



Annual *Report*

2024-2025



LISTEN. LEARN. INSPIRE. SUPPORT.

From the *Board*

Dear NVMS Family,

We did it! After years of dreaming, planning, fundraising, and building, our new music school is open and welcoming students. As I reflect on this incredible journey, I'm filled with gratitude for everyone who made it possible.

When we launched the Be Instrumental campaign, I knew it would take dedication and community support. What I didn't fully anticipate was how this project would bring out the best in everyone connected to NVMS. Projects like these don't happen by accident, and this one certainly didn't happen without extraordinary effort from so many.

To everyone who made this possible – our board members, fundraising team, advisors, staff, faculty, families and students, community partners, volunteers, and Executive Director Deidre Corson – thank you. You showed up when it mattered most. You turned a dream into reality and never lost sight of our mission.

NVMS has stood the test of time for nearly three decades due to strong community support and committed leaders. Building this new campus was our most ambitious undertaking, and you approached it with the same dedication that has sustained NVMS through every challenge.

My term as Board Chair comes to a close at year's end. Leading this board and the building project has been an honor. Not just because we raised funds or constructed a building, but because I got to work alongside people who believe that music matters and that community is built through shared purpose.

I'm not walking away entirely. I'll still be here, supporting the mission and helping secure the future of NVMS. I have complete confidence in the new board chair and leadership team, whose skills, vision, and dedication are exactly what NVMS needs for this next phase. They have the experience and passion to steward our mission forward.

This new campus is a world-class musical environment that will serve the Flathead Valley for generations to come. It's a safe, inclusive space where music education, performance, and appreciation will thrive. And it exists because of you.

Thank you for your support, your generosity, and your unwavering commitment to NVMS.



With gratitude,

Christine Rossi

Board Chair





From the *Staff*

It is with immense pride and a heart full of gratitude that I reflect upon this past year at the North Valley Music School (NVMS)—a year that has been nothing short of transformative. This was the year we stopped simply planning and started building; the year we traded our dreams for concrete reality.

The successful completion of our capital campaign and the long-anticipated move into our new, accessible, state-of-the-art facility is the physical realization of your collective belief in the power of music. Thank you. This achievement belongs to every single one of the hundreds of unique donors, the volunteers, the staff, and the board members who made the impossible inevitable.

We successfully repositioned NVMS not as a niche provider of music lessons and classes, but as a central hub for cultural vitality, youth development, and community. You invested in us because you understood the transcendent purpose of this expansion: we are now able to serve the students previously stuck on waiting lists, provide a truly accessible learning environment for all, and offer a dedicated community recital space that enriches the entire region. We proved that the Music School is an essential service for arts enrichment and civic engagement, not a luxury.

The trust you placed in us through this campaign has created a foundation of accountability. We committed to a vision, and we executed it with discipline and transparency—from the groundbreaking ceremony to the very grand opening.

As we turn the page into a new year in our new home, our commitment remains unwavering: to foster artistic citizenship and ensure that the opportunity to learn, create, and perform music is available to everyone.

Thank you for being the dedicated partners who helped us realize this vision. We look forward to seeing you at our new campus and hearing the music that this incredible community has made possible.



Musically and gratefully,

Deidre Corson

Executive Director

2024-2025

Year In Review

The 2024-2025 program year was a period defined by transition, community faith, and an incredible commitment to the future of music education in Northwest Montana. It began in the comfort of our beloved, familiar old house on Spokane Avenue—a space rich with nearly three decades of musical memories.

We kicked off the year with another successful Great Fish Challenge, an annual community fundraising event that ensures music remains accessible to all. Even while managing the complexities of the move, our programs flourished. Our faculty presented a fantastic compilation of talent at the Feel the Love Faculty Concert, reminding our community that the soul of NVMS resides in the gifted artists who teach here.

We were thrilled to celebrate the very successful second year of the Flathead Valley Youth Symphony, engaging over 70 young musicians in high-level orchestral performance. Alongside this, we began a crucial expansion of our core offerings, adding new opportunities in clarinet, oboe, and dedicated jazz studies, which prepared us for the growth the new facility would accommodate.

Our commitment to community engagement remained strong, with NVMS presenting three popular public events and workshops, including a lively Contra Dance and our regular Songwriter Nights at Slow Burn. Furthermore, our focused summer offering, Camp Festival Amadeus, was a blast with 34 passionate student musicians involved, marking a successful close to our instructional year.

Throughout the year, the vision for our new home became a visible reality as the building slowly grew, serving as a powerful, physical testament to the generosity of our donors. Our community successfully raised the money needed to make this dream a reality! We are forever grateful to the many volunteers who made the move into the new space possible.

The Grand Opening of our new school closed the year with hundreds of community members showing up to support the future of music education.

As we looked back on the challenges and successes within the old walls, the promise of the new facility provided unstoppable momentum, proving that the dedication of our students, families, faculty, and supporters is truly instrumental to our mission.

Total Registered Students

762

Enrolled Private Lessons

416

Group Classes

116

Ensembles

146

Summer Camps

34

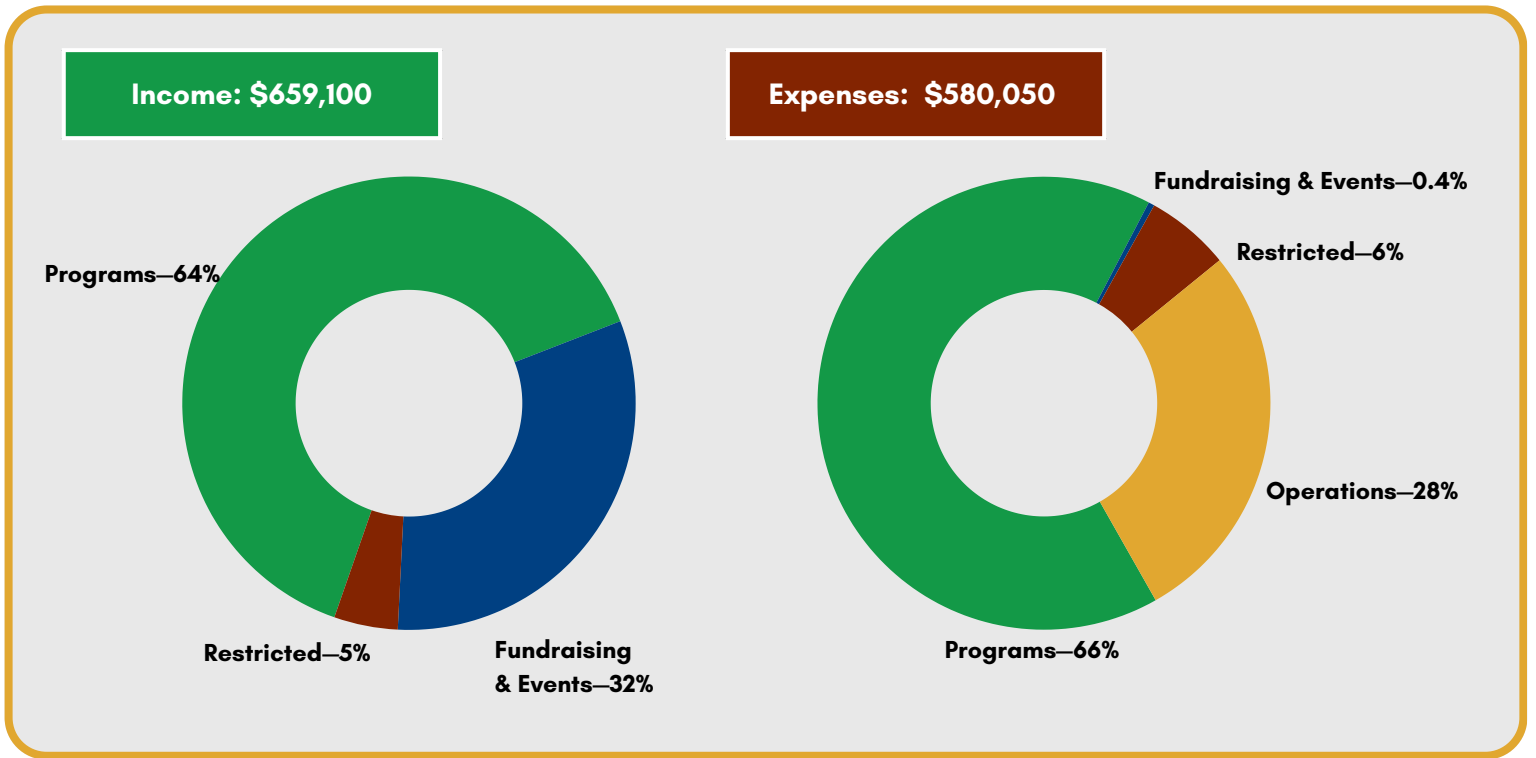
Scholarship Students

48 totaling \$30,100



2024-2025

Financials



INCOME	
Programs	\$420,300.00
Fundraising and Events	\$208,800.00
Restricted	\$30,000.00
TOTAL	\$659,100.00

EXPENSE	
Programs	\$382,100.00
Fundraising and Events	\$2,500.00
Restricted	\$35,000.00
General Operations	\$160,450.00

Annual Operating Budget: \$580,050.00



Faculty Spotlight

Dan Kohnstamm

Dan Kohnstamm is one of our piano instructors and has been on the North Valley Music School staff for eight years. He currently has twenty students and teaches four days a week in the afternoon, which is the prime time for student's learning. He is very pleased that the school has moved to its new location and that it has energized his students. The recital hall is a new experience for his students with its larger space and his studio is an attractive area to teach. He strives to have his students do four recitals per year, and prefers to refer to recitals as "shares."

Dan is a nationally certified piano instructor through the Music Teachers National Association. This Association has national, state and local affiliates and he currently serves as vice president with the local affiliate, the Kalispell Area Music Teachers Association. He likes being part of a larger "picture" and KAMTA and the state affiliate, Montana State Music Teachers Association, fills that professional role. The MSMTA just had its annual conference at Fairmont Hot Springs and it brought in a noted adjudicator and clinician, Dr. Kevin Chance, from the University of Alabama, to give workshops on technique and repertoire.

Dan's musical philosophy is to have music making an enjoyable activity and to meet the student's interests and capabilities. He has three students who have been, or are, piano interns at NVMS. One of his former students attends the University of Montana in Missoula and is planning on continuing his studies with a masters degree.



D'Andre Conant frequently competes and performs at MSMTA activities and is a dedicated musician.

Dan volunteered to be a part of the Board of Directors search for a new program director for the school and enjoyed working on the process with another teacher and the Board.

At the core of his music making is the enjoyment of ensemble playing. He continues to work with the staff at NVMS and with the Whitefish High School as the band accompanist for the District and State Music Festival, sponsored by the Montana High School Association. He has worked with WHS students as accompanist and coach for thirty-five years.

In addition to his piano instruction, he is a pianist for two churches in the Valley, which has been a lifetime goal. Being able to play music in a spiritual setting is especially gratifying for him. He has also been an accompanist for the Crown of the Continent Choir under the direction of Craig Hodges.

From Dan, "I would like to invite you to attend a "share" at the recital hall this year. We will have our remaining shares in November, December, March and June. Recital shares are a nice reflection of the student's work and parents and grandparents enjoy the occasions."

Dan would like to thank the staff at NVMS for their support. He really appreciates the role of the school to set up schedules and take care of the finances of running a musical studio. This enables us teachers to concentrate on teaching which is what we want to do and the staff makes it easy by their support of our efforts. Thank you NVMS!





Program *Spotlight*

Flathead Valley Youth Symphony

Orchestral performance hit a new high this year with the stunning success of the Flathead Valley Youth Symphony (FVYS). Originally the Whitefish Community Orchestra, which morphed into the NVMS Orchestra, (stopped because of COVID19), and now, the Flathead Valley Youth Symphony.

The program grew substantially, now serving over 70 talented young musicians from across the Valley. This growth necessitated an expansion of our structure, which included the successful launch of the intermediate Philharmonia, led by NVMS instructor, and Camp Festival Amadeus alumnus, Noah Certalic. The entire FVYS program flourished under the inspired direction of NVMS alumnus Eric Holdhussen, reinforcing the powerful legacy of our school's instruction and its ability to cultivate future music leaders.

"The Flathead Valley Youth Symphony is celebrating its third season with the addition of a second ensemble for students, the Philharmonia," says FVYS Director Holdhussen. "We started in the fall of 2023 with a group of 60 dedicated young musicians who brought all the requisite energy to establish a youth orchestra in the valley, and the numbers have steadily grown to the point where we couldn't even fit in our normal rehearsal space without splitting into two groups! I never would have dreamed that we would be here by year three, and I feel so lucky to have Noah Certalic on board with us to direct the new group."

Come join us for our concerts at Flathead High School at 7:00 pm on March 15th!



Grand Opening *of the new school*



After years of hard work, fundraising and dreaming, we opened our new community music school. It takes all of us to create something truly special. This campaign, from its earliest stages to the grand opening, was not a solo performance, but a true community effort.

Every person who believed in us—every donor, volunteer, advisor and board member—is a thread of the North Valley Music School fabric. Thank you for celebrating with us and for showing up to support the transformative power of music in the Flathead Valley.





Capital Campaign Donors

Ruth & David Ackroyd • AGL Foundation • Aken Industries • Lin & Kathy Akey • The Allen Family • Anonymous • Alpine Village Center - Richard & Edith Tinkler • Angora Ridge Foundation • Shelly Arbuclle • David and Mary Armstrong • Geoffrey Baker • Baldridge Family Foundation • Isla Baldwin • Bank of America Charitable Foundation • Valerie Bauch • Bill & Betsy Bayne • Rayne and Randy Beach • Araceli Beneyto • Cynthia Benkelman • Don & Darlene Bestwick • Rick & Bonnie Billuni • Dave Bjornson • JoBeth and Bob Blair • Cameron Blake & Sandy Gray • Nancy & Jesse Thompson • Anonymous • Summer Boggess & Brian Hertz • James Bonnet • Gina Bridgeman • Ilma and Alexander Brishka • Broussard Charitable Foundation • Tanya Browder • John and Carolyn Brunner • Kirk Bryan • George Bulkley • Kay & Bill Burg • Matthew Bussard • Len and Sharon Bussard • Cadeau Foundation • Montana Periodontics & Dental Implants • Lisa and Geoffrey Calaway • Jamie & Christine Carbo • Rose Montgomery Johnston Family Foundation • Sarah Carlson • Nancy and Bob Carpenedo • Maureen Casey • Jenny Castellaw • Charlie Russell Riders Foundation • Scot & Carrie Chisholm • Timothy and Glenda Christenson • Maureen Cleary • Jordan Cohen • Ann Cole • John and Anne Collins • Lynda Rae Collins • Bruce & Grace Conklin • Paul Conrad & Ellie Johnson • Lisa Cook • The Corson Family • Karol and Bob Corson • Bill and Tina Corwin • John and Stephanie Costa • Anne Couser • Michael & Stacy Covey • Karl and Kathy Cozad • John Craig • John and Patti Crouch • Lindy Cubberley In Honor of Scott and Abigail Bowden • Karen and Scott Daniels • Margaret Davis • Richard DeGroot • Sean & Deeanne Dillon • Terry Divoky in memory of Meg Wolfe • Diana Donaldson • Lynnette and Mark Donaldson • Don "K" Whitefish • Judy Duxtater • Mark Doyle and Tina Strobel • Terrance Doyle in memory of Meg Wolfe • The Duff Family • Joan Ehrenberg and Mike Deubel • Mike Eldred • Network for Good • Bart and Carole Erickson in honor of John Kramer • First Interstate Bank • First Interstate Bank Foundation • Frontier Figures, LLC • Laura Garbacz • GE Aerospace Foundation • Glacier Bank • Michael and Jamie Goguen • Linda Engh-Grady & Dave Grady • Grady Family in honor of Steve Lull • Grady Family in honor of John Kramer • Joe Guerra in honor of Julia Lovern • Jes and John Hagale • Nate and Annie Hall • Roger & Arline Hankins • Don Hanson • Tom and Jennifer Harrell • Kelly S. Harrington • Alexis Harrison and Richard Lavery • Lance and Kester Heaton • Jim and Patti Helseth • Karin Hilding & Rob Gordon • David & Linda Hunt • Ila B. Dousman Fund • Ike Nizam Foundation • Mr. & Mrs. David Ingram • Iron Horse Foundation • June Jackson Charitable Fund • Paul & Ann Jeremiassen • Andraya & Jeff Johnson • Maryellie & Rupert Johnson, Jr. in memory of their parents • Fraser Johnston & Family • Josh Joubert • David Karmilovich • Mike and Melinda Kartsonis • Robin Kelson in memory of Meg Wolfe • The Kirkendall Family • Karen Knauss • Dan & Betsy Kohnstamm • Anonymous • Kramer Family Foundation in honor of Linda Grady • Kramer Family • Use for Retreat / Strat. Planning • Kramer Family in honor of Ruth and David Ackroyd • Kramer Family Fund In Honor of Steve Lull • John Kramer & Jon McBride in honor of NVMS Board, Faculty and Staff • John Kramer & Jon McBride In Memory of Betty Lou Wambeke • Amelia, Liam, and Claire Krezowski • Norman Kuennen • Blair LaGrandeur • Karen & Arnold Larsen • Cecil and Sarah Laughlin • Lillie and Robbie Schutler, Sami and Isla Baldwin • Dave & Betty Lesar in honor of John Kramer • Locati Architects • Joel & Gayle Lockwood • Dan Loeb • The Lozman Family • Steve Lull • Steve Lull in Honor of Lin Akey • Anonymous gift in Honor of John Muhfeld • Jennifer Lusk • Brad Lyle • Gilbert and Joyce Lynch • Kristin Marrott • Janice & Paul McCann • Robert McConnell • Abe and Shelley McCoy • Severiano Michelotti • Laurie and Martin Miller in honor of Besty Kohnstamm • Laurie and Martin Miller in honor of Betty Lou Wambeke • Siena Millington • Mary Minten • Amy and Brian Mitts • Bill Montgomery • Dewi Morgan • Melinda and Bruce Morison • Jeanine Morreim • John Muhfeld • M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust • Nan and Bill Nagle • Nagle Family Fund • Craig Naylor • Harold and Carolyn Neal • Natalie Neckermann • Gloria and Lief Nelson • Terry & Lynda Nelson • Allison O'Brian • Greg and Cyndi Olson • Charles Orton • Janet and Rick Packard • Eunhwa Park & David Surdock • Lew and Lynn Patterson • Deb Pero • Regan Peschel • John and Melissa Phelps • Ross & Coco Pickert • Doug and Carolyn Pitman • Mary Drew Powers • Rick Prestbye • Mike and Rochelle Pryor • Richard and Carol Quillin • The Quinn Family • Rebel Roots - Stefanie Bridges • Pam Reeb • Hank and Sue Ricklefs • Trinda Rieck • Scott Ringer • Catherine Robinson in memory of Ed Gilk • Mike & Christine Rossi • The Rotary Club - Kalispell • Round Up for Safety • Charlene Rygg in honor of Wayne Sand • Robert and Maureen Saunders • Richard Schaus • Kelsey and Dave Schmid-Sommer • Eric Schmidt & Deven Robinson • Mark and Shirley Schmidt • Mark Schmidt • Toby Scott Schellinger Construction Co. Inc. • Charles and Nancy Schuber • Lily Schutler • Kimberly Sellers in honor of Steve Lull • James and Janna Shennan • Susan and Roger Sherman • Heidi and Andy Shors • Terri Smiley • Bonnie & Will Smith • Lucy Smith in honor of Meg Wolfe • G. Stacy & Ashley Smith • Dick and Jane Solberg • Jim and Lisa Stack • Chris Stanley in memory of Kay Burg • Dennis G Stanley Sr. • Stockman Bank • Angelina Strosahl • Ellie Strosahl • John Strosahl • Judith Strosahl • Judith Strosahl and Family in Honor of Steve Lull and Meg Wolfe • Jim and Jill Stroud • Rick and Linda Stubblefield • Ryan and Kate Swagar • Frank and Paula Sweeney • Karen and Stuart Tanz • Audra Tasa • Austin Taylor • Jim Thompson - Whitefish Animal Hospital • Brogan Thomsen • Three Rivers Bank • Edith Tinkler • Treacy Foundation • Lynn Roshard and Hal Trost • David and Jeannine Trousdale • Kyle Jessica and Phoebe Tubbs • Adrienne & Carter Unger in honor of Meg Wolfe • John & Kristen VanDenBurg • Patsy Vargo • Betsy Valin • Susie Waldron • Rachel Wambeke • Halcyon Foundation • Katherine & Ben Ward • Joanna Ward • Wasabi • Jill Weiser • "Linda Smith Wendfeldt, In Memory of her dad, Rollie Smith, and her daughter, Holly Smith Hartsough" • Mary Jane Westermarck • Steve and Ardy Whisler • Bill and Karen Whitby • Whitefish Credit Union • Whitefish Theater Company in memory of Meg Wolfe • David and Judy Williams • Katherine Williams • Doug & Bet Wise • Lion Mountain VFW Post 276 • Victoria Zafft • Doug Zullo and Michael Nestor in honor of Christine Rossi • Joseph and Elizabeth

MUSIC TREE NOTES • Fraser Johnston • Angora Ridge Foundation • The Ward Family • Toby Scott • Steve Lull in honor of Doug and Bet Wise • Grady Family in Memory of Laurel Grady • Paul and Ellie Conrad • Thompsons in memory of Blake Reese • The Rossi Family • Judy Smith in Honor of Christian Johnson • Anne Van Scoy with love to ELA • Lauren Pipkorn in Memory of John & Janet Pipkorn • Andy Foster • The Lavertys • The Krezowski Family • Karl and Kathy Cozad • Steve Lull • Hal and Lynn Trost • The Robinson Schmidt Family • MJ Westermarck in Honor of Sylvi Klein Yunk, Owen Forest Meador, and Gus Rowan Meador • The Seguin Family • Jamie and Christine Carbo • Stephanie Sunshine • Lucy Smith • Audra Tasa in Honor of Olie, Sampson, Riggs • Mike Nowlin & Misty • Mindy, Mark, Jake • JD & Nicci Daniher • Rick Prestbye • The Parsons Family • Kelly Gibson • Mike & Melinda Kartsonis • Frontier Figures • Brogan Thomsen in Honor of Casey, Chelsea, and Kali • The Marinaova Family • The Lepper Grandchildren - Mason, Meyer, Mavery • John & Patti Crouch • Nicole Sanford • Kathleen McMahon • Mary Armstrong • Michael and Kathy Clark • Josh and Kate Akey • Carmen Hobson • Steve and JoAnn Eckles • Scotti Family • Chris Holdhusen • Martha and Al Rios • The Hittesdorfs • Beckett Clark • Stella & August Frisbee • The Callaway Family • Cindy Klein • The Corson Family • The Howeth Family • Mike Eldred • Amazing Place Music • Susie Waldron • Casey Garland • Jo McDonald • Brogan Thomsen • Nick Spear • Bill Montgomery • Don & Linda Stolte • Dennis, Dayne, & Tavia Wood • Shane and Carly St. Onge • Tyler and Jamie Corwin • Neil and Judith Loving • Susan Schmidt • Linda and Randy Ray • Thomas Gillfillan in honor of RAKU, JJ, KOMO • Josh Joubert • Mark Williams • Terry Tasa • Marley Tasa • Maisey Tasa • Scrappy Tasa • Jake Tasa • Flossie - In Honor of Bob Fletcher • In memory of Traci Stolte • Lori Jendusa • Robert Grady • Paul Kohnstamm • Maisie Kohnstamm • Rob & Kim Akey • A4 Willis and the Solbergs • Vinnichuk • Brianne Fuzesy • Ron and Jeanie Miller • Tim and Joyce Murphy • Maeve Marie Ohlrich • Peggy & Ralph Beltrone • Bill Burg in Memory of Margaret "Kay" Burg • Rachel Miles • Anne Murphy in Honor of Dennis P. Malinak, MD • Marion Lesnik In Memory of Mike Lesnik •

2023 GREAT FISH COMMUNITY CHALLENGE DONORS • Kevin and Christine Abel • Charles and Susan Abell • Heidi Ackerman • David and Ruth Ackroyd • Ann Adams • Bill and Olga Adams • Sarah Akey • Josh and Katie Akey • Lin and Kathy Akey • Peter and Vivienne Akey • Rob and Kim Akey • Chris and Sophie Albert • American Endowment Foundation • Aaron Anderson • Ross and Sandy Anderson • Andrew and Jennie Eckstrom • Angora Ridge Foundation • Anonymous (29) • Shelly Arbuclle • Armstrong Bookkeeping Services • Jake and Mary Armstrong • Turner and Nan Askwew • Kimberly Avery • Backslope Brewing • Summerfield and Julie Baldridge • Mike and Virginia Baldwin • Naomi Barnes • John and Margaret Barney • Rick and Trish Bartoskewitz • Sharlot Battin • Bayne Family Fund • Randy and Rayne Beach • Joanie Bechtle • Terry and Linda Bell • Jaclyn and Gregory Benolken • Angie Bera • Kelcey and Tawnya Bingham • Blake Reese Memorial Fund • Blanton Family Foundation • Bloom Family Fund • Carlene Boatwright • Allegra Boggess • Michael Boggess • Sierra Boggess • Ed Boggs • James Bonnet • Gretchen Boyer • Ralph and Stephanie Boyer • Patricia Brady • Scott and Barb Brant • Bette Brooks • Nels and Sally Broste • Bette Brown • Meghan Brown • John and Madison Browning • Bulldog Saloon and Grill • Rachel Burke • Jessica Burks • Paul Burton • Len and Sharon Bussard • Josh Byers and Kelsy Carson • Amie Callaway • Justin Callaway • CrisMarie Campbell and Susan Clarke • Jamie and Christine Carbo • Pat and Missy Carlross • Jen Carpenedo • James and Sue Carstens • Casey Family Fund • Kay Christensen • Connie Cohen • Richard Collins • Jessica Conrad • Paul Conrad and Ellie Johnson • Mike Conway • Lisa Cook • Linda Cornutt • Lynne Corson • Tim and Deidre Corson • Matt and Rachel Covey • Todd and Megan Cowart • Karl and Kathy Cozad • Kris Cozad • Kyle Cozad • Charles and Karen Daniels • Matthew and Kate Daniels • Nicci and J.D. Daniher • Charles and Marvilla Davis • Jacob and Meghan DeGroot • Dick Idol Signature Gallery LLC • Jen Dolan • Mark and Lynnette Donaldson • Terrance Doyle • Kerry and Melanie Drown • Rebecca Durham • Scott Economy and Leigh Ann Downie • Mike Eldred • Greg and Amy Eller • Brittan and Lauren Ellington • Felicia Ennis • Bart and Carole Erickson • John Feldt • Steve and Jodi Howard • Al and Sandy Schellinger • Michael and Jamie Goguen • First Interstate BancSystem Foundation • Gerald Fleet and Karen Marlowe-Fleet • Bill and Anita Flint • Frontier Figures, LLC • Kris and Laurie Fuehrer • Daniel Gagen • Pamela Gange • Chris Garcia • Keith and Lindsey Gardner • Tyler and Robin Gardner • Casey Garland • Kenny Gasch • Timothy and Jolene Gibbs • Toby Gilchrist • Steve and Ginny Gist • Glacier Bank • Glacier Restaurant Group • Clare Goble • Good Seed Company • David Gordon • Rob Gordon and Karin Hilding • Isabel Graham • Barrett Gray • Connor Gray • Sandy Gray and Cameron Blake • First Interstate Bank Foundation • Richard and Susan Williams • Stockman Bank • Benjamin and Katherine Ward • Richard Gordaon and Cheryl Watkins • Tighe and Jennifer Reardon • Coby and Dana Grove • Growing Roots Early Learning Center • Ryan and Beth Gunlikson • Emily Hackethorne • Victoria Hackman • Cyrus and Michelle Hadidi • John and Jes Hagale • Nathaniel and Annie Hall • Rodger and Arline Hankins • John and Julie Hankinson • Donald and Marianne Hanson • Tom and Sue Harding • Greg and Jodi Harris • Kelly Harrington • Beverly Harris • Willo Harris • Harry Ellis • David and Melissa Hartman • Stephanie Hausler • Dave Heaton • Kester Heaton • Anastasia Heidt • Henry and Susan Ricklefs • Michael and Jennie Henson • Brian Hertz and Summer Boggess-Hertz • Robert and Bari Hertz • Hidden Moose Lodge • Hildner Family Fund • Carmen Hobson • Chris Holdhusen • Eric Holdhusen • Matt and Corrie Holloway • Brett Holmquist • Tyler and Jessica Hoppes • Robert Horne and Kathleen McMahon • Robert and Susan Howard • Trevor and Kacy Howard • Neil and Jennifer Huether • David and Linda Hunt • Will and Leslie Hunt • Charles and Linda Hunter • Joe and Kate Hunter • Veronica Hutcheson • Ila B. Dousman Fund, Inc. • Lynn Jacobs • Dan and Bree James • Scott and Barbara Janni • Lori Jendusa Laura Jenkins • John Crouch Enterprises • Doug and Linda Johnson • Jeffrey and Andraya Johnson • Lisa Johnson • Terry Johnson • Mike Jopek and Pam Gerwe • Kevin Kaltschmidt • Steve and Diane Kane • David Karmilovich • Robin Kelson • AJ and Gina King • Matt King • KLM Property Management • Karen Knauss • Daniel and Betsy Kohnstamm • Tom and Ruth Kosmalski • Jon and Jennifer Krack • John Kramer and Jon McBride • Kramer Family Fund • Joseph and Katy Krezowski • Ross and Miranda Kulzer • Jon and Jesse Kuntz • John and Dana Lacey • Jim Lackey • Kurt and Carol Larson • Patrice LaTourelle • Jen and Chris Lebo • William and Mary Lepper • Lesar Family Foundation • Kurt and Miriam Lewis • TJ Liles-Tims • Marcia Litchfield • Brady Lockhart and Amanda Belleville • Joel and Gayle Lockwood • Lynn Loofa • Buck and Mary Love • Julia Lovern • Lucy Smith • Steve Lull • Nancy Lundgren • Gilbert and Joyce Lynch • Lisa Mack • Jim and Norma MacKenzie • Scotty and Gayle McLaren • Dennis and Anne Malinak • Joe and Sue Mallette • Brian and Denise Manning • Wayne and Lois Marshall • Martel Construction • Chuck Martin • David Martin and Lynne Metcalfe • Mitchell Marzo and Katherine Clarke • Matthew Benedict, LLC • Joanne McArthur • Aaron McConnell • Joseph McClafferty • Janine McClurg • Abe and Shelley McCoy • Mark and Kari McCrady • Ken and Karen McFadden • Wayne McPherson • Jim Mechem and JeanAnne Swope • Daniel and Yovita Meigs • Richard Menicke and Jennifer Asebrook • Jody and Katie Miller • Neelie Miller • Ronald and Jean Miller • Scott Miller • Ali and Sara Schultz Levesque • Marie Mitchell • Amy Mitts • Michael and Mary Alice Moffitt • Bill Montgomery • Ernie Moore and Maureen Cleary • Thomas and Nancy Moran • John Muhfeld and Stephanie Sunshine • Matt and Melissa Myer • Natural Elements Massage & Spa • Kathy Neff • Samuel and Ruth Neff • Matt Nelson • Terry and Lynda Nelson • Northwest Imaging, PC • Douglas and Allison O'Brian • Marc and Kelly O'Brien • Reagan O'Brien • Gregory and Cynthia Olson • Scott and Amy Olson • Charles and Marlene Orton • Kathleen Ory • Richard and Vallina Ostrem • Rick Packard and Janet Vandermeer • Eunhwa Park • Florence Parsley • Patches and Appliques and More Inc • Sue Paulson • Bryan and Danielle Pearce • Joel and Chantal Pemberton • Carl and Kellsey Perkins • Carole Peschel • John and Melissa Phelps • Ross and Coco Pickert • Lonnie Porro • Dow and Becky Powell • Rick Prestbye • Christine Quilici • Steve Qunell • Jean Rabe • James and Alma Ramlow • Randy and Linda Ray • Doug and Nikki Reed • Donald Rees • Victoria Reich • Jeremy Reinbolt • Douglas Rhodes and Marie Le Moyne • Carly Rickard • Jon and Trinda Rieck • Scott and Janet Ringer • Catherine Robinson • Mitchell and Jennifer Robinson • Ottavio and Christine Rossi • Gregg Rule • Jimmy Ryan • Wayne Sand • Scott and Julia Sanderde • Nicole Sanford • John and Carol Santa • Darcy Schellinger • Chantal Schieffer • Eric Schmidt and Deven Robinson • Johnathan Schmidt • Mark Schmidt • Susan Schmidt • Theresa Schneider • Toby Scott • Arif Sendzimir • John S Shaffner • Jessica Shaw • Tim and Hilary Shaw • Paul Sheehan and Kendra Hope • Andrew and Heidi Shors • Suzanne Simpson • Vassilis and Austine Simos • Albert and Randi Siu • Bart Slaney • Nancy Slattery • Paul and Terri Smiley • Dana Smith • Dennis and Jan Smith • Josh and Judy Smith • Susan E. Smith • Will and Bonnie Smith • Chris and Sheryl Solberg • Jenanne Solberg • Richard and Jane Solberg • Spinning Cogs, Inc. • Jason Spring and Angie St. Onge • Randy and Phyllis Sprunger • Christine Stanley • Peter and Elaine Steele • Ken and Cindy Stein • Anthony and Sarah Stewart • Donald and Linda Stolte • Sara Straka • David Streeter • Angelina Strosahl • Ellie Strosahl • Judy and Pat Strosahl • Heather Sullivan • Stephanie Sunshine • Jeff and Andraya Johnson • Mark and Nancy Svenningsen • Jeanne Tallman • Tamarack Foundation, Inc. • Regan Taper •



Family Spotlight

The Donaldsons

Dave Donaldson and Michelle Spring moved to Whitefish in 2015. Michelle is a Plastic Surgeon and co-owner of Mountain West Plastic Surgery and Medical Spa in Kalispell. When she is not working, Michelle can often be found with her horses, Jitske and Big Mac, and usually with one or two kids along for a ride. David is a retired U.S. Navy Corpsman with a long history of working with veterans with disabilities. He has had a lifelong love for music creation and consumption, collecting guitars and other "less pedestrian" musical instruments, and providing a space and resources for his kids to explore their own musical, and other interests. David is a lifelong snow skier and surfer.

Finnian, 13, an emerging multi-instrumentalist, has been taking guitar and bass guitar lessons with Tim T. for over two years and has taken drum lessons with Jeremy over the summer. Finn has been playing double bass in the Whitefish Middle School orchestra and bass guitar in the Jazz band for the last three years and was recently selected to join the Flathead Valley Youth Symphony Philharmonia. When he is not playing music, Finn can be found skiing on the "Big", climbing at RockFish, or enjoying the local lakes and rivers.

Violet, 11, is also developing her musical chops taking piano lessons with Grace, cello lessons with Griffon, and playing cello in the Whitefish Middle School Orchestra.



Outside of music, Violet is a Montana State champ gymnast and loves to ride her horse, Big Mac" every chance she gets. At home she can often be heard noodling on a ukulele in her room or the piano or cello in the basement. She loves to ski, climb, ice skate, and swim whenever she has the opportunity.

Sawyer, 8, has been exploring drums with Jeremy and piano with Grace at the music school. The sense of joy and accomplishment after each lesson is obvious. Like his brother and sister, Sawyer enjoys all of the outside and inside activities our community has to offer, skiing, ice skating, rock climbing, and swimming topping his list.



The North Valley Music School, for us, is among a handful of community resources that stand out as being truly important for the wellness of our community and our family. The vibe there, created by the instructors and staff, is positive and energetic...and contagious. Good things are happening at North Valley Music School.





Donor *Spotlight*

The Legacy of Music and Love

The Blake Reese Scholarship Fund

Every year, the North Valley Music School is profoundly moved by the dedication of Nancy and Jesse Thompson, who ensure the power of music remains accessible to local students through the Blake Reese Scholarship Fund. Their annual gift honors the memory of their beloved son, Blake, whose vibrant spirit continues to resonate deeply within our community.

The Thompsons' story is intertwined with this valley. Nancy reflects on what brought them here, sharing simply, "Blake was the reason we came to this beautiful place." This profound connection to the valley and to their son is the root of a fund that now helps young musicians discover their own creative voices.

When asked to summarize Blake's legacy, Nancy shared that the task felt "too emotional to consider writing a passage in his memory." Instead, they rely on the perfect words offered by a dear friend of Blake's after his death:

People affect the world in different ways, leave behind trails of actions and words, sometimes music. That I know better now how to love, how to laugh and how to sing, I owe to Blake Reese. That I am more accepting of differences, more dedicated to the earth and to helping people take care of it, more open to adventure and to taking it easy, I owe to him too. Blake brought music into peoples' lives; to mentor so many musicians, support their original playing and writing, is huge, right? It is an enormous and lasting gift, one he gave generously and without ceremony. The world and the way we see it has been changed for the better because of Blake's presence in our lives. I am forever grateful.

The Blake Reese Scholarship Fund ensures that the beauty and joy Blake brought into the world continues to be felt in our school every day. Each year, these scholarships support many students who rely on music as a form of therapy, finding in their instruments the discipline and emotional outlet that transforms their lives. By supporting a student's musical journey, Nancy and Jesse are transforming personal sorrow into lasting opportunity.

NVMS is forever grateful to the Thompson family for choosing to honor Blake's memory by making music possible for the next generation of Flathead Valley artists. In Nancy's own words, "This is how we can honor Blake's life, through music."





Thank You

donors, sponsors & friends

The Abel Family in Memory of Terry Abell
 Charles and Susan Abell
 Ruth and David Ackroyd
 AGL Foundation DAF at WCF
 Rob and Kim Akey
 Lin and Kathy Akey
 Chris and Sophie Albert
 Teri and Jeff Allen
 Terri and Doc and Terri Smiley
 Lynn and John Andenero
 Angora Ridge Foundation
 Anonymous (4)
 Anonymous (6)
 Shelly Arbuckle
 Armstrong Family
 Jennifer Asebrook and Richard Menicke
 Summerfield and Julie Baldridge
 Matt and Sadie Baldwin
 Baracker Flynn Foundation
 Trieh Bartoskewitz
 Sharlot Battin
 Bayne Family Fund
 Joanie Bechtle
 Amanda Belleville and Brady Lockhart
 Ralph & Peggy Beltrone
 Araceli Beneyto
 Cody and Cynthia Benkelman
 Renee Berner
 Jenny Bevill
 Big Mountain Family Medicine
 Jo Beth and Bob Blair
 Ed Blair and Kelly Ingham
 Cameron Blake and Sandy Gray
 Blake Reese Memorial Fund
 Bloom Family Fund
 Bodman Family
 Michael Boggess and Kellun Turner
 Gretchen Boyer
 Ralph and Stephanie Boyer
 Barb and Scott Brant

Briggs Family
 Nels and Sally Broste
 John Browning
 Larry and Molly Bruce
 Kirk Bryan
 Bur-Bash
 Bill Burg in Memory of Kay Burg
 Paul Burton
 Len and Sharon Bussard
 Alice Cabell and Lee Zimmerman
 Kris and Peggy Caister
 Amie Callaway
 Jamie and Christine Carbo
 Sarah Carlson
 Renaissance Charitable Foundation
 Charlie Russell Riders Foundation
 Kevin Christenson
 Timothy and Glenda Christenson
 Cobb Foundation
 Connie Cohen
 Anne and John Collins
 Paul and Ellie Conrad
 Linda Cornutt
 Deidre and Tim Corson
 Bob and Karol Corson
 Steve and Carolyn Cosby
 AJ Coulter and Mary Huston
 Karl and Kathy Cozad
 Whitefish Credit Union
 John and Patty Crouch
 Lindy Cubberley in Honor of Scott and Abigail Bowden
 Mary Curtis in Memory of Mary Katherine Curtis
 Matt and Kate Daniels
 Scott and Kelly Davidson
 Ross and Cara Davis
 Margaret Davis
 Marvilla and Chip Davis
 Joyce DeFranco
 Kay and Carole Denning
 Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation
 Diane Dickerson
 Diana Donaldson

The Donaldson Family
 Mark and Lynnette Donaldson
 Dale and Diane Duff
 Amy and Greg Eller
 Anita and Shaun Emerson
 Felicia Ennis
 Bart and Carole Erickson
 John Feldt
 First Interstate Foundation
 Ryan Friel
 Frontier Figures
 Frontier Plumbing and Heating
 Kris and Laurie Fuehrer
 G. Stacy and Ashley Smith
 Daniel Gagen and Paul Chartrand
 Casey Garland
 Kenny Gasch
 GE Aerospace Foundation
 The Gibbs Family
 Kelly Gibson
 Geoffrey Gill
 Glacier Bank
 Wanda Good
 David Gordon
 Dick Gordon and Cheryl Watkins
 David and Linda Grady in Memory of Laurel Grady
 Robert Grady
 Jeanine and Ken Green
 Nancy Gresham and Bryant Jollymore
 Joe Guerra in Honor of Julia Lovern
 Greg and Catherine Gunderson
 The Hall Family
 John and Julie Hankinson
 Don and Marianne Hanson
 Tom and Sue Harding
 Kelly Harrington
 Jacque and Willo Harris
 Kester Heaton
 Judy Hebing
 Jim & Patti Helseth
 Herbert Kameon Memorial Fund
 Suzanne and Richard Hildner
 William and Molly Hobgood



Thank You

donors, sponsors & friends

Carmen Hobson
Amanda Holliday
John and Donna Holmstul
Jessica and Tyler Hoppes
Robert Horne and Kathleen McMahon
Bob and Susan Howard
Trevor and Kacy Howard
Hunter Family
David and Linda Hunt
Leslie and Will Hunt
Ike Nizam Foundation
Ila B. Dousman Fund, Inc.
Paul and Ann Jeremiassen
Doug and Linda Johnson
Jill Kahanek
Mike and Melinda Kartsonis
Cindy Klein
Karen Knauss
Betsy and Dan Kohnstamm
Tom and Ruth Kosmalski
Kramer Family Fund
Karen and Kynlee Kreider
Joe and Katy Krezowski
Jesse and Jon Kuntz
Richard and Marti Kurth
Jim Lackey
Patrice La Tourelle
Cecil and Sarah Laughlin
Jen and Chris Lebo
William and Mary Lepper
Kurt and Miriam Lewis
Jay Litton
Joel and Gaye Lockwood
Jim and Steph Lockwood
Julia Iovern
Amy Luis & Judith Mergentholm
Steve Lull
Robert and Renate Lund
Gilbert and Joyce Lynch
Gayle and Scotty MacLaren
Dennis Malinak and Anne Murphy

Joseph G. Maney in Honor of Evyn and
Embrie Anderson
Marinova and Bruckerhoff Family
Eric and Kimberly Marland
Kristin Marrott
Wayne and Lois Marshall
Martel Construction
Chuck Martin
Tim and Gretchen Mason
Janet Mayo
JoAnne McArthur
Charles McCarty and Anne Lent
Jeanie McClain
Abe and Shelley McCoy
Tracy McDowell
McGarvey Law
John and Rosemary McKinnon
Yovita and Dan Meigs
Lynne Metcalfe and David Martin
Rachel Miles
Jean and Ron Miller
Laurie and Martin Miller in Honor of Betsy
Kohnstamm
Laurie and Martin Miller in Memory of
Betty Lou Wambeke
Necile Miller in Honor of Dorlene
Hammon
Marie Mitchell
Montana Arts Council
Montana Fence
Bill Montgomery
Don and Terri Montgomery
Ernie Moore and Maureen Cleary
Patrick and Connie Moore
Devonna Morgan
Katie Morgan
Tonya Morse
Kelly and Jamie Murphy
Anne Murphy
Tim and Joyce Murphy
Heather Murray and Lucy Downey
Natalie Neckerman
Ruth and Sam Neff

Gloria and Leif Nelson
Terry and Lynda Nelson
Allison Browning O'Briant
Cynthia and Gregory Olson
Marcia Ostman
Valli and Richard Ostrem
Our Savior's Lutheran
Laurel Parratt
The Parsons Family
Daria and Juan Perez
Maria Claudia Perez
Kellsey and Carl Perkins
Deb Pero
Nancy and Christian Persons
Bob and Peggy Pfluger
John and Melisa Phelps
Ross and Coleen Pickert
Lauren Pipkorn
Doug and Carolyn Pitman
Dow and Becky Powell
Rick Prestbye
Quinn Family Fund
Jean Rabe
Pam Reed
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Michael and Carlene Righetti
Emily Rindal
Scott and Janet Ringer
Lynn Rochard and Hal Trost
Don and Susie Rodie
Rose Montgomery Johnston Foundation
Christine and Mike Rossi
Char Rygg
Wayne Sand
Julie and Scott Sanderude
Sarah Campbell Giving Account
Jeremy and Elle Sauer
Richard Schaus
Eric Schmidt and Deven Robinson
Mark Schmidt
Ann Schroeder
The Schwartz Levy Family
Randy Schwickert and Donna Taylor



Thank You

donors, sponsors & friends

Toby Scott
 Kimberly Sellers in Honor of Steve Lull
 Wendy and Ryan Seguire
 Arri Sendzimir
 Jamie and Janna Shennan
 Heidi and Andy Shors
 Dennis and Jan Smith
 Lucy Smith
 Will and Bonnie Smith
 The Smith Family
 Jane and Dick Solberg
 Soroptimists of Whitefish
 Carly St. Ogne
 Jim and Lisa Stack
 Christine Stanley in honor of Kay Burg
 Ann Steck
 Anthony and Sarah Stewart
 Donald and Linda Stolte
 David Streeter
 Judy Strosahl and Pat Stroshal in
 Honor of Steve Lull and Meg Wolfe
 Jim Stroud

Colleen Sullivan
 Stephanie Sunshine
 Wasabi Sushi Bar and Grill
 Mark and Nancy Svennungsen
 Rock and Joanie Svennungsen
 Robert and Karen Sweetapple
 Jeanne Tallman and Don DuBeau
 Tamarack Foundation Inc
 Karen and Stuart Tanz
 Team Flako Charitable Fund
 Reinanda Tenham
 Nancy and Jesse Thompson
 Brogan Thomsen
 Three Byrd's Properties LLC
 Nancy Tigie
 Edie Tinkler
 Top Copy
 Zanterra Travel Collection
 Treacy Foundation
 Jeannine and David Trousdale
 Kyle and Jessica Tubbs
 Uptown Hearth
 Valazza Family

Galina Vinnichuk
 Susan Waldron
 The Ward Family
 Wasabi
 Dinah and Marty Weimer
 Jill Weiser
 Mary Jane Westermark
 The Wetzler Family
 Weyerhaeuser
 Whisler Family Fund
 Karen Whitby
 Whitefish Arts Council
 Whitefish Tax and Consulting
 Laura Whittemore
 Ingrid Wick and Sylvi Yuncck
 Katie Williams
 Rick and Sue Williams
 Williams Family Foundation
 Austin (A4) Willis
 Trisha Wolf
 Kathy Wram
 ZaneRay Group
 Brenda Zuschin

Gifts and Pledges received September 1, 2024 through October 1, 2025.

This list includes donors participating in all fundraising efforts: annual appeals, the 2025 Great Fish Community Challenge, Be Instrumental, in-kind, corporate partners, and other special programs. Disclaimer: NVMS strives to accurately recognize and thank all its generous donors. If you discover an error, please accept our apologies and kindly call 406-862-8074 or email us at info@northvalleymusicschool.org.

LISTEN. LEARN. INSPIRE. SUPPORT.

**Music is more than just a skill; it's a source of confidence, therapy, and belonging.
 Your donation directly funds three critical pillars of our mission:**

SCHOLARSHIPS

Help us keep our commitment to never turn away a student due to financial hardship.

GLEE CLUB & ACOUSTIC JAMS

Fostering musical community for all ages and abilities.

ARTISTS-IN-SCHOOLS

Bringing professional musicians and workshops directly into local classrooms, expanding our reach.

Scan to Donate



Make checks payable to: NVMS PO BOX 4446 Whitefish, MT 59937



Board of Directors, Faculty, Advisors, Staff

Board of Directors	Faculty	Advisors	Staff
Christine Rossi	Tina Bertram	Ruth Ackroyd	Deidre Corson—Executive Director
Joel Lockwood	Griffin Browne	Lin Akey	Andraya Johnson—Office Manager
Audra Tasa	Caroline Cooke	Ross Anderson	Jessica Shaw—Director of Opportunity
Mary Jane Westermarck	Diane Dickerson	Donald Bestwick	
Summer Boggess	Zac Fawcett	Cameron Blake	
Brian Hertz	Jolene Green	John Browning	
Yovita Meigs	Jenn Hawken	Jaime Carbo	
Ross Pickert	Amy Haymond	Jake Carter	
Rick Prestbye	Christian Johnson	Paul Conrad	
Eric Schmidt	Dan Kohnstamm	Karl Cozad	
Toby Scott	Bob Manni	Matt Daniels	
Sam Welch	Kate McMahon	Mike Eldred	
Katie Williams	Mary Millington	David Hunt	
	Mary Notess	Jim Kenyon	
	Karen Pogorzelski	Betsy Kohnstamm	
	Jeremy Reinbolt	John Kramer	
	Catherine Robinson	Steven Lull	
	Matt Seymour	John Muhlfeld	
	Beth Thomas	Terry Nelson	
	Tim Torgerson	Carolyn Pittman	
	Rachel Wambeke	Scott Ringer	
		Toby Scott	
		Jenanne Solberg	
		Karen Sweetapple	
		Doug Wise	

www.northvalleymusicschool.org

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH MUSIC