals with special needs*
- * *Over 100 Beamz systems were provided to therapists, reaching about 1,500 special needs clients*
- * *Over 330 Beamz systems were provided to families, reaching approximately 1,000 individuals with special needs and their friends & family members*

Due to COVID, in 2021 we were not able to attend trade shows as we have in the past, and our IOS Beamz Systems were out of stock so we were limited to supporting individuals with PC computers only. However, we were very successful in spreading the word via networking with our existing donees and participating organizations along with social media and various special needs organizations and groups. We also continued to provide training (often virtual) to - and partnered with - several organizations and professionals that serve individuals with a wide range of special needs and disabilities (see list of participating organizations at the end of this Newsletter). We are extremely pleased that these efforts produced the above noted positive result. With the invaluable relationships, sponsorships and assistance received from others, we expect Share Your Blessings and Project Maestro to continue to grow and expand its support of a great many individuals with special needs in the years to come.

Our Mission...

Our goal is to offer programs and support that promote value, education, therapy, acceptance, and inclusion so that each individual can address life challenges, achieve personal goals, and fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive, happy, and rewarding lives.



Who We Serve...

We are dedicated to enhancing and inspiring the lives of the disadvantaged and their families.

Our recipients include children and adults with a wide range of disabilities and special needs as well as children with difficult, at risk, and/or tragic economic, family, or environmental situations.

TESTIMONIALS

Our son is so proud of his ability to make music and is excited to share his talents with us. We all are so thankful for the beautiful music he is able to create independently. What a blessing for the whole family. Thank you!!! - Parent



“If you add cognitive challenges, as well as moderate to severe mobility challenges into the Speech and Language challenges that many of our students have, there are very few devices that we can use successfully and consistently to teach “Cause and Effect”. The Beamz Music System can be activated with the slightest movement of a finger, a knee, a head turn, a foot movement, etc. It basically levels the playing field for many of our most challenged students and opens up a whole new world of accessibility for them in the area of cause-and-effect interaction.”

“The Beamz Music System, along with the downloadable songs for the iPad or PC, opens up a world of opportunities by providing the Music Therapist with a truckload of musical instruments and activities, in a portable and easy to use device.”

“Crossing midline is a basic skill needed as a building block for developing higher level fine motor skills. The Beamz Music System encourages students to Cross Midline in a fun and motivating way that provides them with immediate feedback. Students can interact with the device by reaching out and

engaging with the laser to activate the music on the iPad App. OT’s can use the Beamz in one-to-one or small group therapy sessions, within the school setting. It’s portable and easy to transport and it can be used with children across all age groups.”

“The Beamz Music System is a multi-modal teaching tool, meaning it engages all learners across all learning modalities, at the same time. This is why our special needs students are going to benefit from having access to this Music System in their classrooms.

Perhaps the most important thing about the Beamz Music System is that it is super fun and rewarding to use. Kids and teachers alike are going to enjoy using it and creating musical experiences and memories together.”- Helen Devane, Assistive Technology Specialist

“I’ve used the Beamz Music System with students that range from kindergarten to fifth grade, both with and without disabilities. Whether using it as a Center in my classroom to help kids with ADHD take a break during their academic day, or to help kids with autism get the sensory input they need, the Beamz delivers an exciting approach to learning while building self-esteem and independence.

It would be so beneficial for my students to be able to take this experience into their homes to enjoy with the whole family.” Anne Fishburne, Resource Specialist, Cajon Valley Unified School District, San Diego County, CA

I use Beamz with most of my patients in a therapy setting, and I can use it with all ages. My patients really feel as though they are doing something amazing when they use the Beamz. It’s a great self-esteem and confidence builder, I have used

the Beamz for psychotherapy and PT. In both settings, my patients loved the Beamz and experienced benefit from its use. -Therapist

This incredible interactive musical system gives students a way to interact despite physical limitations. It has so many great benefits from improving one’s eye-hand coordination, fine and gross motor skills, cognitive level, sensory and social/emotional skills, along with many other therapeutic benefits.

In addition to music there is also an array of activities to choose from – including a broad range of early learning, math, music education, and interactive storybook songs, and other activities. Students can have fun playing musical instruments, regardless of musical experience or ability, or they can add sounds to songs being played by simply touching light beams with their hands. For instance, while playing the early learning song “ABC Phonics,” the student can add in the letter sound, play the object’s sound representing the letter in the music, or add musical instrument sounds to the song depending on which light beam he/she touches. Such fun! Susan Davis, Vision Outreach Consultant

“I’ve seen people’s eyes brighten, and their bodies grow animated, as they make the sounds of a flute, or air-drums, or air-guitar...with the Beamz. It’s not a game, but such a simple thing to play, and yet it lends itself to a feeling of great happiness, beauty and hope. I’m so pleased to know that the Share Your Blessings program is offering this opportunity to individuals with special needs, programs and schools across the country, spreading the music and light to more people who will benefit from it.”

Craig Chaquico, Celebrity Guitarist



SAMPLE APPLICANT SUBMITTALS

BEAMZ IS AN ENGAGING ACTIVITY FOR STUDENTS ACROSS AGE GROUPS WITH DIFFERING STRENGTHS. AS A THERAPEUTIC TOOL, IT PROVIDES MOTIVATION AND IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK FOR STUDENTS.



- Ami Graves, Foundation for the Blind

The Beamz device would make accessing music possible; therefore, making medical therapy sessions more engaging and enjoyable, with the added advantage of incorporating music into gross and fine motor skill development.

We would love to start incorporating Beamz into our OT treatment at the clinics I work at. It will be really great for children to encourage movement, social skills, participation, and learning. As the OT therapy director for three clinics (and more clinics to come) I'd love to add this to our treatment toolbox. I'm hoping to learn the activities provided in the home activity guide and present on it at our next monthly OT team meeting. Therapist

Atlas loves music! Music is a big motivator for Atlas. It has been since his NICU days. Due to Atlas's various medical conditions, it is difficult for him to use instruments like other kids his age. I would love to give Atlas the ability to access something he loves, with the ease and independence of the Beamz. Parent

My Pediatric patients will be able to use music to help boost mood, gross motor movements, ability to follow demands and cues, and improve behaviors. Therapist

The Beamz System can help with Improving eye-hand coordination, fine and gross motor skills, cognitive level, sensory and social/emotional skills, along with an array of other therapeutic benefits. Therapist

Singing and dancing are 2 of Mercedes biggest motivations. The Beamz has a huge potential to increase her coordination, balance and motivation to get up and be active.

I have seen first hand what music therapy has done for my kiddos, so I know how much music can support their learning. Along with that, technology gives them a way to access information even more easily. I love the look of Beamz and think that this would be a great tool for my students unique and diverse challenges to access more independence and learning opportunities. I love that it can be used for students with limited mobility and difficulties with motor function.

The Beamz player would increase student engagement and participation in music and gross motor activities, provide an incentive for students to earn as a reward for completing their school work, facilitate speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and/or adapted PE sessions in order to target IEP goals, encourage fine and gross motor skills development/refinement, motor planning/sequencing, cause/effect, and positional awareness. The Beamz player may also be incorporated into sensorimotor activities to provide additional auditory stimulation to facilitate optimal levels of alertness and arousal needed to self-regulate and increase attention within the academic environment. Special ED Teacher

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

Share Your Blessings plans to continue to broaden the Project Maestro program in 2022 and beyond – specifically expanding further on our Arizona, New Mexico and Southern California focus, as well as Colorado, where we have volunteers helping with outreach and support. We also help many individuals and organizations nationally where possible.

You can help by making a tax-deductible donation at www.share-your-blessings.org

For each one hundred and fifty dollars we receive, we can purchase a Beamz Unit, allowing us to reach 10-20 individuals. 100% of every dollar you donate will go to programs and services that help individuals and organizations we serve. We operate primarily on a volunteer basis with the exception of a small overhead which is covered by our founding donors and various fundraisers.

For more information or to Apply for a Donation contact:

1.480.433.7266, visit our website at www.share-your-blessings.org
or email sherry.mckinley@share-your-blessings.org

HISTORICAL DONATIONS

If you've ever watched music transform someone's physical demeanor, inspire a change in attitude or trigger a lost memory you can imagine how effective music might be as a tool for delivering a wide range of physical, and cognitive therapies. We are happy to report that since program inception we have been able to provide these benefits to over 16,000 individuals with special needs and disabilities by donating well over 1100 Beamz Interactive Music Systems to many organizations & programs, including the following:



Hospitals & Healthcare

Minnesota Children's Hospital · 50 Starlight Children's Foundation Pediatric Hospitals · St Joseph's Hospital · Phoenix Children's Hospital Temple University Hospital · Children's Hospital of Orange County · Miller Children's and Women's Hospital Long Beach CA · Lucille Packard Stanford Children's Hospital, CA

Schools

Golden Hill K-8 · San Diego Unified School District · Saturn Street Elementary · Multiple Elementary Schools in LAUSD · Autism Treatment Center in Dallas · Texas Oxnard Elementary School District, Multiple Schools · Jefferson Middle School, CA · NM Elementary School · Mobile County Elementary Public School District Alabama · Flexit Academy · La Colima Elementary School · Queen Creek School District AZ · Museum of Making Music · Pendergast Elementary School District · Glendale School, AZ · Several dozen State Regional Education Centers Pima, Hohokam & Tavan Elementary · Albuquerque Public Schools · Blind Children's Center · ACES, AZ · Ambuehl Elementary · Gregg Anderson Academy · Hage Elementary School, CA · Lakewood Elementary, WV · Bridge Elementary, WV · H.E. White Elementary, WV Big Otter Elementary, WV · Pratt Elementary, WV Clay Middle School, WV · Chrysalis Academy · Coronado H.S., AZ · Arizona Autism Charter Elementary & Middle School · Banner Academy, AZ Pathways Day School, AZ · Blind Foundation for Children, AZ · Gateway Academy, AZ Pristria Day Program, WV · San Diego CA School Districts Sierra Academy Upward Foundation, AZ · Sunnyside Unified School District AZ Harrison County Child Development Center MS · NW Allen County School District · CVESD, Chula Vista, CA · La Mesa Spring Valley School District, CA · Medical Therapy Unit, CA Services · Madison Elementary School, Cajon Valley CA · Telegraph Intermediate School, MO · Mapaville State School, MO · Early Learning Center, Yakima, WA · Physical and Health Impairments Program, SDUSD, CA · Innovations PCS, Kailua Kona, HI · George Washington H.S., CO · Cajon Valley Union Sch. District, CA Allen Elem. Frisco ISD, TX · Hanover School District, NC Carroll Magnet Middle Sch., NC · Huntington University, AZ Montana Sch. for the Deaf and the Blind

Day Schools and Camp Programs

Opportunity Tree · LIFE · Brookwood Community, Texas · Bethany Ranch Home, AZ · Gompers Rehabilitation Center · Pathways Academy Children's Cerebral Palsy Movement · Standing Tall · Marc Community Resources, Inc. · Our Own Family Camp · TERI, Inc. · YMCA · Williams Syndrome Foundation Summer Camps · Aurora Day School, Glendale AZ · Hillcrest Center Day Program for IDD Adults MN

Residence Programs

Mandy's Farm · The Crumley House · Noah's Ark of Central Florida · Marbridge · Rainbow Acres · Down Home Ranch Eskaton Senior Care · Chapel Haven · Aegis Living Community · Blackhawk House, AZ · Group Home: Roma House, AZ

Therapy & Non-Profit Organizations

Kids Sport Therapy · San Diego Gigi's Playhouse · Down Syndrome Association of S. Texas · Brookwood Community - Texas The Franklin Learning Center · Adelante · Colorado Springs Conservatory TEAM 4 Kids Pediatrics, NMTSA · Pacer Center · ARC of Essex Pace Salano · STARS Therapy · North Valley Therapy · High Hopes · UCP of Greater Birmingham · The National Lekotek Center · The Landon Pediatric Foundation · Orange Grove Center · The MORGAN Project · Resounding Joy · Arts & Services for Disabled · STARS · ARCH · Courtney's Place ARC of Chandler/Gilbert · Valley Life · LifeMiles for Autism · Scottsdale Bible Church · Bethany Ranch Home · Guitars in the Classroom Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress · Lauren's Institute for Education · Yamaha Music and Wellness Institute · Easter Seals Crossroads Rehabilitation Center · Inclusion Connections · UPWARD for Children & Families · Inclusion Connections, and UPWARD for Children & Families Team Hoyt San Diego, CA · Mary Cariola Center, Music Therapy Dept., NY · The Morris Center Ponte Vedra Beach, FL · DSA of Memphis, TN · East County SELPA of San Diego, Orthopedic Impaired Program Assistive Technology · Milestone Pediatric Therapy Clinic, CA · Milestone Innovative Therapy Grp., AZ Milestone Pediatric Therapy, Phoenix/Chandler, AZ · Music Therapy Care, OH · Coast Music Therapy · Bay Area Music Therapy LLC, Idaho

Families

Over 450 Families with Special Needs!

TO APPLY FOR A DONATION UNIT: Complete an application at <http://share-your-blessings.org/apply-for-donation/> OR contact: Sherry McKinley, Director at 480.433.7266 or sherry.mckinley@share-your-blessings.org