



QUARTER NOTES

JUNE 2018 • ISSUE 2

Greetings,

For centuries, people the world over — young and old — have been turning to music to dance and celebrate, to mourn and heal, to share ideas, and to come together in community. This is not unique; each one of us has intimately experienced how music touches the soul and spirit in profound ways. Here, in our little corner of the world, it is our mission to carry that tradition forward by nourishing and supporting the youth in our community through outstanding rock, pop, and country music education, and by offering tuition assistance to those who otherwise couldn't afford it. We passionately believe that children's lives are transformed through the power of music.

In the past few months, we have turned to music to celebrate the life, and mourn the loss, of Youth Music Project's co-founder, Dave Bany, who passed on April 1 after a battle with cancer. Dave's commitment and vision — making our community stronger through investment in youth development and music — lives on through the 1500+ kids who make music with us each year. In this issue's "In the Spotlight" we sat down with our co-founder Sally Bany, Dave's wife, and our former Executive Director Rachael Sneddon, his daughter, to share a little about his love of music and Youth Music Project.

In the Student Stories section, we interviewed one of our "shredding" students, Enrique Guardado, and received some farewell words from our outgoing high school interns who are graduating and moving on to other exciting chapters in their lives. It is always bittersweet to say "so long" to our graduating interns! If you'd like to learn more about our paid teen intern program, visit us online or give us call.

Six years ago, Dave and Sally called the tune and counted us in on the bandstand when they launched Youth Music Project. It's up to us — all of us — to ensure that this song continues to be sung for all the kids and families in our community. Please consider making a gift today to ensure kids have continued access to the power of music.

Best,

Travis Magrane
Executive Director



p.s. Our 2017 Annual Report is out! To view it, visit the About Us menu at youthmusicproject.org

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Youth Music Project

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youthmusicproject.org

Youth Music Project is the only nonprofit music school in Clackamas County.

STUDENT STORIES: ENRIQUE GUARDADO

This spring, we interviewed piano and music-theory student Enrique Guardado to ask about his music-education path and his experience here at Youth Music Project. Enrique has studied piano with Becca, and is currently taking a piano and music-theory lesson with Brian.

Tell us a little about yourself - what grade are you in? What instruments do you play?

My name is Enrique Guardado, I'm currently 15 years old. I live with my mom and my sister. In my spare time, I enjoy playing video games and listening to music used in video games and films like "Avengers," "Superman," "Batman," etc. I mostly enjoy playing the piano.

What kind of music do you like? Favorite band, artist, genre?

I enjoy listening to popular music and classical. I like Austin Wintory; he is an American composer, specifically for films and video games.

How long have you been studying music? How long have you been taking lessons at Youth Music Project?

I've been studying music for about two and a half years. Youth Music Project is the only school of music I have gone to, and I've had the best teachers. I like learning different kinds of music!

What does music mean to you?

I really enjoy how it makes me feel — the sound of it. It is a way for me to express myself as a person and as a musician.

During the Winter Term, you participated in the LIVE SET Teen Sound Engineering class. What did you take away from that experience?

One thing I really enjoyed was that we're able to make music out of anything. Also, singers like reverb! It was a different, unique experience.



This term, you have incorporated music theory as a focus of your private-lesson time. What impact has that had?

Music theory is essential, and there are endless possibilities to things we can do with music. Studying music theory has improved me as a musician, and has helped me with counterpoint — which I am devoting a lot of my time to.

What are you focusing on when you practice right now?

At the moment, I am focusing a majority of my time learning counterpoint and composing my own music.

I've been studying music for about two and a half years. Youth Music Project is the only school of music I have gone to, and I've had the best teachers. I like learning different kinds of music!

—Enrique Guardado

What are your musical goals, aspirations, or dreams?

My dream is to create my own music that could be used in films and video games for others to enjoy. Thank you so much for the opportunity to study at Youth Music Project!

When we asked Becca, one of his instructors, about teaching Enrique, she said, "I remember one thing very well from when I first started lessons with Enrique. He was very skilled and could play many difficult songs, and so I just asked him, 'Do you just love piano?' He answered, 'No, I love to shred,' which means to be very skilled at playing whatever instrument — often connoting that it is impressive to other people (e.g., 'that guitar player was just shredding, melting faces in the front row'). I tell you, he can shred on piano. He and another of my students performed at a high school graduation ceremony, and he was a great accompanist to her."

This past winter term, we got very deep into music theory, he bought some college textbooks and read them, and we discussed the principles that govern the connections between notes and their expected and/or possible progress. He's a great student, and I'm excited to see where the music takes him next."

Are you interested in studying music theory or sound engineering? Check out our summer class/camp schedule for more information! 📢

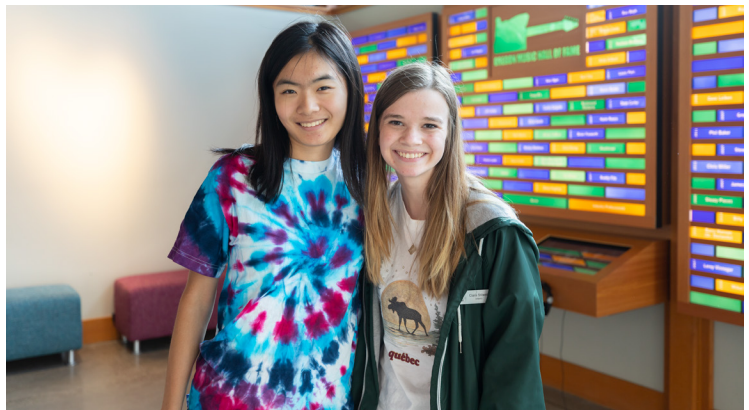
STUDENT STORIES: GRADUATING INTERNS

This summer, we are sad to say goodbye to our four graduating interns, but excited for what's in store for them next year! We asked each of them to tell us about their post-graduation plans and what they will be taking away from their experience here at Youth Music Project.

Lauren Flick: After graduation, I will be attending the University of Oregon to study mathematics. I hope to become a math teacher after I graduate college. During my time at Youth Music Project, I've grown exponentially as a teacher and as a musician. Learning how to foster creativity and positivity in the classroom will be something that I will continue practicing as a future educator. I have so many wonderful memories with my students that I will carry on with me forever!

Theresa Li: I am attending the University of Washington in Seattle next fall to study biochemistry and possibly pharmacy, biotech, and business... I know, pretty diverse! I hope to continue music in my free time, likely by playing in UW's symphony or in small chamber groups. Working at Youth Music Project taught me that a great mentor isn't someone you simply follow, but someone who can take what they love and instill it in you to grow into something great. Music is a lens through which we perceive emotion, joy, and beauty. It is a wordless connection between fellow human beings that everyone can understand. To be part of its discovery for someone else has been an empowering and incredibly rewarding experience that I hope I can find again in the future.

Clara Stilwell: After I graduate, I plan to go to George Fox University to study elementary education. I think my favorite part of being an intern was the summer camps. I loved getting to know the kids over a week and playing music with them. It was a really cool way to bond with them.



Theresa Li (left) and Clara Stilwell (right)

Zac Cross: After graduation, I'm going to work my last summer term at Youth Music Project, and then head down to the University of Oregon to study math and physics. I think that my biggest take away from my internship at Youth Music Project is that I have really learned how to teach in a variety of ways and settings. There's always more than one way to solve a problem, and I've really gotten a lot of experience applying that to classrooms where every kid's need is different. I've gotten to apply these skills to the kids I tutor in math, and I'm sure I'll keep using them for the rest of my life.

Nick Boatman: My plans after graduation are to go to Clackamas Community College and study sound engineering and performance. My favorite part about being an intern was the opportunity to connect with children who are interested in music. They remind me of myself at that age. One thing that I will take with me is patience. Being an intern taught me not to rush, and to understand that some things just take time. 📢



Lauren Flick (left) and Zac Cross (right)



Nick Boatman



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: DAVE BANY

Each quarter, we shine the spotlight on someone connected to Youth Music Project who is doing inspiring work. This quarter, we wanted to remember our co-founder Dave Bany, who passed away this past April, so we sat down with our co-founder Sally Bany, Dave's wife, and our former Executive Director Rachael Sneddon, his daughter — to talk about Dave's life and what he loved about Youth Music Project.

Why did you and Dave found Youth Music Project?

We saw music education being phased out of schools due to budget cuts, and a general lack of music-performance spaces for youth. Our youngest daughter Annie was a musician, and she didn't have any under-21 venues to perform at. Music is so important for everybody, and we knew we had to do something to keep the it alive for students. Finding the old church in the Willamette area of West Linn was perfect for what we wanted to do. It was the perfect solution for young musicians in our community.



“His favorite thing about coming to Youth Music Project was sitting in the back of the performance hall and watching the students perform. He was so proud of their courage and bravery, and of the support of the instructors and staff who work with them.”
—Sally Bany
Co-Founder

What did he love most about music? Why was it important to him? Did he have a favorite band or song?

As a kid, Dave's mom bought him a red hollow-body electric guitar, and he was hooked. It was a way for him to take a break from the busyness of his day. He would come home after a long day at work and practice different licks on the guitar. He loved the history behind each song and each guitar he collected. It wasn't just about the music he heard; he loved learning about the instruments and musicians, too.

After it was up and running, what surprised Dave (and you) about Youth Music Project — what hadn't you anticipated?

He was extremely proud of the amazing musicians that came through Youth Music Project. Watching students come for their first term and performing on stage was spectacular. And when we got to see the students on their fifth or sixth term, smiling on stage — beaming as they performed — it was absolutely incredible.



What was his favorite thing about coming to the building?

His favorite thing about coming to Youth Music Project was sitting in the back of the performance hall and watching the students perform. He was so proud of their courage and bravery, and of the support of the instructors and staff who work with them. From the kindergarten singers to the high school rock bands, he was blown away by every performance.

Dave famously had a collection of classic guitars. Which was his favorite?

I'm not sure he had a favorite, but each guitar's history meant something to him. He loved the guitar that "Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer" was written on, he loved the way the guitars from the '30s sounded, and he had a special place in his heart for a good ol' ukulele.

If Dave could have joined any band at any time in history, which one would it have been?

KISS!

Did he have a favorite song to sing while driving? In the shower? Around a campfire? A favorite song to dance to?

He could appreciate almost any song he heard; he had a huge record collection — he loved Enya, the Beach Boys, Elvis, IZ, KISS, Muddy Waters, and more!

When did you and Dave know that Youth Music Project was going to be something very special?

When we started seeing students running in the door for lessons!



What words or thoughts do you think he'd like to share with our students, parents, and staff?

No matter who you are, music can touch your soul. So don't compare yourself to anyone else — sing the songs you like, play your instrument with pride, and play music for you. Play music that makes you, you. Play music that makes you happy when you want to be, and play sad music if you feel sad. Listening, playing, and enjoying music is a lifelong gift that no one can ever take away from you. 🎸





COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Learning to play music improves your memory, helps develop creative-thinking skills, and spurs intellectual curiosity. But more than that, it's just fun to be a member of a band!



We want you to be part of ours.

Join our band, and support the Youth Music Project community!

You can support youth music education today.
You can give kids the gift of music.

Donate online today!



**SEE PAGE 8 FOR A RECAP OF
BATTLE OF THE BANDS!**




PROGRAM NEWS

**REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN FOR SUMMER CAMPS,
CLASSES, AND LESSONS!**


A NEW CLASS!

There is still room in many of our classes, including a new Seedlings Intro to Music for ages 6–7, Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.

See the full group class schedule or register for classes by calling us, stopping by our building, or visiting us online. 

2018 SUMMER CAMPS HAVE A MUSICAL SUMMER!

We are thrilled to announce that our Summer Camps were voted NW Kids Magazine's 2018 Best Music Camp! Want to see what all the excitement is about? We still have space available for some weeks! Visit us online, give us a call, or stop by the front desk for more information and to register.

Did you know that, in addition to our great summer camps, group classes and private lessons continue during the summer? Summer Term starts on June 25 (our first Summer Camp runs the same day!) and runs through August 25. Summer Concert Week is August 27 – Sept 1. 



STAFF TRANSITIONS...

Congratulations to **Keenan Recker**, who took on the role of Administrative Coordinator this Spring. And **welcome** to **Kyla Boswell**, who will join us as an Administrative Assistant at the front desk.

We are sad to say goodbye to **Joseph Ulibarri** and **Hailey Vandewiele**. Joseph and Hailey have been piano and voice instructors with us for the past two years, and will be missed.

Lisa Helfer **recently joined** Youth Music Project as the organization's new Communications and Community Relations Manager. She has worked with numerous companies around the globe to develop communications strategies, branding initiatives, and marketing programs in the education, music, nonprofit, entertainment, performing arts, and business sectors. Her role raises positive awareness and engagement for the organization's programs, impact, and needs.

Read more about our graduating interns in the Student Stories section. For the full bios of our new team, check out our team page on our website! **youthmusicproject.org/instructors** and clicking the corresponding tab.

EVENTS

TEEN WEEK CAMP SHOWCASE

Open Mic won't be held in August this summer, but put Youth Music Project on your calendar for **August 17!** On that evening, from 6–8 p.m., we will showcase the rock band, songwriting, and sound engineering talents of our Teen Week Camp students. This is a free event that is open to the public. Come cheer them on! For more info, call us at 503-616-5967.

UPCOMING OPEN MIC DATES:



- July 20
- September 21



BATTLE OF THE BANDS

We had a fantastic time at the Battle of the Bands on Friday, June 1, in our Meteor Lounge! A HUGE thanks to all our rockin' bands – The Flat Nines were the fan favorites, Royce Melleaux won for showmanship, and The Pearls took the top prize as best band! Together, everyone helped raise over \$9,000! A big thank you to all our sponsors for the Battle of the Bands: Moonstruck Chocolate Company, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Bellagios Pizza, Hopworks Urban Brewery, Ambient IT Solutions, 101.9 KINK FM, and Cracker Barrel Old Country Store! Special thanks to Columbia Sportswear, Guitar Center, and Dr. Martens Shoes. And finally, thanks to our great Battle of the Bands judges! Rae Gordon (Rae Gordon Band), Erik Mertz (writer, editor, and DJ), Jason Deparrie-Turner (Heliorana Filmworks, Pavement), Jerimia Hybl (MIRP Magazine), Bryan Allen (Dark Sky Choir), Dave Scott (DJ, OMHOF board member), and J. Michael Kearsey (OMHOF board member)... who were all fantastic. We look forward to next year's event!



SUMMER CAMPS ARE BACK!



Your kids can have fun in the sun this summer, learn music, and make friends!



REGISTER NOW

or find camp dates and other info online at youthmusicproject.org.

TAKING THE SUMMER OFF?

Mark your calendars – **Priority Registration for Fall Term 2018** opens on **July 30**, and **General Registration** opens on **August 13**.



FIND US ONLINE:



@TheYMP



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@YMPProject

youthmusicproject.org

Visit our event calendar at youthmusicproject.org for more upcoming events and up-to-date information!