

(This is a PDF of the email-format newsletter we sent out this year-2018).

### **Pratt Music Foundation eNewsletter No. 33 December 2018**

*The **Pratt Music Foundation** identifies children with talent to excel and who need support in order to pursue their talent. The Foundation selects, nurtures, and provides scholars with music instruction from the **Illinois Wesleyan University Music Preparatory Program**.*

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*Our Biggest News:*

#### **34 Scholars in the 2018-2019 Pratt Music Program**



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*Who We Are, and What We Do*

#### **The Pratt Music Foundation in 100 Words**

**Pratt Music Foundation** scholarships provide for individual weekly instruction and recitals throughout the academic year, sheet music, as well as summer instruction. Instruments may be available at no-cost through our partner **Share The Music Program**. Pratt scholarships are awarded annually (in July) to talented youth in both elementary and high school.

Classroom or music teachers aware of a child with talent and financial need who could benefit from a **Pratt Music Foundation** scholarship may request an application by calling 309-827-5534, or email: [PrattMusicFoundation@gmail.com](mailto:PrattMusicFoundation@gmail.com)

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*Appreciation From Our Scholars*

#### **Pratt Music Scholars Appreciate Their Scholarships**

These words from the scholars themselves express how profoundly they are affected by the opportunity to pursue their love of music.

\* "I understand you are giving me a lot of money, and that this will be a lot of hard work. I can't wait to be in recitals. I might even play some Christmas carols!" *Leo*

\* "This scholarship makes a huge difference in my life as without it I could not continue piano lessons." *Evanna*

\* "Thank you for awarding me a Pratt scholarship. This award makes it easier for my family to support my love for piano." *Freyja*

\* "Thank you for my scholarship. I love music and it makes me happy." *Isaiah*

\* "This scholarship over the years has given me many open doors, for example, gaining a spot in my school's orchestra as a section leader. This scholarship has been a blessing to have and to experience." *Itzel*

\* "This program has shaped me into who I am. Music and playing piano has impacted my life so much and is such a big part of me." *Nakiya*

\* "I wanted to say thank you for accepting me the past two years. It means a lot to me to play the piano. I especially enjoy the recitals. You guys are awesome." *Renata*

\* "Thank you for allowing me to continue to grow through this scholarship. Studying music not only helps me grow as a musician but also as a person." *Samantha*

\* "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to learn music and to be able to play my heart out with what I'll learn at Wesleyan." *Samuela*

\* "I understand everybody does not get this opportunity and I am very grateful. This past year I have learned so much more than I would have without this scholarship. I also noticed that I am focusing better at school." *Taylor*

\* "Music is very important to me because it helps me calm down. When I am mad it can change my mood because songs on the cello can transport me to different worlds." *Tessa*

\* "Thank you so much for providing free music lessons for me. It was such a wonderful surprise when we opened and read the letter informing me that I had been accepted for the scholarship. I am so grateful, I don't know how I could thank you enough." *Zoe*

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### *Our Scholars*

#### **34 Scholars in our 2018-2019 Program**

We are proud to list our scholars, their schools, and their instruments. You may note that some of these students have named scholarships: grants and endowments specifically to support a single student.

#### **Seven Cello Scholars**

Kaithlyne Balbuena (Sheridan Grade 3), 1st year Cello.

Tessa Radice (Washington Grade 4), 1st year Cello.

Joy Rattan (Kingsley JH Grade 6), 1st year Cello.

Rachel Roberts (El Paso –Gridley HS Grade 9), 1st year Cello.

Jaden Mangruem (Parkside JH Grade 8), 2nd year Cello, **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Classical Music Scholarship.**

Samuela Kamara (NCHS Grade 11), 3rd year Cello, **Casey Laughlin Music Scholarship.**

Sarah Andrews (Home-School Grade 10), 3rd year Cello, **Zuill Bailey Strings Scholarship.**

#### **Eighteen Piano Scholars**

Leonardo Vargas (St. Mary's Grade 3), 1st year Piano.

Jose Patino (Evans JH Grade 7), 1st year Piano, **Raymond Family Music Scholarship.**

Lorelei Arnold (Heyworth Grade 4), 1st year Piano.

Karen Espinosa-Cortes (Evans JH Grade 7), 1st year Piano.

Jahmal Evans (Sheridan Grade 5), 1st year Piano.

Diana Valentina Gonzalez (Epiphany Grade 2), 1st year Piano.

Lily Kirvan (Cornerstone Christian Grade 7), 1st year Piano.

Mamush Rogal (Homeschool Grade 6), 2nd year Piano, **Darlene and Marc Miller Family Music Scholarship.**

Juliet Herrarte (Homeschool Grade 8), 2nd year Piano, **Harriet & Phares O'Daffer Classical Music Scholarship.**

Agatha Estabrook (PrairieLand Grade 4), 2nd year Piano, **Jerry Antonini Piano Scholarship.**

Lucas Karr (Fox Creek Grade 4), 2nd year Piano.

Evanna Kinzie (NCWHS Grade 11), 2nd year Piano.

Renata Olivo Ramos (Parkside JH Grade 7), 3rd year Piano, **Charles Ives Classical Music Scholarship.**

Tysondra Calhoun (BJHS Grade 8), 3rd year Piano, **Joslin Family Classical Music Scholarship.**

Isaiah Martin (Oakland Grade 5), 3rd year Piano.

Freyja Huffman (Kingsley JH Grade 6), 4th year Piano, **Minor Myers Jr. Classical Music Scholarship.**

Jose Espinoza (NWCHS Grade 9), 4th year Piano, **Sofie L. Eisenberg Memorial Piano Scholarship.**

Nakiya Rice (BHS Grade 9), 7th year Piano, **Jennie and Scott King Classical Music Scholarship.**

#### **Three Viola Scholars**

Ben Nguy (NCWHS Grade 9), 2nd year Viola, **McCauley Classical Music Scholarship.**

Alina Jankowiak (BHS Grade 12), 4th year Viola, **Hurst Strings Scholarship.**

Lydia Langston (WCHS Grade 9), 4th year Viola, **John Borg Viola Scholarship.**

#### **Six Violin Scholars**

Zoe Sorenson (Homeschool Grade 8), 1st year Violin.

Taylor Thompson (Parkside JH Grade 7), 2nd year Violin, **Beth Newdome Violin Scholarship.**

Audrie Schuller (NCHS Grade 9), 3rd year Violin, **Mozart Classical Music Scholarship.**

Itzel Mendoza (BHS Grade 11), 5th year Violin, **Elterich Family Music Scholarship.**

Samantha Morey (BHS Grade 11), 6th year Violin, **Barbara Bowman and Steven P. Hill Music Scholarship.**

Isaiah Crews (IMSA Grade 12), 7th year Violin, **Adolph Buchanan Classical Music Scholarship.**

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#### *Transformative Opportunities*

##### **Summer Chamber Camp**

The **Illinois Chamber Music Festival at IWU** is a two-week, on-campus, residential event for high school age musicians who wish to participate in intensive chamber music training. It includes daily coaching, rehearsals, master classes, and performances by students and faculty. We started sending a few eligible students a few years ago, and the word that describes their experience is **transformative**. They come back energized and enthusiastic about what music means to them and can do in their lives.

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#### *A Cross Section of McLean County*

##### **Our Scholar Demographics**

Pratt Music Scholars represent a cross-section of children in our community:

The **Pratt Music Foundation** Scholarship Class of 2018-2019 includes 17 students from Bloomington, 14 from Normal, and one each from Washington, Heyworth, and Gridley.

Eighteen students study piano, seven study violin, two study viola, and four pursue the cello.

Nine students attend District 87 schools, sixteen attend Unit 5 schools, four are home-schooled, three attend private schools (Epiphany, St. Mary's, and Cornerstone) one attends the Illinois Math and Science Academy, and one attends CUSD 51.

The thirty-four **Pratt Music Foundation** Scholars for 2018-2019 represent an investment (this year) of over \$47,300 in the next generation of music in our community.

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#### *Our Partner Program: Illinois Symphony, the Music Shoppe, Pratt Music Foundation*

##### **Share The Music**

Bloomington-Normal has exceptional in-school music programs; any student can (starting at about fourth or fifth grade) learn an instrument and participate in band or orchestra. Many continue through high school and find their lives forever changed because of music. But, students cannot participate if they can't afford an instrument.

**Share The Music** lends instruments (the whole range: violins, violas, cellos, clarinets, trumpets, saxophones, oboes, even digital pianos) to students who can't afford them for an annual rental of \$20, and we waive that for over half the participants.

**Share The Music** currently has 238 instruments out on loan...fully 7% of the students in the music programs at District 87 and Unit 5. The **Share The Music** program has grown every year since it started in 2008, and promises to keep growing for the foreseeable future.

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#### *Responsible Funds Management:*

##### **100% Goes To Program**

100% of your support goes to our endowment; earnings are used only for music lesson scholarships. Last year, we spent \$47,300 on private music lessons in our community: 34 students at \$1250 each, and three Chamber Music Camp students at \$1600 each. Few organizations in our community are granting at this level.

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*Our 100% Rule Always Applies*

**We Appreciate Your Support**

Our 100% rule always applies: annual grants are used directly for scholarships: all other funds go to our endowment with the earnings used exclusively for music lesson scholarships. You can go to our website, [www.prattmusicfoundation.com](http://www.prattmusicfoundation.com), if you wish to donate: the donation form is also included here for your convenience.

<p><i>We appreciate every gift</i></p> <p>\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>    \$50 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>    \$250 <input type="checkbox"/>    \$500 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>My employer will match my gift:</b> form enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$1250 Annual Scholarship.</b> Supports one student for a full year with a named scholarship.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Endowed Scholarship.</b> Supports one student every year for years to come (and creates an endowed named scholarship). <i>We'll contact you.</i></p> <p><b>Amount Enclosed \$</b> _____ <small>Please make checks payable to IWU/Pratt Music Foundation</small></p>	 <p><small>c/o Illinois Wesleyan University, PO Box 2900, Bloomington IL 61702-2900</small></p> <p>Name(s): _____ Telephone: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Thank you for supporting classical music in Bloomington-Normal. Please make checks payable to:</p> <p><b>IWU / Pratt Music Foundation</b></p> <p><small>Your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.</small></p> <hr/> <p><small>If you do not wish to receive future mailings, please call 309-827-5534 or email <a href="mailto:prattmusicfoundation@gmail.com">prattmusicfoundation@gmail.com</a></small></p>
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*A Message From The Board*

**Thank You**

Our purpose in sending this eNewsletter is to tell you what we have done over the past year: granted scholarships, promoted classical music (and fine young people), and generally done a small effort to make the world a better place. We hope you saw that in our articles.

But there's more: none of this could be happening without you and your support.

The **PrattMusic Foundation** is built on the generous support of people like you, and we take that as a solemn responsibility. We strive to be worthy of your confidence and trust; we make our operations transparent because it's the right thing to do.

So we conclude this year with our continuing message. Thank you for helping us support classical music for young people, and through that, helping make our community and the world a little better every year.

**The Pratt Music Foundation Board**

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*If you wish to be removed from the Pratt Music Foundation mailing list, please email: [PrattMusicFoundation@gmail.com](mailto:PrattMusicFoundation@gmail.com) or call 309-827-5534.*