



A 501(c)(3) nonprofit *SCHOOL OF MUSIC*.

9/10/20

Dear supporters,

Nothing stops the music – not even the Coronavirus.

This month our students finally returned to the corridors of the Collective after a long absence. But our work has never stopped. Instead, it continued weekly through our computer screens and phones since the first days of the pandemic.

It's not the same, but the music keeps on going.

Where the pandemic has struck home for our organization is in our ability to share the music with you. Without the compelling goal of performance, student engagement is more difficult, driving down our enrollment by 39% compared to last year.

Our absence from the stage is another point of separation for our community increasing our feeling of distance. UMC performances have always been fun and exciting community gatherings that leave a smile on the faces of both the audience and the students who live for those moments on stage.

This year is the senior year for one such student: a veteran of 25 major performances and a student whom I have had the pleasure of guiding through the UMC program since she was 7 years old.

If you've been to an Uptown Music Collective performance in the last 5 years, you've probably noticed Molly Chapman. A bright-eyed young lady you would have seen stepping confidently out to the edge of the stage to shred a guitar solo or grabbing the microphone to deliver a passionate lead vocal.

Molly is exactly the kind of kid the UMC was created to serve. She loves music, is a hard worker, and is involved in just about everything we do. She devours the information offered in the theory classes and workshops, learns video production and audio recording, flexes her creativity through songwriting, leads performances groups, mentors younger students, and, of course, rocks out on stage.

Best of all, Molly's entire education was made possible by you. Thanks to the community's support of our programs, we have been able to develop and deliver high-quality music education programs for people of all ages while continuing to keep our tuition prices low and allowing us to offer financial aid and scholarships for deserving students like Molly.

There are 93 other students - just like Molly - who are benefitting from the work of our staff, teachers, and programming as we guide them to becoming great musicians and even better humans. We don't want this year to be a constant question mark - your support is what we need to make sure that we can move forward with purpose.

We are constantly humbled and inspired by your support.

Sincerely,

Dave Brumbaugh – Executive Director, Uptown Music Collective

P.S. Every donation helps us to connect kids with music. Make your gift online at uptownmusic.org.

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.