



Redding Piano Angels

Notable News



December 2016

PIANO UPDATE

Since 2010, we have assisted 65 families in the acquisition of an acoustic piano!
Value \$122,650



HIGHLIGHTS

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REDDING PIANO ANGELS

A 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation devoted to connecting young piano students with acoustic pianos.

Tax ID #45-2909787

The Gift of Giving We are Thankful

Thank you for giving! We are so grateful to our donors for supporting our mission of assisting piano students with the acquisition of an acoustic piano! YOU have provided 65 families with pianos these last six short years!! We're on our way to 100 pianos ...

You have helped purchase pianos for two student competitions where the winning students received the piano as their prize, purchased a keyboard for the Redding Library, provided piano lessons and piano music for students, placed a piano at the Redding School of the Arts, provided a piano to St. Luke's Church, and much, much more.

We ask that you would continue to support Redding Piano Angels and our local students whose dream is to play the piano. We have enclosed a return stamped envelope for your use. Thank you!

An Interview with Bud and Noah The Power of a Piano to Restore and Encourage



Robert (Bud) Hancock is the founder/president of Providence International Enterprises. Their Garden of Hope project is a new beginning for at-risk people to become productive citizens in partnership with local employers, community organizations, Shasta County Social Services, foster and juvenile care, probation and parole.

Excerpts from Bud's interview:

"Knowing that music plays a huge role in people's recovery, self-image, discovery of the creativity they have or don't even realize they have, we asked Redding Piano Angels if they would find us a piano. In short, they found us a piano ... and donated it! Don Sheely tuned the piano and would not accept any money either. He loved our cause, so he donated his service."

"We have the delight of engaging with people in the community who are in the process of restoring hope in their life. People who have experienced events that have actually shaken or broken them and caused them to be vulnerable to all kinds of addictions to try and kill the pain. There is a lot of pain in being rejected and discarded by people who haven't taken the time to understand the reasons behind the addictions. It's really hopelessness that's the seedbed for most of these behaviors."

"As we look back over the four years that we've been engaged in this project, we've been blessed to have been able to help 37 people go through the process where they are either employed, gotten out of their hole of addiction or self-pity, or feeling that they don't have hope or value. Our role is to be a catalyst to provide an environment and a relationship where they are valued. That makes a world of difference in terms of their recovery, their outlook, their self-image, and their capacity to develop a way of returning that through their gifts. Then they can start their own journey of recovery and restoration."

"Noah is an example of someone recovering and utilizing a piano to help him heal. He is amazingly talented and an inspiration to all of us already around the community."

Excerpts from Noah's interview:

After a traumatic brain stem injury, Noah found himself wandering in and out of emergency rooms and psych wards feeling hopeless. After meeting someone who was being helped by the Garden of Hope, he went there and found a group of people willing to work with the throwaways of society in order to heal themselves and the world around them.

"Music has, in many ways, defined my life. My mom played the guitar. If you can imagine being in utero with a guitar pressed on your face! My dad is a trained baritone. They were both leaders in the church, and I was involved in worship music from a very young age. I've realized that's what I'm made of ... music ... that sound, the vibration, and the searching for being in tune."

(cont. on page 2)



“... improvement in students’ skills ...”

Our Mission is to assist piano students in the acquisition of an acoustic piano.

Our Vision is to create opportunities for piano students to enhance their skills and musicianship.

Our Purpose is to acquire used pianos for student use.

We are Redding area residents who believe students deserve to have a functional piano in order to advance their skills.

We identify and acquire pianos that are suitable for student and family use, resulting in placement with qualifying individuals.

Our love for piano music is the foundation for our commitment to its promotion.



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Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr.

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Newsletter
prepared
by Peterson
Consulting



President’s Corner

Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr.

Redding Piano Angels continues to thrive and move forward on its list of accomplishments!

Thanks to your support, we have been able to place 65 pianos in the homes of beginning piano students. There is no doubt, as confirmed by the students’ teachers, that this has provided for an improvement in the students’ skills and techniques.

We have also had some tremendous individual success, such as the notable donation of a Kawai Grand from Joe Wong, through us, to Redding School of the Arts. And a lot of smaller, yet significant, success stories go along with that.

For the future, we plan to continue to seek out decent, playable re-owned pianos for future students. While we frequently have to refuse the older uprights and many of the pre-70’s spinets, we sincerely appreciate the fact that people offer pianos to us all the time.

Your help has been instrumental in supporting our success. Please strongly consider an end of the year, tax-deductible donation.

In The News

Redding School of the Arts Receives \$8,000 Kawai Grand Piano Donation



Thanks to the combined efforts of Joe Wong of J&A Food Service, Inc. and Frank J. Strazzarino, Founder and President of Redding Piano Angels, Redding School of the Arts recently received a beautiful 1982 Kawai 6’1” Grand Piano valued at \$8,000. Joe Wong donated the Kawai to Redding Piano Angels in the hope that his piano would be donated to a piano student or school in need.

“We were pleased to be able to assist in facilitating this piano donation. Our commitment to quality piano education is furthered by this generous contribution,” comments Frank J. Strazzarino.

Redding School of the Arts believes children who participate in music and arts programs often do better in other subjects than children who do not.

Director Margaret Johnson with Redding School of the Arts, said, “Redding School of the Arts is extremely grateful for this fine gift to our students, staff and families. We are certain that when students perform on this quality piano, they will be encouraged to continue their piano studies and will eagerly perform for others. Not only will RSA benefit, but the greater Shasta County community who selects our school as an educational stop for their students, and a venue for musical, dance and theatrical performances.” (cont. on page 3)



An Interview with Bud and Noah (cont. from page 1)

The Power of a Piano to Restore and Encourage

‘After learning the guitar, viola, trombone, tuba, and the baritone, and singing and being in the choir, I wanted to learn more of the structure of music and how it all works; how it’s put together. I knew the piano was a way toward that goal.

‘We found a piano teacher who was more jazz and improv. Each three new cords I learned, I could play a new song. I didn’t realize how valuable that education was.

‘As you might imagine, the piano has been a bit of a journal to me over the years. My first piano was donated. It was an old upright grand piano from the church basement that someone had painted all black. All the ivories were warped and chipped, and inside all the hammers were eaten by rats, but it went in my bedroom!

‘Playing the piano is an intimate thing, although it’s not quite like holding a guitar on your lap or against your chest! For my 16th birthday, my dad bought me a keyboard that had an internal sequencer and I recorded whatever was on my heart to play. What I was learning was how to make music. Music is the sound emotions make, so I was learning how to play what was in me to play. So, in that sense, piano is a journal of my life and healing.”

SPECIAL THANKS!

Greg Balkovek
Dr. John Busterna
Don Chapman
Allyn Clark
Todd Cooper
Pat Corey, McHale Sign Co.
Michael J. Daquisto
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Darryl Sutterfield
Marguerite Sweeney-
Edralin
Scott Swendiman
Mike Warren
Sally Wells

DONATIONS

Make check payable to:
Redding Piano Angels
2440 Pinion Court
Redding CA 96002

Tax ID #45-2909787

Volunteer Profile

Special Thanks to Pat Karch

A Redding resident since 1976, Pat's roots are in the mountains of Trinity County, where starting at age seven he took piano lessons from the local Baptist minister's wife. Classical repertoire was the only thing on the menu, and eventually Pat's parents' love of American jazz encouraged him in another direction. In his final years of high school, Pat was "fired" by his piano teacher and encouraged to "do your own thing". The classical training paid off though, and Pat put himself through college by playing as a rehearsal accompanist in the theater and gigging on the weekends.



Pat now works for Redding School of the Arts and also facilitates the delivery of pianos through the Redding Piano Angels program. The number of pianos delivered is nearing one-hundred and many times families are overwhelmed and filled with joy when they receive a piano.

Pat is married with six adult children and enjoys gigging in the north state in a variety of venues and several bands, as well as solo work. Pat also enjoys singing with his wife Pam as they perform duets while Pat plays piano. The list of bands and groups that Pat plays in is long and interesting including: The Lou White Band, The Linda Bott Jazz Quartet, The Jackass Springs Family Marching Band, Lisha & Friends, Petrified Rock, The Bratwurst Brothers, The Straight Ahead Combo, Patricio Pichotto and the Cumpari's, Los Francisco's Revisited, Shasta College Jazz Choir, Redding Christian Fellowship and The Nighthawks Dance Band to name a few.

Pat says that watching the growth of students as they merge visual and performing arts with their regular school work is very rewarding and demonstrates a great hope for our future. The opportunity for me to bring a piano into the home of a budding piano student is one of the greatest rewards to me and reinforces my support for the Piano Angels program.



In the News (cont. from page 2)

Shasta View magazine – July 2016 issue

Imagine if Beethoven or Mozart never go to develop their talent simply because they did not have a proper instrument on which to practice. Music as we know it would be devoid of some of its greatest contributors and we would have missed out on some of the greatest compositions ever created.

Redding Piano Angels (RPA) founder and president, Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr., has been providing young piano students with acoustic pianos for five years now. He created this organization because he believes all young students deserve a good piano on which to learn. His family – wife Carol, son Robert, and daughter Stephanie, are also passionate about RPA and continue to encourage his efforts.



Braeden and Lana Ballensky receive an RPA piano!

The organization works to create opportunities to enhance students' skills and musicianship by providing assistance with piano purchases, grants for piano purchases, and piano lesson scholarships. They also provide students with grants for sheet music and a sheet music library.

RPA connects deserving students with a high quality used piano that they have acquired. The transaction can occur in a number of ways – direct purchase or any combination of a purchase, grant, and zero interest loan.

RPA is committed to seeing the lives of students improved by offering them with the tools they need to make their dreams come true of becoming a skilled and developed piano musician.

Who knows? The modern day Beethoven could be here in Redding, and Redding Piano Angels is making sure that he or she is equipped with everything needed to achieve just that!



CONTACT US

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Your tax deductible contributions are always welcome!



VISIT

www.reddingpianoangels.com

to view:

- RPA brochure
- piano acceptance policy
- piano request form



"I've prepared this PowerPoint presentation to explain why I didn't have time to practice the week."

Special Thanks

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Wish List

- Previously owned pianos in good condition (see Piano Acceptance Policy at www.reddingpianoangels.com)
- Sheet music and instructional books



Special Thanks Recent donation



This special piano was donated to Redding Piano Angels from a parishioner at All Saint's Episcopal Church to be passed along to a piano student. The Matthews' family was the happy recipient!



Redding Piano Angels

2440 Pinion Court
Redding CA 96002

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