



A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit School of Music - 144 West Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 329-0888

11/27/17

Dear Friend,

There are few things in life as satisfying as looking into a young person's eyes and seeing their passion and self-confidence shining back at you. That's what you see today when you look into current Uptown Music Collective senior David Chubirka's eyes, especially when he has a guitar in his hands. However, that wasn't always the case...

David first came to my attention in 2011 when I was putting together a group of young students to go out into the community and perform the music of Motown. He had been recommended to me by a member of my staff due primarily to his willingness to work hard, and his positive attitude.

At that time *David was struggling with a lot of things. Both inside and outside of music. Low self-esteem, anxiety, difficulties with school, and social issues that were dragging him down.* Although he had a strong desire to learn to play music, he was also struggling to understand basic musical concepts and to execute basic techniques.



David Chubirka with Dave Brumbaugh (2015)

Over the next few years, David immersed himself in every donor-supported program the Collective offered including classes in music theory, and styles & technique workshops. He hosted "David's Metal Corner" on the school's iOn Uptown YouTube channel and took part in the Tech Monkey program, where he learned the technical side of performing.

The work began to pay off, and David began to climb up the rank of student performers. Eventually working his way on to the stage of the Community Arts Center as part of the Special Performance Groups. Along the way his life became more focused, his school work improved, as did his attitude at home.

Today David is the confident and highly skilled "first chair" guitarist in the school's legendary Special Performance Group 1. He is music college-bound, and also one of the most gifted students I've worked with in my 27 years of teaching. David is now a leader and an inspiration to the other students. His story of success gives those struggling with the same issues today, hope and a path to follow into the future.

This is the work that you will be supporting with your donations to the Uptown Music Collective's 2017 Annual Campaign.

Our teachers and staff are highly skilled at uncovering, nurturing, and igniting the hidden talents that we believe everyone has for music. Through the metaphor of music education, we also work hard to teach responsibility, discipline, respect, teamwork, and leadership.

By supporting the 2017 Annual Campaign you will be ensuring that the Uptown Music Collective continues to have the resources it needs to offer its life-changing music programs. Including programs like STOMP, where students are trained to share their gifts with those less fortunate. Through peer to peer teaching in local after-school programs. As well as the school's Free Classes and Workshop Initiative which makes it possible for all students to receive an additional 3 hours of instruction per week at no extra charge.

Your generous donations will allow the Uptown Music Collective to continue to engage young people in a positive and enriching environment. Where their creativity and passion is encouraged, and respect, teamwork, and leadership is required to achieve the results that are so clearly evident in every school performance.

Please help the Uptown Music Collective continue to do its part in shaping the future by making a generous gift today to the Annual Campaign. Every generous gift brings us one step closer to our \$20,000 goal.

Sincerely,



Dave Brumbaugh – Executive Director, Uptown Music Collective

P.S. Music Connects Us All! Your support will directly affect the lives of our students in an immediate and tangible way. Connect with music today through the power of your gift to our 2017 Annual Campaign.

The official registration and financial information of Uptown Music Collective may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.