



DEDHAM SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ANNUAL REPORT
2015



Making music
a part of your life.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

When the Dedham School of Music was established in 2008, there were only eight students. Yet we had a clear objective – to hire outstanding teachers and provide affordable access to music learning, performance, and creation for students of all ages and abilities. We've stayed true to our mission. Now we have nearly 270 students in our programs including private lessons, small and large ensembles, instrumental band and string lessons in the local schools, and a summer chamber music camp for young musicians. We could not have had such phenomenal growth in seven years without our donors. Thank you for your ongoing support of this small non-profit with a big mission.

In 2016, we want to expand performance opportunities for both adults and children, increase enrollment in our summer programs, and strengthen our adult program offerings in genres beyond classical music. Together we can achieve these goals.

Gabriella Sanna
Executive Director

Our two-week chamber music program held at the Rashi School pairs students with other musicians in mixed instrument chamber groups. The program is intensive as students have two weeks to master several pieces. Camp culminates in a performance on the last day during which the students perform with their chamber groups. All students perform together as one large group also. This past year more than half of the 16 participants were cello players so we included a seven-person cello ensemble during the final performance.



What towns are our students from?

50% of students in our private lessons are from Dedham.

50% are from other towns – including Needham, Westwood, Norwood, Newton, Boston, Sharon, Walpole and Wellesley.

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In 2015, the Dedham School of Music hosted more than 60 concerts, recitals, and workshops, including our artist-in-residence series, student recitals and musical performances during Open Studios at the Mother Brook Arts and Community Center.

Highlights of 2015

ENROLLMENT GROWS FOR BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LESSONS

We set out to increase enrollment in our private lessons by 10 percent. Instead we saw a **24 percent increase in our private lesson participation in 2015** which keeps our 22 faculty members busy. Our students have ample performance opportunities, including frequent recitals at St. Paul's Church and through partnerships with Mother Brook Arts and Community Center and Parkway Concert Orchestra.

In Spring 2015, there were 60 Dedham Public School students enrolled in either band or strings lessons. In Fall 2015, enrollment more than doubled. This is exciting for two reasons. First, it means that we are bringing music education to more children in the community. It's also thrilling to watch these students as they enter middle and high school. Parents and students witnessed the full spectrum of music in the Dedham Public Schools during the All-Town performance night in May. All 60 elementary students played together in either the orchestra or the band. They were followed by three bands from Dedham Middle School and the Dedham High School band and Winter Percussion Ensemble.

DSM PARTNERS WITH PARKWAY CONCERT ORCHESTRA

DSM students joined the Parkway Concert Orchestra in March for a concert at St. Susanna's Church. It was amazing to see our young musicians play side-by-side with this organization of adult musicians.



ACCESS INCREASES THROUGH CONCERTS AND JAM SESSIONS

As part of our Artist-in-Residence Series, Trio Klaritas performed a series of three free concerts which provided wonderful opportunities for students and the community to see musicians at no cost. Our concerts and jam sessions at the Mother Brook Arts and Community Center are another way that we provide access to live music for all.

DSM HIRES PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR DSM AT MBACC

In Fall 2015, DSM hired Sergio Bellotti as program director for DSM at Mother Brook Arts and Community Center in anticipation of expanding programs for the community. Bellotti is a drum teacher and on the faculty of Berklee College of Music. He has already started a drum circle in which adults and children can enjoy a 90-minute session of drum playing. No experience necessary!



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OUR MISSION

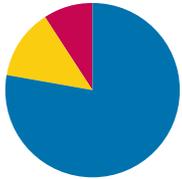
To culturally enrich the town of Dedham and surrounding communities by providing a supportive environment for musicians of all ages and abilities to perform, create, appreciate and learn to play music.



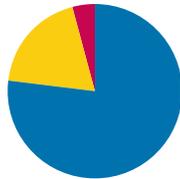
FINANCIAL PROFILE

Annual Income \$294,960

Annual Expenses \$299,161



■ Tuition 78%
■ Fundraising 13%
■ Grants 9%



■ Program Services 77%
■ Administrative 19%
■ Fundraising 4%

For the first time in the history of DSM, all faculty salaries were paid with tuition revenue. DSM also awarded partial tuition scholarships for 10 percent of its students enrolled in private lessons. **Nearly one-quarter of students enrolled in public school lessons in Dedham receive lessons and/or instruments at no cost based on family need.**

You can make a difference to children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience the life-changing benefits of a quality music education. Please make a donation or volunteer today — we rely on the generosity of supporters like you.

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The Dedham School of Music is a project of Music Access Group, Inc., a Massachusetts public charity, exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



The Dedham School of Music is located on the 3rd floor of the Dedham Community House. We are grateful to DCH for supporting us as we've grown from eight to 270 students.