



Step UP for Music

Did You Know...

Our job as the AAAPTG Foundation includes encouraging the growth of music education in our community, and supporting the teachers and students who are at the heart of it. One of the ways we do that is through a variety of programs available today, including:

- Discretionary assistance for helping students pay for lessons during financial hardship
- Teacher enrichment grants that provide funds for private study, college courses, and project performance opportunities
- Camp Scholarships for Mostly Music Camp
- Award Scholarships for Student Award Winners
- Other assistance gifts that are given to music-related community groups or organizations to help support their events and programs (such as Kerrytown Concert House and Brighton's "Celebration of Music")

We Could Do So Much More

While our modest budget helps support these programs, we have found that the need for financial support for music enrichment in the community is growing, and **there is so much more we could do** if we had adequate funding. We have tremendous potential to make a difference for the area's music students, teachers, and the community as a whole - and we want to do something about it!

Announcing the AAAPTGF's Step UP for Music Program!

Our new Step UP for Music Program is a fundraising program that combines new donation initiatives, corporate sponsorships, and other fundraising activities. The program's objective is to build an income stream allowing the AAAPTGF to more aggressively fund its current programs, and also to substantially expand and improve them over time. Our goals include:

- More money available for financial assistance to families struggling with job loss or financial crisis
- Camp scholarships that are available to a greater number of kids
- Award Scholarships with larger monetary amounts to generate more interest/participation, and raise the awards to a more prestigious level
- Partnerships with other music groups that provide assistance for music students and families
- New programs for awards, scholarships, additional financial assistance, and community-based initiatives

Program Highlights:

- **Become A Friend Program** - for individuals and non-profit organizations, with giving levels such as *Friend, Patron, Supporter, Partner, and Benefactor*
- **Corporate Sponsorship Program** - a 3-tiered program for area businesses to become involved in supporting music education in the community
- **Annual Giving Campaign** - an annual initiative that focuses on raising funds and promoting awareness of the AAAPTGF's programs and activities to support music education
- **Matching Funds Programs** - participation in other programs that provide matching funds or other types of partnering opportunities to raise money

Case Study: The Growing Need for Assistance

One AAAPTG member recently worked with two of her students' families to come up with creative solutions to keep the students in their lessons while the families struggle with financial hardship.

Family #1 has two children taking lessons, but their father recently lost his job. The parents were heartbroken at the thought of their children having to give up studying piano, but they simply couldn't afford lessons for both. The teacher came up with an idea to "share" one lesson between them, so now when they come for lessons, one child has a lesson while the other works on a computer music program, enabling each child to get a lesson every other week.

Family #2 lives north of Ann Arbor, and has two of their children taking piano lessons. Because of economic conditions and the price of gas, this family could not afford to make multiple trips to town for piano lessons for their girls as well as trips to town for their son's activities. The teacher worked out a schedule that enabled the family to make a single trip to Ann Arbor, which meant the parents could continue lessons for both girls instead of having to resort to only one daughter continuing with lessons.

As these cases show, families are already struggling to keep their children in weekly piano lessons, and these struggles are likely to increase in the coming months. What an opportune time for the Foundation (with your support) to Step UP and expand our assistance programs, develop new ones, and make an even bigger difference in our community!