



A 501(c)(3) nonprofit school of music.

As I completed our five-year strategic plan and began to put it into action this month, my mind often drifted back to April 1st, 2000—the day the Uptown Music Collective first opened its doors. Back then, I envisioned a place where young musicians could not only learn and perform, but grow—a place where they would inspire one another, not just through music, but in life.

Today, that vision is more alive than ever. Since 2000, our students have done far more than master scales and songs—they've graced stages across the country in places we once only dreamed of, and they've learned to lead, collaborate, and discover their own voices. Many have come full circle, returning as teachers, staff, or board members, each having sat in these very classrooms. They understand the transformative power of music education because they've lived it. And now, they are passing that spirit on to a new generation.

As we look to the future, our focus is on building a bridge to tomorrow. Our strategic plan is designed to help us thrive for years to come, and what we're beginning now is only Phase 1 of a three-phase journey. In this first phase, we're setting a solid foundation by refining and documenting our systems for greater clarity and efficiency, investing in a high-quality Student Information System to better connect with families, and creating video documentation of our curriculum to serve as a lasting resource for students and teachers. These steps are just a glimpse of the many efforts underway to ensure a strong and vibrant future.

We are also preparing for an endowment-building campaign—a bridge to the future that will secure the Collective's stability for generations. At the same time, we're dedicated to sharing our story in ways that go beyond music—revealing the journey, the dedication, and the joy of learning that fuels our students' passion. We want more families to experience the magic that happens when young people find a place to belong, express themselves, and grow.

In a world that often feels disconnected, music brings us back to what truly matters—connection, growth, and finding our voices. The steps we take today will shape the lives of young musicians for decades to come. I hope you'll join us in this essential work. Together, we can ensure the Uptown Music Collective remains a place where passion is nurtured, potential is realized, and lives are forever changed through the power of music.

As you think about joining us on this journey, know that any support you give is deeply valued and will leave a lasting impact on the lives of our students and the future of the Uptown Music Collective. Our success is intertwined with yours; it is your belief in our vision that allows this special form of music education to grow and flourish. So, stand with us again today, and let's build this future together.

Sincerely,

Dave Brumbaugh – Executive Director and Founder, Uptown Music Collective

P.S. Every note played, every lesson learned, and every connection made here is a step toward something greater. Your support isn't just a gift—it's a legacy.

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.