

Take Note!, Inc.

2019-2020 update

Dear friends,

We hope that this finds you and your loved ones safe and well. In these extraordinary times, we are learning just how much we depend upon one another and value our shared experiences. The words of Frank Ticheli, composer of one of our favorite pieces, *Earth Song*, resonate: "But music and singing have been my refuge, and music and singing shall be my light. A light of song, shining strong: Alleluia. Through darkness and pain and strife, I'll sing, I'll be, I'll live, (I'll) see... Peace." Your continued support of Take Note! lets us know that you, too, value our interconnectedness and our commitment to reaching out to support others in our community. We would be unable to fulfill our mission without you and treasure the bond that we have with you. You elevate us; you inspire us; you validate us.

This season, we shared our music with new audience members, as well as many who have followed us throughout our journey: we performed a concert in Vernon, to support expansion of the Arts Center East ceramics program; in Woodstock, to benefit TEEG (Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group) Case Management Program; in Windham Center, to benefit the Windham Region No Freeze Project; and in Mansfield Center, to support the First Church of Christ's Green Energy Initiative. We were also scheduled to perform in May, in Windham Center, to support book purchases and programs for the Windham Free Library. That concert has been rescheduled to Sunday, November 15.

As we approach our 18th concert season, we are humbled to reflect on the many organizations we have been able to help, simply through our love of singing, and we thank you for the faith you have placed in us. When we are once again able to gather, we know that many other local nonprofits will be looking for fundraising assistance, and we pledge to be there for them. You, too, can help us by passing on our name to other nonprofit organizations with whom you are acquainted that might similarly benefit from hosting a Take Note! fundraising event. As of this writing, we still have a few open dates remaining for our 2020-2021 season.

We had hoped to be able to present our annual Donor Appreciation Concert in June, as is our custom. Given our current concerns for the health and safety of all, we have rescheduled this concert as well. It will now be held on Sunday, October 4, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., at the The First Church of Christ in Mansfield, 549 Storrs, Road in Mansfield Center (at the intersection of Route 195 and Route 89). As usual, we plan to debut several new pieces that we are excited to share with you, and at the reception following the concert, we look forward to thanking you in person for your support throughout the past seventeen years.

In the challenging times that we are all experiencing, we urge everyone to be extra cautious and patient. When we see you again in October, we look forward to kicking off our 2020-2021 concert season and having the opportunity to share the joy of music with you once again. Until then, please be safe and stay well. You are in our thoughts.

Thank you again for your faith in us and our mission. It means more to us now than ever!

The Members of Take Note!

Linda Tracy, Maggie Breen, Cheryl Chase, Barbara Comstock-King, Julia DeLapp, Arthur Dimock, Christine Dimock, Kes Federowicz, Kiev Federowicz, Bill Glenister, Deb Hubbell, Drew Jaffe, Fran Jaffe, Sierra Jesanis, Nate Kitchen, Ross Koning, Bruce Lyman, Glenn Miller, Berkeley Nowosad, Deb Russel, Laurel Thurman, Linda Wenner

Take Note!, Inc.
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www.take-note.org

Board of Directors

Drew Jaffe, Chair
Ross Koning, Vice-Chair
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Christine Dimock
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Nate Kitchen
Laurel Thurman

Artistic Director

Linda Tracy

Manager

Fran Jaffe

Announcing the Take Note! Antonia Brancia Memorial Scholarship

Take Note! is pleased to announce the Take Note! Antonia Brancia Memorial Scholarship. Toni Brancia was a charter member of Take Note! A warm, caring person, Toni was an internationally renowned pediatric audiologist whose life was tragically cut short in 2007. Music played a vital role in Toni's life, and she especially loved making music with her Take Note! family. The members of Take Note! have established this scholarship in her memory.

The \$1000 scholarship will be used to provide financial assistance to a qualifying high school senior or university undergraduate who will be/is majoring in the field of music at the university level.



The scholarship will be awarded to a student who permanently resides in one of the following eastern

Connecticut towns: Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Mansfield, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Stafford, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Willington, Willimantic/Windham or Woodstock.

The application deadline for the current year has passed, but we plan to offer the scholarship again next year. The Take Note! Antonia Brancia Memorial Scholarship is administered by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. Please consult their web site at <https://www.cfct.org/Scholarships>

for complete application information.

We Believe in Paying it Forward – One Note at a Time!

Take Note! has been performing benefit concerts since 2003, and in that time we have helped raise over \$250,000 to help others in our communities. The good works of the following groups or individuals have benefited from our performances:

- Access Community Action Agency RISE YouthBuild
- American Cancer Society Windham Region Relay for Life
- Arts at the Capitol Theater ACT Fund Scholarship
- Arts Center East ceramics program expansion
- Baroco Corp. (Adult Day Options Program)
- Books to Dreams, Inc.
- Books for Babies
- Artist and Teacher Pat Browne
- Colchester Hadassah - Center for Emergency Medicine, Israel
- Columbia Congregational Church Sanctuary Renovations
- Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut
- The Connecticut Audubon Society Educational Endowment Fund
- The Cornerstone Foundation
- Covenant Soup Kitchen
- Creative Living Community of Connecticut
- Daily Bread Food Pantry, Putnam
- Delta Kappa Gamma Society's Higher Educ. Scholarship Fund
- Eastern Connecticut Green Action
- Eastern Connecticut Railroad Museum
- Emergency USA Fund/Katrina Relief
- Episcopal Church of the Reconciliation, Outreach
- The First Baptist Church of Mansfield, Raise the Roof Fund
- The First Church of Christ in Mansfield, Organ Repair, Outreach, Ancestors' Fund and Green Energy Initiative
- Friends of the Prudence Crandall Museum
- Guilford Smith Memorial Library
- Habitat for Humanity, Windham Area
- Heifer International
- Holy Family Home and Shelter
- Hospice of Eastern Connecticut and VNA East
- Governor Samuel Huntington Trust
- Immaculata Retreat House
- InterCommunity Mental Health Group - Common Ground
- Joshua's Trust Gurleyville Grist Mill Restoration
- Lebanon Historical Society
- Liberian Children's Mission
- Mansfield Advocates for Children/Mansfield Community Playground
- Mansfield Senior Center Association
- Mercy Center at Madison, Mercy for All Fund
- Natchaug Hospital
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Windham County
- Norwich Freedom Bell Tower and Memorial Courtyard
- V. & C. Prewitt Scholarship for Peace Studies (ECSU)
- Quiet Corner Self Help for the Hard of Hearing (SHHH)
- Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement (QCRR)
- St. Mark's Episcopal Chapel Music Ministry
- St. Mary's Church, Coventry, Haitian Ministry
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Willimantic, Outreach
- St. Peter's Church, Hebron, Outreach
- St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Storrs, Capital Campaign
- Second Congregational Church of Stafford at West Stafford Ministries
- Storrs Congregational Church, Accessibility Fund
- Students First Fund, UConn Student Health Services
- South Windham Congregational Church Organ Fund
- Temple Bnai Israel
- Tents of Hope for Darfur, Sudan
- TEEG Case Management Program
- United Brethren of Hebron Synagogue, Building Fund
- United Congregational Church of Tolland, Music on the Green Concert Series
- United Services, Inc. Domestic Violence Program
- Westfield Congregational Church, Aspire Campaign
- Windham Area Interfaith Ministry Fuel Bank/Other Outreach
- Windham Free Library
- Windham Hospital Emergency Service & Outpatient Center
- Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center
- Windham Theatre Guild

We Support Arts Organizations Locally

Every year, Take Note! lends support to local youth arts organizations as part of our commitment to the next generation of artists. We are proud to be able to help provide financial assistance to those who might not otherwise be able to participate in creative enrichment programs. Beneficiaries to date include:

- **SPARK**
(Saving Performing Arts Reaching Kids)
- **Community School of the Arts (CSA)**
- **Jorgensen's Outreach for Youth (JOY!)**
- **The Ossen Fund for the Arts**
- **Journey House/Natchaug Hospital**
- **Ann Burns Fund of Delta Kappa Gamma, Theta Chapter**
- **Windham Regional Arts Council**
- **Willimantic Orchestra**
- **Performing Arts of Northeast Connecticut**

Would YOU Like to be Part of Take Note!?

Do you love choral singing? Do you think that you or someone you know would be a good fit for Take Note!? We currently have or anticipate openings for one singer in each of the following voice parts: Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Bass 1.

Potential singers must

- have prior choral experience,
- basic sight singing skills,
- be able to sing independently and in tune,
- and be able to learn music on their own outside of our weekly rehearsals, which are in Mansfield Center on Monday evenings.



*Linda Tracy,
Artistic Director*

We'd like to hear from you!
To arrange an audition, contact
Linda Tracy, Artistic Director at takenote@snet.net.

A Fond Farewell to Ross Koning!

Charter member, Ross Koning, will be leaving Take Note! in May, when he retires from his faculty position at ECSU and moves with his wife, Chris, to a lakefront home in their native Michigan. Both will be sorely missed--Ross, for his ready smile, his beautiful baritone voice, his whistle (!) and his willingness to serve our organization selflessly, and Chris, for her distinction as our most faithful fan and ardent supporter. We wish them a long and happy retirement.

We asked Ross what being a member of Take Note! has meant to him:

"I have been a part of Take Note! from before the group had that name. As many know, Linda Tracy formed our group among those of us who had sung with her for many years. We were chosen to give just one concert, but the rest of that story is just as many of you know it. We chose a name, we developed a mission which is providing concerts for free to charitable organizations at which the donations received from the audience would contribute 100% to their fundraising needs. It has been thrilling to have been part of this purpose from the onset and for all of these years. All of us in Take Note! love and appreciate our mission to the northeastern corner of Connecticut and even beyond. You will read more of that elsewhere in this newsletter I'm sure. I have gained a sense of being a contributing member to a much larger regional endeavor!



I have very much valued the esprit de corps that comes in singing with fellow musicians over many years. Acquaintances have become friends, of course, and there is much meaning in singing among friends. There is a camaraderie that turns into strong bonds of trust and fellowship that are hard to find anywhere else. In singing our multipart harmonies, each of at least 8 parts being sung together, we each contribute to one musical whole, our voices blending into sound with lyrics that express the feelings of a composer that ultimately resonate with our audience. All of this is more of what makes my experience with Take Note! particularly valuable to me.

Take Note! audiences are just the best! I'm so grateful to everyone who attends and communicates their appreciation of our music too. Sometimes people speak to us in the reception after the concert. Some communicate with their eyes or body movements as we are performing. You may not realize how important a responsive audience is to the quality of music we can achieve together! Thank you, everyone who has been a member of our audiences, for that!

I take with me off to retirement, a deeper love and a more exuberant joy of singing. And this includes a firmer belief in the nobler parts of humanity that are found in the generosity of spirit that Take Note! singers and audiences share in our mission to our region. I will "Sing my way home" to Michigan where my wife, Chris, and I will be back among family we have missed for these 40 years on the East Coast. We shall remember our life and times in Connecticut with fond memories of outstanding times with all of you!"

Many Thanks to Our 2019-2020 Season Donors!

As we share our love of choral music, your support of our endeavors can help make a difference in the lives of your neighbors. It takes many different notes to make wonderful music, and we hope that you will choose to help us make music with whatever level of support you are able. Donations are acknowledged in our concert programs and on our web site.

♩ Fermata

Bill Bailey

in memory of Elizabeth Casey

Arthur and Christine Dimock

Sjef, Pieter, Max and Kaitlyn Bishop

van den Berg

remembering Toni Brancia

♩ Whole Note

Kevin and Sonia Greene

Fran and Drew Jaffe

Julie and Carl W. Lindquist, MD

Bruce and Alexandra Lyman

Donna and Joe McLaughlin

Leilani Nixon and Bruce Staehle

Deb and Jim Russel

Judy Stein and Ken Dardick

♩ Half Note

Pamela and Alan Abel

Rob Beach

Jean and Wes Bell

Michael and Margaret Breen

Cheryl Chase and Laurel Thurman

Cass Crewdson LMT

Andrew Day and DeAva Lambert

Rose and Kevin Farrell

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Funk III

Ann Gruenberg

David Haines

Lois K. Happe

Jacqueline Harjula

in memory of Michael J. Dion

Patricia C. Hempel

Peter and Ann Jones

Landon's Tire

Scott and Becky Lehmann

Sue and Lonni Leroux

Lisa Marella and Nelson Walker II

M. and M. Mashikian

Michael McCarthy

Dorothy Michaelis

David and Susan Morrison

Sally and Gordon Muir

Alice O'Donovan

Ken and Jane Peacock

Tom and Sharen Peters

Kathleen Ryan and Bill Zenko

Susan and Paul Schur

Sondra Astor Stave

Mary Jo Tryba and Joe Piela

Wadsworth Kamm Architects

Marlene Wenner

in memory of Donald Wenner

Drs. Ted Yungclas

and David Woods

♩ Quarter Note

Lynne and George Allen

Judy and Peter Andersen

Don and Sandy Baxter

Marion C. Beausoleil

Jen Beck and Steve Ferruci

Bob and Jan Bittner

Dr. Mark Czarnowski, DMD

Mansfield CT Dental

Karen Drazen and Jim Baber

Carol Fineout

Bobbi and Charlie Giardina

Bill Glenister

Wayne and Loretta Haeger

Sue E. Harkness

Peter and MaryAnn Harting

Jim and Carol Hetrick

Ann Higginbotham

and Emil Pocock

David and Carol Jordan

Dana and Jay Kessler

Nate and Pat Kitchen

Linda Larson

Carolyn Lester

Alexandra Malone

Alan and Katherine Miller

Lynn Moebus

Marj Mollar

Shirley and Tony Mongillo

Tony and Jeanne Morascini

Sue and Bill Morgan

New England Center

for Hearing Rehabilitation

Pauley-DeLapp Family

Lynne and Leslie Pitman

Bill and Ellen Rewinski

Antoinette Rondeau

Sandra K. Roth

Catherine Rowe

and Ed DiGiovanni

Louise Russell

Jeremy Schwartz

and Merle Potchinsky

Linda Wenner and Deb Hubbell

♩ Eighth Note

Sheila Amdur and Marcy Neff

William L. Briggs

Mrs. Joan Buck

Anne-Marie Campbell

Lorraine Foster

Sharon Foster-Chalecki

Barbara Gibson

Jeanie Houghton

Loris Masterton

Ron and Adelle Milavsky

Virginia Mix-Siege

Mr. and Mrs. G. Moebus

Cliff and Sue Moon

Marjorie and Richard Ranger

Roberta A. Sliva

Special thanks to Modern Woodcrafts for their generosity. Thanks also to our family and friends who support us in so many intangible ways. We couldn't do this without you!

Take Note! a cappella ensemble

CONCERT

Sunday, October 4, 2020
3:00 p.m.

First Church of Christ in Mansfield
549 Storrs Road, Mansfield Center, CT
(Intersection of Rt. 195 and Rt. 89)

Donations to Take Note! outreach gratefully accepted at the door

www.take-note.org

**We look forward to seeing you again
in the Fall!**

Visit our web site: www.take-note.org

Thank you for choosing to support *Take Note!* for our 2020-2021 Concert Season. In doing so, you support our mission to help local nonprofit organizations raise needed funds. All donations received will be acknowledged in our concert program.

We sincerely appreciate your support!

Name _____
(as it should appear in our program)

Address _____
Street

City State Zip

Email _____

Amount of donation _____ *(checks payable to **Take Note!**)*

Take Note!, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization.

Take Note! Scale of Support

- ∩ Fermata \$500+
- Whole note \$250-\$499
- ♪ Half note \$100-\$249
- ♪ Quarter note \$50-\$99
- ♪ Eighth note \$10-\$49

Please return to:

Take Note!

c/o P. O. Box 144

Mansfield Center, CT 06250