

Dear Friends,

We hope this finds you and your loved ones well and looking forward as eagerly as we are to the time we can all be together again.

This annual update looks a bit different from those of the past 18 years, as this year has been very different for all of us. As you probably know, due to the pandemic we have not been able to perform in concert since March, 2020. Our hope had been that we might be able to return to performing in October, 2020, but as the situation evolved and public health guidelines were developed, we knew that we would need to postpone our entire 2020-2021 season.

We miss singing for you more than we can express. The very good news is that Take Note! is still alive and well. Frustrated, but still fully committed, we have found ways to move forward. From last spring through early November, we rehearsed outdoors, safely distanced and masked, while also learning and practicing music on our own at home. During the colder months, we held Zoom rehearsals as we continued to strive to keep our voices in shape and to work on our repertoire. We were so eager to sing together in person again that we even held two outdoor rehearsals on warmer days earlier this March! Our plan is to return to regular outdoor rehearsals as soon as the weather is a bit more predictably warm—probably by the time you read this letter. And we will continue to monitor public health guidelines and will perform for you just as soon as we can safely gather again. In the interim, we have made available some videos set to pieces we've performed, and you can find them on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyGh8pgzTI9eY0ZAGnBvpw>. You can also access our channel by scanning the QR code on the reverse page.

2020 was a transition year for three of our longtime members, who made the difficult decision to retire from Take Note! We sorely miss Ross Koning, Glenn Miller and Nate Kitchen, but wish them all the best in their new endeavors and thank them for sharing their wonderful voices and generous spirits with us for so many years. Our hats are off to our newest members, who have shown their determination and commitment to Take Note! despite the very trying circumstances this year. While it has been difficult for all of us, these folks have had the added challenge of learning all new music in less than optimal circumstances. We are very grateful to Barbara Comstock-King, Laura Dzurec, Berkeley Nowosad and Don Wilson for sticking with us. If you think that you or someone you know would be a good fit for Take Note!, we currently have openings for tenors and basses. To arrange an audition, please contact Linda Tracy, Artistic Director, at director@take-note.org.

While we can't currently perform to help our community in our customary way, we have found other ways to reach out to our neighbors in the meantime. Recognizing the profound need locally, we donated \$2000 to the WAIM Neighbor Safety Net Fund in June, and in December \$500 to the Windham Region No Freeze Project, \$500 to the Covenant Soup Kitchen and \$500 to the Community Suppers Ministries of the First Baptist Church in Willimantic.

As a part of our continuing commitment to arts education, the Take Note! Antonia Brancia Memorial Scholarship, which was initially awarded last year, is again being offered this year. This year's applicants are currently being reviewed. The \$1000 scholarship, in memory of Take Note! charter member, Toni Brancia, is awarded to a qualifying eastern Connecticut high school senior or university undergraduate who will be/is majoring in the field of music at the university level.

As always, we sincerely thank you for your continued interest in and support of Take Note! Our 18-year success is only possible because of the wonderful synergy between our performers and you, our audience members, and your belief in our mission. We are eagerly awaiting the day when we can all experience this again!

The Members of Take Note!

Linda Tracy, Maggie Breen, Cheryl Chase, Barbara Comstock-King, Julia DeLapp, Arthur Dimock, Christine Dimock, Laura Dzurec, Kes Federowicz, Kiev Federowicz, Bill Glenister, Deb Hubbell, Drew Jaffe, Fran Jaffe, Bruce Lyman, Berkeley Nowosad, Deb Russel, Laurel Thurman, Linda Wenner, Don Wilson

Many Thanks to Our 2020-2021 Season Donors!

We are extremely grateful for our community's continued commitment to our organization. As we share our love of choral music, your support of our endeavors helps us make a difference in the lives of our neighbors. It takes many different notes to make wonderful music, and we are humbled that you choose to help us with whatever level of support you are able. Donations are acknowledged in concert programs and on our web site.

♩ Fermata

Bill Bailey and Karin Lawrence
Arthur and Christine Dimock
Leilani Nixon and Bruce Staehle
Sjef, Pieter, Max and Kaitlyn Bishop
van den Berg
remembering Toni Brancia

♩ Whole Note

Kevin and Sonia Greene
Fran and Drew Jaffe
Alexandra and Bruce Lyman
Margarethe and Matthew Mashikian
Donna and Joe McLaughlin
Deb and Jim Russel
Judy Stein and Ken Dardick

♩ Half Note

Pamela and Alan Abel
Rob Beach
Michael and Margaret Breen
The Funk Family
Ann Gruenberg
Lois K. Happe
Jacqueline Harjula
in memory of Michael J. Dion
Ann and Peter Jones
Nate and Pat Kitchen
Scott and Becky Lehmann
Sue and Lonni Leroux
Carolyn Lester
Michael McCarthy
Tony and Jeanne Morascini
Sally and Gordon Muir
Sondra Astor Stave
The Thurman-Chase Family
Nancy Wall and Dave Loving
Linda Wenner and Debbie Hubbell
Marlene Wenner
in memory of Donald Wenner
Drs. Ted Yungclas
and David Woods

♩ Quarter Note

Don and Sandy Baxter
Jen Beck and Steve Ferruci
Bob and Jan Bittner
Marian Brazziel
Nancy and Tom Coogan
Karen Drazen and Jim Baber
Rose and Kevin Farrell
Carol Fineout
First Congregational Church of Willimantic
Wayne and Loretta Haeger
Sue E. Harkness
Peter and MaryAnn Harting
Ann Higginbotham and Emil Pocock
David and Carol Jordan
J.H. and Dana Kessler
Alexandra Malone
Alan and Katherine Miller
Lynn Moebus
Marj Mollar
Shirley and Tony Mongillo
The Pauley-DeLapp Family
Antoinette Rondeau
Sandra K. Roth
Catherine Rowe and Ed DiGiovanni
Louise Russell
Peter and Susan Salesses
Mary Jo Tryba and Joseph W. Piela

♩ Eighth Note

Fran and Gene Bowen
Mrs. Joan Buck
Lorraine G. Foster
Sharon Foster-Chalecki
Barbara Gibson
Jeanie Houghton
Mr. and Mrs. G. Moebus
Cliff and Sue Moon
Charlotte Pyle
Tirza Roda
Jeremy Schwartz and Merle Potchinsky
Roberta A. Sliva
Kristina and Richard Staron

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Linda Tracy

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Fran Jaffe



Scan this to enjoy our
videos on our YouTube
channel!

Through performances in support of charitable endeavors,
we are raising voices, raising spirits, raising hope.