

CONCORD COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

Music is at the centre of what it means to be human – it is the sounds of human bodies and minds moving in creative, story-making ways.

S. Malloch & C. Trevarthenn, *Frontiers in Psychology*, 2018

Fall/Winter 2023

Dear Friend,

One fall evening, Concord Community Music School music therapist Tony Varga sang *You Are My Sunshine* with a group of residents at the New Hampshire Veterans Home dementia unit, as part of our Music in the Community Initiative (MICI). As the timeless melody rang through the air, a remarkable transformation took hold. Withdrawn looks dispersed into engaged expression. Feelings of isolation lifted as smiles appeared. Agitated gestures ceased, thanks to the joining of voices.

Even after the group had stopped singing, James, a resident, continued onto the third verse of the song from memory. Robert, also a group member, spontaneously decided to share a vivid poem.

Through his expert training, musical talents, and dedication, Tony harnessed the powers of music to connect, improve wellbeing, and unlock moments of personal significance.

Like Tony, our entire faculty are committed to helping students develop skills, grow in confidence and expression, build friendships, and improve lives. We work every day to ensure that all people, including those with



limited financial means, can partake in our programs. **To continue and grow, we need your help.**

This fall, we had to increase financial aid support by \$25,000 to meet a sharp rise in students with lower incomes. It is central to our mission to open our doors for everyone who would like to participate in music and expressive arts therapies.

With your generous support, you can champion our commitment to our students over the next year.

Your annual gift of:

- \$4,000 funds a year of early childhood classes at a school partner.
- \$2,500 enables a new group of older adults to benefit from music therapy.
- \$1,200 provides financial aid for a music student throughout 2024.
- \$500 allows an excited young student to experience the joy of puppetry.
- \$250 helps an older adult experience music for health and wellness.
- \$100 mitigates our facility's utility costs during the winter months.

Your donation of any amount will spur our music school community to sing, play, dance, and write beautiful new stories at all stages of life.

Warm regards,



Daniel Acsadi

Executive Director



To renew, increase, or make a new gift, please return the enclosed envelope.

To make a secure online donation, scan the QR code above or visit

ccmusicschool.org/give-today/. Thank you for giving the gifts of music!