



Dare to Be Musical 2016-2017 Annual Report

This year, Powers. . .

- Hosted a record number of participating students and teachers in the 2017 Mildred Freiberg Piano Festival
- Built a new annual tradition with our first piano concerto competition, known going forward as the Martha B. Sosman Concerto Competition
- Continued to expand our Musical Storytelling Program to introduce high quality music and literacy to our community
- Awarded an all-time high of more than \$54,000 in financial aid scholarships
- Introduced the Powers Conservatory Program for FY18
- Completed the search for Powers Music School's new Executive Director

Annual Report Design: Kelly Webber
Photos: Kulbako Photo, Powers Staff

www.powersmusic.org
www.facebook.com/powersmusicschool
Helen Clapp Stevenson, Executive & Artistic Director

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Mailing: P.O. Box 398, Belmont, MA 02478
Physical: 380 / 396 / 404 Concord Ave &
17 Clark Street, Belmont, MA 02478



Our People

Board of Directors

President

Ernest Sabine

Vice President

Laura Vail Wooster

Treasurer

Jacqueline Whitney Halas

Secretary

Deborah Coyle Barry

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Elizabeth Foote

Susan Galli

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Wenjie Hu

Shan-Lee Liu

Laura Perlo Meyer

Julie Holland Mortimer

Susan Polit

Bruce Rosenblum

Vera Trojan

Christopher Wright

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Executive & Artistic Director

Helen Clapp Stevenson

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& Communications

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Tristan Bouchard

Performance Coordinator

Killian Kerrigan

Director of MYSP

Spencer Aston

Director of Chamber Ensembles

Meghan Jacoby

Accountant

George Peddle

Faculty

Brass

Spencer Aston

Ryan Noe

Andrew Sorg

Sarah Sutherland

Michael Tybursky

Banjo, Ukulele

Christopher Hersch

Tev Stevig

Music Theory

Geneviève Leclair

Dulcimer, Harp, Penny Whistle, Recorder

Lucy Joan Sollogub

Early Childhood

Sarah Bacon

Jessica Cooper

Linda Emmanuel

Susanna Fiore

Yas Ishibashi

Haeun Shin

Guitar

Daniel Acsadi

James Doran

Christopher Hersch

Lucy Joan Sollogub

Tev Stevig

Jazz Ensemble

Todd Brunel

Music Therapy

Trish Jonason

Andrew Krahn

Orchestra

Spencer Aston

Percussion

Gary Spellissey

Piano / Keyboard

Elizabeth Chladil

Susanna Fiore

Levon Hovsepian

Yas Ishibashi

Svetlana Krasnova

Lisle Kulbach

Maxim Lubarsky

Tamara Medoyeva

Peter Morelli

Natacha Rist

Kathryn Rosenbach

Jei-Yern Ryu

Michael Shea

Lyubov Shlain

Piano Accompaniment

Levon Hovsepian

Leah Kosch

Alix Pollack

Kathryn Rosenbach

Rock Band

Tev Stevig

Strings

Robinn Alfieri

Sarah Bacon

Madalyne Cross

Noah Dresser

Sarah Freiberg

Erica Klein

Ellery Klein

Sam Ou

Olga Patramanska-Bell

Morgan Scagliotti

Jenny Shallenberger

Colleen McGary Smith

Sophia Sogland

Jacques Lee Wood

Suzuki Program

Sarah Bacon

Robin Alfieri

Madalyne Cross

Guan-Ting Ku

Jay Rosenberg

Viola Da Gamba

Jane Hershey

Voice

Emily Romney

Woodwinds

Judith Bedford

Todd Brunel

Mary Cicconetti

Mary Cunningham

Carol Hunt Epple

Ben Fox

Faith Hutchison-Williard

Meghan Jacoby

Summer Day Faculty & Staff

Spencer Aston

Sarah Bacon

Judy Bedford

Todd Brunel

Madalyne Cross

Ariel Friedman

Andrew Goodridge

Adam Grossman

Yas Ishibashi

Meghan Jacoby

Ellery Klein

Guan-Ting Ku

Peter Morelli

Jane Parkhouse

Dimitar Petkov

Emerald Rae Forman

Kathryn Rosenbach

Dawn Scaltreto

Haeun Shin

Liana Zaretsky

This year, we recognize the talents and accomplishments of our board, staff, faculty, and the following graduating high school students:

Rodrigo Astorga-Licardie, student of Tev Stevig, attending University of New Haven; Joe Beagan, student of Colleen McGary Smith, joining the US Marine Corps; Liora Gut, student of Mary Cicconetti, attending McGill University; Zoe Haggard, MYSP Orchestra student, attending Pomona College; Katherine Hui, student of Spencer Aston, attending University of Chicago; Jeremy Martin-Joy, student of Tev Stevig, attending Syracuse University; Gabriel Pino, student of Tev Stevig, attending Northeastern University; Thomas Walker, student of Spencer Aston, attending Brigham Young University; Peter Travassos, student of Spencer Aston, attending Northeastern University; Aaron Yao-Smith, student of Andrew Sorg, attending Cornell University; Jackson Elmore, student of Peter Morelli. Congrats!

In June we said goodbye to our Development Manager, Jessica Firing, who will be moving to Cleveland for a new position in arts administration. Our Registrar, Cassandra Shelton, announced the birth of a healthy baby girl this summer, and will be out on maternity leave. We also wish to recognize two faculty members who will be leaving this year - Maxim Lubarsky and Geneviève Leclair. Lastly, as our academic year came to a close, we said goodbye to our Executive & Artistic Director of almost 17 years, Helen Clapp Stevenson. Although we will miss her energy and vision, we are excited to welcome our new Executive Director, Gavin Farrell, for the upcoming FY18 year! The Board of Directors, with assistance from Arts Consulting Group, led a nationwide search for the perfect person to lead Powers into a new era, and we are thrilled at the announcement.



A Note from Helen...

Dear Friends,

Over a year ago, I decided that it was time for me to retire from Powers Music School as the Executive and Artistic Director.

Farewells are never easy and certainly not when you have had the great pleasure of working with so many wonderfully dedicated and talented people. It will be very hard to say goodbye on June 30th when I leave my position at Powers after being at the helm since March 2001, but I am looking forward to pursuing other options and spending more time with my family and grandchildren.

When I started, Powers was already a well-functioning school with established programs such as Music on the Hill, our core offering of private instruction, and annual traditions like the Mildred Freiberg Piano Festival (then called the Belmont Piano Festival). I had the pleasure to strengthen and expand many of the existing programs from the previous era and to help Powers embark on new adventures - developing new artistic programming, furthering my passion for musical storytelling, and promoting the development of young classical singers interested in opera.

Maintaining the school, overseeing the daily financial operations, and building upon Powers' artistic foundation has kept me well engaged for nearly seventeen years. I will miss the many challenges and opportunities I have had during this time in my life enormously. My hope is that I have left Powers in a better place than when I found it, and that the next Executive Director will be propelled onwards to even greater things.

I thank all of you for the wonderful experiences and friendships I have gained in my time at Powers and I wish you all well! Please keep in touch.

Best Regards,

Helen Clapp Stevenson
Executive and Artistic Director

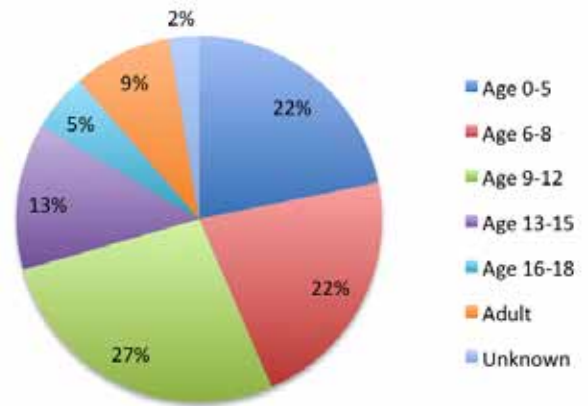
Our Students

Total Unique Students **FY17** **FY16**
 825 907

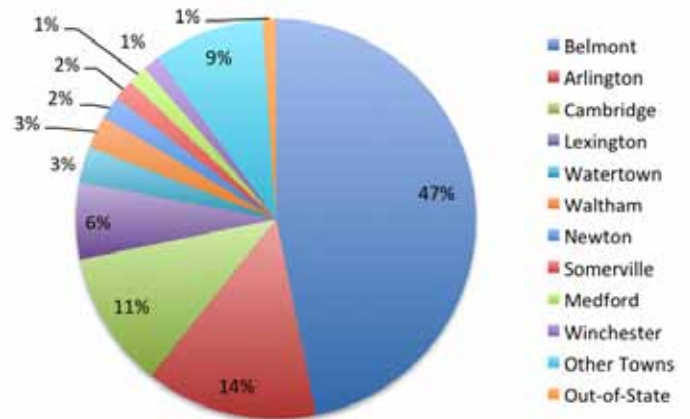
Unique Students by Program (FY17 reported as of 6/12/17)

Program	FY17	FY16
Private Lessons	449	527
Eurhythmics	67	63
Music Pups	54	64
Pow-Wow	81	85
Suzuki Lessons	69	72
MYSO	33	38
Keys for Kids	41	57
Ensemble	58	54
Suzuki Group	65	66
Music on the Hill	32	34
Theory	13	6
Fiddlin' on the Hill	19	12
Singing for Kids	15	10
Semi-Private Lessons	2	8
Suzuki Musical Kids	4	4
Suzuki on the Hill	18	15

FY17 Students by Age



FY17 Students by Town



Our Community



Musical Storytelling Series

Our highest number of attendees!

1,289 total attendees

7 events (13 concerts!) provided free to venues in 3 towns

Mildred Freiberg Piano Festival

Our highest number of student and teacher participants!

246 participating students, 53 participating teachers, 19 concerts over 2 days!

Peter Elvins Vocal Competition

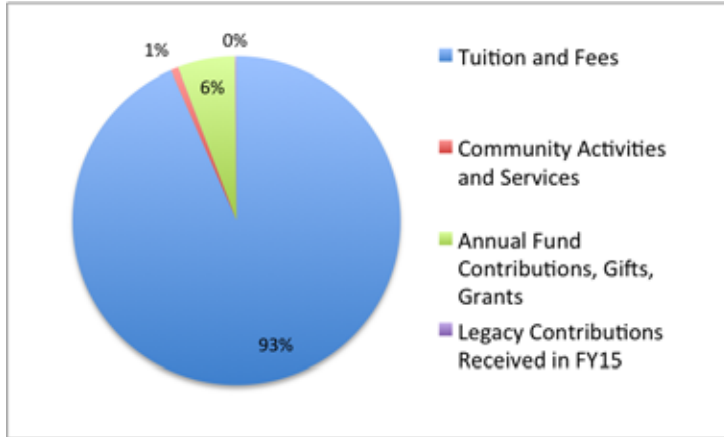
Opera Division: 22 applicants, 12 semi-finalists

Teen Division: 9 applicants, 6 semi-finalists

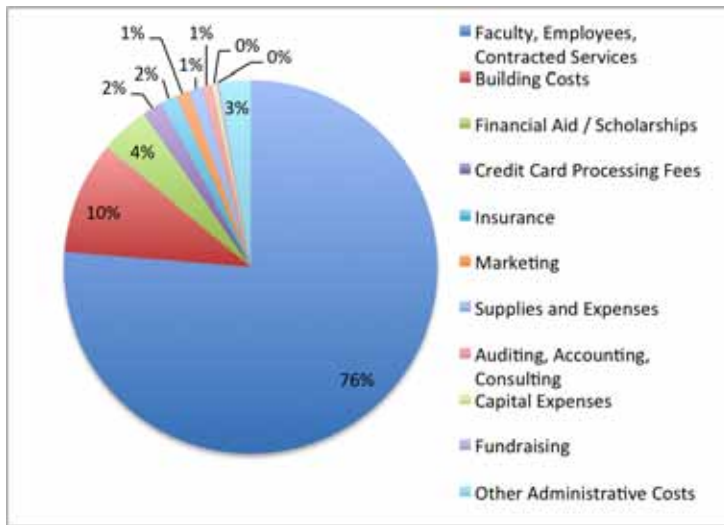
Awarded \$2,800 in cash prizes

FY16 Operating Revenue

Chart does not include support from the endowment totaling \$73,019.



FY16 Operating Expenses



Neighborhood Concert Series

500 total attendees!

9 free concerts provided at senior centers in 5 different towns

Belmont Open Sings

104 unique singers
+ 19 anonymous guests
= 123 total participants

2 concerts at Payson Park Church

Stein Chamber Music Festival

48 participating performers

Our School

FY17 Endowment Update

Beginning Balance (8/31/16)	\$1,471,855
Ending Balance (6/1/17)	\$1,501,669

FY16 Key Financials

OPERATING REVENUE

Tuition and Fees	\$1,316,827
Community Activities & Services	\$10,570
Annual Fund Contributions, Gifts, Grants	\$79,736
Legacy Contributions Received in FY16	\$2,000
Total Operating Revenue	\$1,409,133

OPERATING EXPENSES

Instruction & Community Programs

Faculty Compensation, Benefits, Taxes	\$717,718
Contracted Artist Services	\$5,703
Building Costs	\$118,937
Supplies & Expenses	\$16,929
Financial Aid	\$53,174
Competition Awards	\$8,140
Total Program Services Expenses	\$920,601

Support Services

Employee Compensation, Benefits, Taxes	\$352,080
Contracted Administrative Services	\$28,294
Auditing, Accounting, Consulting	\$12,628
Building Costs	\$22,132
Marketing	\$16,438
Fundraising	\$4,373
Credit Card Processing Fees	\$25,534
Insurance	\$20,988
Other Administrative Costs	\$38,577
Capital Expenses	\$5,281
Total Support Services Expenses	\$526,325

Total Operating Expenses \$1,446,926

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT (before depreciation & endowment)

(\$37,793)

Depreciation	(\$15,836)
Support from Endowment	\$73,019

NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT \$19,390

ENDOWMENT ACTIVITY FY16

Beginning Balance (9/1/15)	\$1,421,604
Ending Balance (8/31/16)	\$1,471,855
<i>Activity included...</i>	
Spending Policy Transfer	(\$58,019)
Transfer for Succession Plan	(\$15,000)
Net Realized/Unrealized Gains	\$123,270

Development

**Total Raised for FY17 Annual Fund
(9/1/16 - 6/12/17): \$91,110.65**



Martha B. Sosman Concerto Competition

It is with great pride that we launched our first concerto competition this winter. With ongoing support from the Martha B. Sosman Fund, we look forward to expanding this regional competition in the area for years to come!

Scholarships

Access to high-quality music education for all has always been an important part of Powers.

Financial Aid Scholarships

Through the 2016-2017 year, we plan to award \$54,500 in financial aid scholarships to 43 students, an all-time high for Powers. A total of 32 families so far have received financial aid scholarships, with aid covering a total of 77% of the combined tuition cost for these families. 44% of our FY17 financial aid recipients will receive 80-100% aid, while another 53% will receive 45-75% aid.

Ellen Huff Powers Merit Scholarships

The Ellen Huff Powers Merit Scholarship program was created to honor the memory of Powers' first Director. As of June 1, 2016, we awarded \$2,615.50 in Ellen Huff Powers merit scholarships to 5 unique students with extraordinary achievements.

Powers Conservatory Program

This spring we launched a new Conservatory Program to provide scholarship assistance to passionate and dedicated students who are active participants in lessons, ensembles, orchestra, and theory. In FY18, this program will be supported in part by Ellen Huff Powers merit scholarships.

Online Giving

FY17 was Powers' first full year accepting online donations. Online giving and event ticket purchases made up 20% of all individual giving this fiscal year! By providing another channel for giving, we hope to further encourage new donations, repeat giving, and a culture of support at Powers.

Fundraising for and with the Community

#ArtsMatter Day 2016

Powers participated for the first time in #ArtsMatterDay, an advocacy day supporting the arts of all kinds, hosted each October by MassCreative. 54 students added their voices to the cause by writing or drawing their answer to "Arts Matter because..." on our community wall.

Annual Performance Events

Powers students performed in several fundraising events this year, including the Music for the Holidays Festival & Bookfair on December 10th and the All-School Extravaganza on March 4th. These events helped us to gain momentum for our Annual Fund campaign.

Walk for Music 2017

Powers staff and their families joined the 2017 Walk for Music for the first time this year on April 30th. More than 250 community members joined the 2-mile walk around Piers Park and the East Boston Greenway to help raise funds and awareness for music organizations in the Greater Boston area.

"Finding A Song"

The community gathered together on June 14th to celebrate with and congratulate Helen Clapp Stevenson, Executive & Artistic Director for almost 17 years, on her retirement. Donations in anticipation of and at the event propelled Powers towards our Annual Fund goal and gave donors and friends an opportunity to recognize Helen's significant impact on our school.

Donors & Supporters

September 1, 2016 – June 14, 2017

Composer Circle

\$10,000+

The Edmund & Betsy Cabot
Charitable Foundation
The Virginia Wellington Cabot
Foundation

Maestro Circle

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous+

Soloist Circle

\$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous+

Vera Trojan & Mark Carthy
Anna Gabrieli
Wenjie Hu & Xiaopeng Gong**
Jacqueline Whitney Halas &
Paul Halas**
Louise & Bert Halstead**
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Fran & Tom Knight
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Richard Mortimer
Connie & Arthur Page**
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Zigrida & Ernest Sabine**
Susan Galli & Mark Thurber
Jessica & Chris Wright

Concertmaster Circle

\$500-\$999

Anonymous+

Louise Botero
Shan-Lee Liu & Po-Shang Chen**
Kathleen Corsi & Mark Cosby
The Iyengar-Richard Family**
Nancy McCabe & Richard Curzi**
Sarah Freiberg Ellison & Jeff Ellison
T. Walley Williams, III
Laura Vail Wooster & Jim Wooster**

Principal Circle

\$100-\$499

Anonymous+

Alexandra Houck &
Kevin Amaratunga, In honor of
Kathryn Rosenbach & Susanna
Fiore
Lillian Armstrong,
In memory of Peter Elvins
Philippa A. Bovel**

Principal Circle (cont.)

Katie & Paul Buppenwieser
John A. Carey
Beverly Char
Joan & Ronald Curhan
In honor of Yas Ishibashi
Martha Davidson
Nancy & Mark Davis
John Dieckmann**
Grace Feldman
In honor & memory of Ellen Powers
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Gisela & Ron Geiger
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Gretchen & John Jackson
Elizabeth Foote & Howell Jackson**
Harriet A. Karkut
Jeanne-Marie Kaufmann**
Lillian & Edward Keefe
In honor of Alexandra Keefe
Elizabeth Reed & Ulrich Klingbeil
Gisela Krause-Beyer**
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Peter S. Panov
In honor of Jacob & Misha Panov
George Peddle
Caroline Huang & Michael Phillips
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Drs. Lisa Geller & Steven Rauch
Roger & Lynn Peterson Read
In honor of Veda Kogan
Bruce Rosenblum & Family
Diane & Greg Rutan
In honor of Bethany Condon
Helen Clapp Stevenson &
Gordon Stevenson
Ann Waters**
Leslie & Jonathan Wolf
Barbara & Christoph Wolff
Jane Yee & Bao Min Yee
Qing Cao & Yinghui Zhou

Member Circle

Up to \$99

Anonymous+++++

Dr. Daniel Acsadi
Nadia & Brian Altomare
Lindsay Miller & Peter Ambler
Kristi & Andy Armstrong
Renée Landers & Thomas Barrette Jr.**
Margaret Waters & Thomas Battle

Member Circle (cont.)

Judith Bedford**
Tristan Bouchard
Carol & Frank Burt
Donald Drumm
Kim Sibley & Eric Eimold
Carol Epple**
Emily & Jerome Farnsworth**
Jessica Firing
Lisa Nelson-Firing & Dean Firing
Nina Grimaldi**
Katya & Vladimir Gurin**
Jim Harper
Ann & Philip Heymann
Faith Hutchison-Williard**
Svetlana Krasnova**
Janet Sand & Peter Lawner
Susie Sanchez & Kiernan Mathews
Carolyn Mehaffey
Andrea Mason Nolin &
Christopher Nolin
Jane Parkhouse**
Cynthia Pfeiffer
Sandra P. Rosenblum**
Steven Samler
Cindy & Lester Savage**
Abigail Scherrer
Nancy Seasholes
Olivier Senoussaoui
Christina & John Shin
Chitra & Rangamani Sundar
Tammy Reisman & Edward Takach**
Bonnie Payne & Roger Tobin
Yana & Alexander Turkowski**
Drs. Anjali Kumar &
Anthony Vagnucci
Kelly & Greg Webber
Stephanie Weko
Sylvia Whitney
Blair & Jack Wylie
Sarah & Tim Yoon**

Volunteers

Ronald Arslanian
Aine Obara
Jesse Colford, Intern

A Special Thank You to

*Bethe and Robert Hagopian for their
long-time support of Powers Music School!*

+ indicates number of donors

** donors who gave in honor of
Helen Clapp Stevenson

Donors & Supporters

September 1, 2016 – June 8, 2017

In-Kind Gifts

Louise Wolfe & Stefan Ahlblad
Belmont High School
Bruce Creager
Shirley Goldstein
Anika Gregg
Caroline Huang & Michael Phillips
James Martin
Julie Holland Mortimer
Ernest Sabine

Corporate Giving

Allston Piano Moving Company, Inc. ,
a division of Gentle Giant Moving
Company
AmazonSmile
Barnes & Noble
Cambridge Savings Bank
East Boston Savings Bank**
Watertown Savings Bank
Westwood Graphics**

Matching Gifts

Dell Community Foundation
The G.E. Foundation
John Hancock
State Street Foundation

Foundation Giving

East Boston Savings Bank
Charitable Foundation, Inc.
The Edmund & Betsy Cabot Charitable
Foundation**
Virginia Wellington Cabot Foundation

Government Grants

Arlington Cultural Council
Belmont Cultural Council
Peabody Cultural Council
Somerville Cultural Council
Waltham Cultural Council
Watertown Cultural Council
local agencies supported by the
Massachusetts Cultural Council,
a state agency



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Donate online: Now you can donate by credit card
with a click of a button at www.powersmusic.org/donate

Ask us about matching gifts, stock, planned giving,
and other ways to make your gift!

