

# 2024-2025 Annual Report

**P**owers  
Music School  
*powersmusic.org*



The 2024-2025 year saw all of us coming together to share memories, accomplishments, and stronger bonds.

We thank you for the many ways you have supported Powers these past years, and for the many ways in which you continue to support each other.

## Enjoying the Moment

Powers staff hoped that the 60th Anniversary celebration event in May might bring students, faculty, donors, Board, and others together to feel connected and proud. We couldn't have known, though, how deep of a place Powers occupies in the hearts of so many. And once someone is invested in Powers, they tend to stay invested!

The end of the 2024-2025 year was the last measure of our 2-year 60th Anniversary campaign and celebration. But the warmth, support, and pride of everyone here continues to resonate long after the "final bow."



*Top left: Tracy and David Powers, daughter and son of founder Ellen Powers, reflect on Powers' history and the new concert hall with Board and faculty member Sarah Freiberg. Photo credit: Jonathan Sachs*

*Top right: Members of the Potentiae Collegium Youth Early Music Ensemble performed at the 60th celebration. Performances featured the full spectrum of Powers programs, from recorder and Suzuki violin to fiddle, piano, music therapy, and more.*

*"Founding mother" Sandra Rosenblum spoke about her memories of Powers. Photo credit: Jonathan Sachs*

*Former Powers Board President Bert Halstead shares a conversation with Board member Wenjie Hu. Photo credit: Jonathan Sachs*

**\$616,308**  
raised during the 2-year  
**60th Anniversary Campaign!**

**\$445,209 in 2023-2024**  
**Powers Annual Fund & renovations**

**\$171,099 in 2024-2025**  
**Powers Annual Fund**



*Above: Ensembles of all ages, levels, and instrumentation performed in the annual Stein Chamber Music Festival. Right: The Stein family traveled to Powers to enjoy some chamber music and remember their parents, Joe and Lise, for whom the festival is named.*



*Above: Supporter and former student Ron Geiger enjoying the 60th performances. Right: The handcrafted harpsichord that former Board President, alumnus, and donor Neil Harper gifted to Powers Music School.*



## 60th Campaign Donors & Supporters

Anonymous (3)  
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a Division of Gentle Giant  
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Erin Marie Donohue  
Noah Dresser  
Jennifer Droll

## 60th Campaign Donors & Supporters

Matthew Eagar  
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Jeff Ellison  
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Karen and Ron Gut  
Jim Guttman  
Bethe and Robert Hagopian  
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David Halstead  
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Julie and George Hibben  
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Caroline Huang and  
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Iyengar/Richard Family  
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Donna Javel  
Xiaofeng Jiang and Shuojia Bai  
Elizabeth Jones  
Daniel Kanstroom  
Jeanne-Marie Kaufmann  
Aylin Kentkur  
Janet S. Kerr  
Sarah Kim  
Ellery Klein

## Finding a Way In

Truly supporting the people in our community means creating more relevant ways for them to step in.

Summer day and vacation programs like Break Week and Opera Kids gave kids a chance to find their voice.

Adults of all skill levels joined the new Belmont Community Band or pursued an interest in workshops like Early Music Day or Common Time.

Powers' music therapy department welcomed more students with neurodivergencies and disabilities - both inside and outside of our walls.

A New Lens concerts showcased the wide range of music that matters to our faculty and friends.



*Over school vacation weeks, students learned about music at Powers' Break Week program, featuring movement, instruments, and more.*



*Powers' summer day program Opera Kids - a collaboration with Boston Lyric Opera - gave kids the chance to craft their own opera. It was featured on CBS Boston!*

Led by former Chenery Middle School band director John McLellan, the first session of Belmont Community Band brought local musicians, parents, and former band students together. Photo credit: Jennifer Brett

**71 participants in spring session of Belmont Community Band**



**Right:** Mo Belanger performs "Hey Jude" with the 2025 music therapy band at Powers Music School's 60th anniversary celebration. Powers was able to hire Cheyenna Eagle as our first full-time music therapist to meet the demand for this growing department. Photo: Jonathan Sachs



Powers offered several workshop days to the community, including Early Music Day, String Day, and Common Time: A Workshop Day for Adults.



**Left:** The faculty concert series "A New Lens" presents monthly performances which shed a light on different types of music, genres, and the artistic perspectives of performers and composers.

## 60th Campaign Donors & Supporters

Fran and Tom Knight  
 Mr. James and Mrs. Amitha Knight  
 Alireza Korangy  
 Nancy Kougeas  
 Svetlana Krasnova  
 Drs. Anjali Kumar and Anthony Vagnucci  
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 Hilary Luderer  
 Lorie Lunn  
 Nancy Lyons  
 Natalia Magistretti  
 James Martin  
 Jamie Martin  
 Hardin Matthews and Jane Dougan  
 Tony McKenna and Linda Orfaly  
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 Carolyn Mehaffey and Charles Butte  
 Laura Perlo Meyer and Klemens Meyer  
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 Emily Morris  
 Julie and Richard Mortimer  
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 Melinda Nasardinov  
 Pamela Neave  
 Dan Nolan  
 Catherine O'Kelly  
 Connie and Arthur Page  
 Jean Park and Jacob Taylor  
 Bonnie Payne and Roger Tobin  
 Reb Pearl  
 Courtney Petri  
 Cynthia Pfeiffer  
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 Alix Pollack  
 David H. Powers  
 Tracy Powers  
 Cristian Predescu  
 Austin Price  
 Mr. James Propp and Ms. Alexandra Gubin  
 Elizabeth Reed and Ulrich Klingbeil  
 Beverly Regelman

# 60th Campaign Donors & Supporters

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Daniel Schlather  
Satoshi Seida  
Grace Seiler  
Amy and Gary Seligson  
Shuo Shan  
Elizabeth Sharawara and John Dieckmann  
Margaret and Don Skemer  
Caroline Sokol  
Cynthia Sorn  
Anna Soukiasian  
The Spirited Gourmet  
Sarahjane Sprague  
Margo Stark  
Susan Staves  
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Zhenzhen Zhang  
Yuan Zhou  
Tiona Zuzul

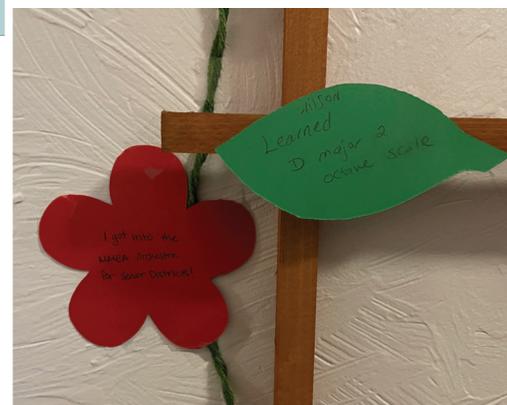
# Personal Growth

When you come to Powers, you're not just learning technical music skills - you're learning the personal skills that make them possible.

Initiatives like practice challenges, the celebration of progress and accomplishments, and the cultivation of reflection and self-expression make music not just something to learn, but something that's part of you.

*"With every difficult skill I had to master in music, I learned to push through frustration and strengthen the link between hard work and the joy of being able to do something well."*

- Luca Patriciu, high school graduate, reflecting on his time at Powers



The first "Grow with Powers" initiative inspired a large portion of private lesson students to share the accomplishments they were proud of throughout the year by placing a leaf (small achievement) or flower (big achievement) on the display in the hall. As the year went on, the trellis became full of leaves and flowers.



145 private lesson students participated in Powers' first school-wide Practice Challenge, with 68 of those students practicing every day in the month of March.

# FY25 Key Financials

(unaudited)

## INCOME

Tuition and Fees	\$1,850,946
Donations and Grants	\$193,169
Investment Income	\$194,844
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,238,959</b>

## EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$1,413,238
Management & General Administrative	\$475,201
Financial Aid	\$85,806
Fundraising	\$93,072
Capital Expenses	\$25,427
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,092,744</b>

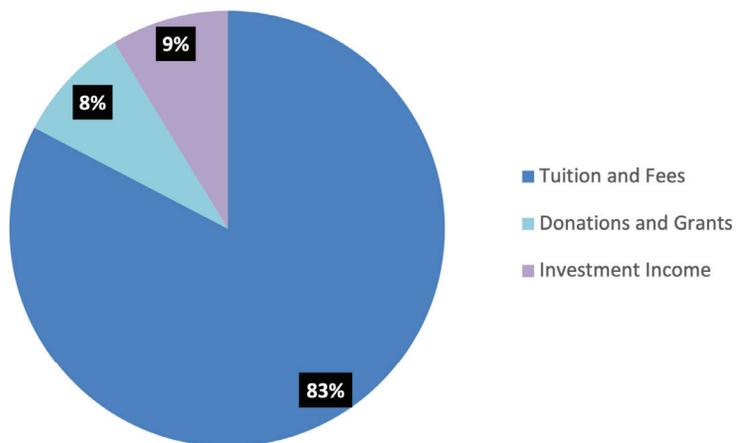
**NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT** **\$146,215**

## ENDOWMENT ACTIVITY

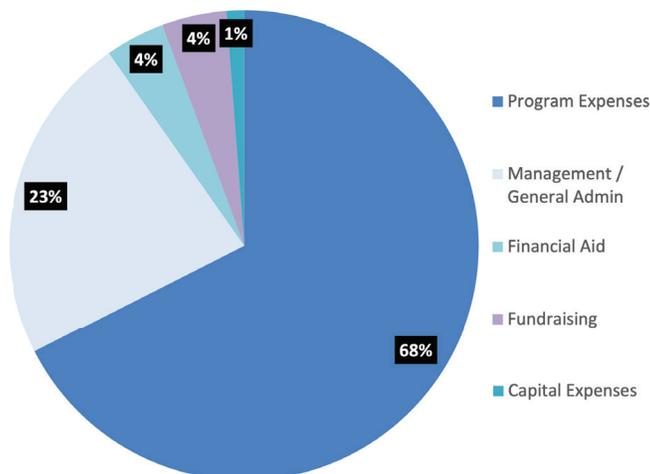
Beginning Balance (9/1/24)	\$1,890,770
Contributions	\$0
Return on Investments	\$194,844
Board Appropriation of Temporarily Restricted Assets	(\$145,000)
Ending Balance (8/31/25)	\$1,940,614



**FY25 Income**



**FY25 Expenses**



## Why make a gift to Powers?

Because donating here is not about a one-time transaction. When you give to Powers Music School, it becomes part of your life.

You'll join the strong community of people who are helping each other develop confidence, resilience, and self-expression. And in turn, you'll find the support you need to do so yourself.

### How to make your gift

#### Donate online:

You can donate by credit card with a click of a button at [powersmusic.org/support-powers/](https://powersmusic.org/support-powers/)

#### Donate by mail:

Send your check to Powers Music School, P.O. Box 398, Belmont, MA 02478

#### Donate by phone:

Give us a call at 617-484-4696 to learn about your options for making a gift to Powers.

Please ask us about **matching gifts, stock, including Powers in your will**, and other ways to make your gift!

# 2024-2025 Board, Staff, Faculty

## Board of Directors

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Evan Loudon

### **Vice President**

Elaine Dimopoulos

### **Treasurer**

Wenjie Hu

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Karen Gut

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Shannah Hall Franckum

Caroline Huang

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Joe Rofino

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Maegan Conroy

### **Operations Manager**

Lucas Levine

### **Office Manager &**

#### **Bookkeeper**

Stephanie Mann

#### **Accountant**

George Peddle

### **Administrative Assistant**

Fiona Rodriguez-Clark

### **Summer After-Care Coordinator**

Andrei Patriciu

## Faculty Leadership

### **Piano Department Chair**

Kathryn Rosenbach

### **String Department Chair**

Karl Orvik

### **Woodwinds, Brass,**

#### **Percussion Dept. Chair**

Mary Cicconetti

### **Suzuki Program Director**

Robin Alfieri

### **Chamber Music Director**

Hyun Min Lee / Sachin Shukla

### **Music Therapy Director**

Cheyenna Eagle

## Faculty

### **Brass**

Kevin Dugat

Ryan Noe

Mark Perez

Andrew Sorg

Sarah Sutherland

### **Collaborative Piano**

Levon Hovsepian

Leah Kosch

Alix Pollack

Noah Stone

### **Early Childhood**

Jennifer Choe

Linda Emmanuel

Yas Ishibashi

### **Early Music / Dance**

Jane Hershey

James Perretta

Ken Pierce

Job Salazar Fonseca

### **Large Ensembles**

John McLellan

### **Music Theory**

Rebecca Sacks

### **Music Therapy**

Cheyenna Eagle

### **Percussion**

John Dalton

Gavin Farrell

### **Piano / Keyboard**

Elizabeth Basconi

Olga Berkovitz

Tristan Bouchard

Süeda Çatakoğlu

Linda Emmanuel

Vladimir Gurin

Yas Ishibashi

Svetlana Krasnova

Erica Lee

Xue Liu

Tamara Medoyeva

Daniel Neyman

Xuanyu Ou

Olga Patramanska-Bell

Natacha Rist

Kathryn Rosenbach

Jei-Yern Ryu

Masako Yotsugi

Xuerong (Kyra) Zhao

### **Plucked Strings**

James Doran

Jeff O'Brien

Catherine O'Kelly

Lucy Joan Sollogub

TeV Stevig

Berit Strong

### **Strings**

Alison Ackley

Robin Alfieri

Noah Dresser

Sarah Freiberg

Jim Guttmann

Hwakyung (Kay) Jang

Ellery Klein

Annierose Klingbeil

Emily Leapheart

Hyun-Min Lee

Karl Orvik

Magdalena Parlin

Sue Rabut

Job Salazar Fonseca

Sachin Shukla

### **Suzuki Program**

Robin Alfieri

Annierose Klingbeil

Emily Leapheart

Magdalena Parlin

Berit Strong

### **Voice**

Lucas Coura

Janet Pohli

### **Woodwinds**

Judith Bedford

Mary Cicconetti

Mary Cunningham

Celine Ferro

David Houston

Allison Lacasse

Meghan Miller

David Stevens

### **Annual Report Design:**

Kelly Webber

### **Annual Report Photos:**

Jennifer Brett, Jonathan Sachs,  
and Powers Music School Staff



**Gavin Farrell, Executive Director**  
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