FROM THE DIRECTOR

Music is a powerful gift. For 17 years, Rosie’s House has proven that music education has the power to change the life of a child. Recently, the mother of one of our students told us about the changes she has seen in her son.

“His father recently went to prison, and in his absence my son began to struggle in all aspects of his life. Music has proven to be therapeutic and I can truly see the positive impact it has had on my son. With every chord, song, and melody he learns, his self-confidence grows.”

Thank you for believing in the uplifting power of music and supporting access to music education for the students we serve!

I invite you to see our inspiring students in action and learn more about our afterschool program by attending our upcoming Great Performers’ Concert on May 4th. The concert features the winners of the campus-wide Great Performers’ Competition. Advanced students compete on piano, brass, woodwinds, voice and strings with outside adjudicators selecting the winners. This hour-long concert includes a reception, raffle and heartfelt student stories – we hope you will join us.

Celebrating the end of the year, we’re presenting our first-ever May Fiesta on May 18th for students, families, volunteers and friends. Featuring performances by the Rosie’s House Mariachi Ensembles and merit awards for students, this is an event you don’t want to miss!

I invite you to visit rosieshouse.org to sign up for our email newsletter to hear our latest news and receive exclusive invitations. Thank you for your continued support of our students, and we hope to see you at one of our upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Becky Bell
EXECUTIVE & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Mariachi Kick-Off
Rosie’s House launched our new Mariachi Training Program with an uplifting community kick-off at Arizona Latino Arts & Cultural Center in November 2012. During the evening, guests were treated to appetizers provided by Barrio Café and enjoyed performances by Rosie’s House students and the ASU Mariachi Ensemble. During the evening’s presentations, Councilman Daniel Valenzuela spoke about the importance of music education and keeping students involved in positive afterschool activities. Dr. Kimberly Marshall and ASU Faculty Associate Jeff Nevin discussed the value of the training program and the curriculum development. Rosie’s House parent Raquel Enrique expressed her excitement about the program and how it ties to her family’s heritage.

“Finding out that I was able to be part of the All State Band was so rewarding. It proved that hard work pays off! Without Rosie’s House, I wouldn’t have been able to achieve this goal.”

~ Maribel

“Maribel is an absolute joy to work with. I look forward to her lesson every week. She works incredibly hard.”

~ Judy Conrad, flute instructor

Trio Gala
Rosie’s House was delighted to perform at the first-ever Trio Gala in February 2013. This special gala benefitted three organizations that Rosie’s House has partnered with over the years: Arizona Opera, Ballet AZ and The Phoenix Symphony. Performing at Symphony Hall, our saxophone quartet wowed the audience with arrangements of J.S. Bach, Grieg and contemporary selections.

17 Years of Music
This year, Rosie’s House celebrated 17 years of changing lives through music at a salon concert at the beautiful home of arts patron Hazel Hare. This intimate concert featured performances by seven of our students including solo voice, piano, violin, and saxophone, as well as a stirring impromptu finale featuring vocalist Adeyinka Shonaike singing Sam Cooke’s A Change is Gonna Come. The audience enjoyed hearing about each student’s musical progress, their goals and were amused to picture two of our 17-year-old performers as infants when Rosie’s House was founded!
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From the top snapshot:

Rachel, a 17-year-old violin student at Rosie’s House, is backstage at the Mesa Arts Center expressing her love of Brahms. She can’t wait to hear Ade Williams, a 15-year-old violinist from Chicago, perform the Brahms Sonata No. 3. Rachel, along with twelve other students, are meeting the cast for the 269th taping of From the Top. During this exclusive pre-concert event, fun conversation, questions and practice techniques are shared. Just before curtain call, Rosie’s House students emerge from backstage and slip into their seats to watch the taping.

Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) Holiday World Tour

SNAPSHOT: Lucky #13! 13 young pianists perform on the El Rio Steinway as part of MIM’s Holiday World Tour. Following the performances, 13 lucky families join in MIM’s Taylor Swift Birthday Celebration. Students view musical exhibits, play instruments, and create holiday journals to inspire their creativity and songwriting.

Rosie’s House students were delighted to present a holiday-themed performance for Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) attendees in December 2012. For many students, this was their first time performing on a Steinway piano and their first time at MIM. Located in north Phoenix, MIM exhibits instruments from every country in the world. MIM shares in the belief that music education is a catalyst for positive changes in the life of a child.

From the Top

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Rosie’s House students were selected to meet the cast of the Mesa Arts Center taping of From the Top and received free tickets to the event. Reaching more than one million people each year through national broadcasts, live concerts and outreach events across the country, From the Top celebrates the power of music in the hands of extraordinary young people.

Rosie’s House launched our Mariachi Training Program during the 2012-13 school year. Forty-five students, ages 10-18, are participating in our Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced Ensembles. Supported in part by a grant from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, the program is a collaboration with the ASU Herberger School of Music. Students are learning traditional mariachi songs, and performing on specialized instruments such as the vihuela and guitarrón.

Ga Ga for Guitarrón

SNAPSHOT: 14-year-old Mikayla is a “natural.” She gravitates to the guitarrón, picking up the instrument for the first time as a member of the new Mariachi Ensemble. Her natural sense of rhythm, finger dexterity and tenacity helps her overcome the daunting task of learning the new instrument, reading the bass cleff and performing the critical bass line. Mikayla has the determination to be a master guitarrón player and every week her dad helps her carry the oversized instrument to class!

Ga Ga for Guitarrón

Image: Mikayla with guitarrón

Mikayla with guitarrón

Students with cast of From the Top

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MAY 2012 - 100% of our graduating seniors are attending college or have enlisted in the military.

SEPTEMBER 2012 - Rosie’s House partners with Phoenix Collegiate Academy, a charter school in South Mountain Village, to provide string instruction to 5th through 8th grade students.

DECEMBER 2012 - Rosie’s House is one of two youth-based organizations in Arizona to receive a prestigious grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The grant supports our afterschool program.

JANUARY 2013 - Rosie’s House launches its new Mariachi Training Program with 3 ensembles, forty-five students and four specialized instructors.

JANUARY 2013 - Rosie’s House is again nominated for the National Arts & Humanities Youth Program Award, the nation’s highest honor for out-of-school arts programs.

FEBRUARY 2013 - Rosie’s House hosts its second annual College Readiness Workshop which includes information about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and tips for parents about the financial aid process for college.

APRIL 2013 - Rosie’s House holds its first-ever First Friday Open House in conjunction with the Phoenix First Friday Art Walk. Over 150 interested families and volunteers attend the Open House. Guests enjoy campus tours and student performances.

NOTEWORTHY

NUMBERS OF NOTE: 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

- 368 Students enrolled at Rosie’s House
- 54% Of our student body is Hispanic
- 23% Of our student body is blended heritage
- 10% Of our student body is African-American
- 9% Of our student body is Caucasian
- 62% Of Rosie’s House families have an annual household income below $30,000
- 100% Of Rosie’s House families are classified as low to moderate income
- 3 Staff members
- 21 Music faculty members
- $360,000 Rosie’s House annual budget

2013 WISH LIST

- Funds to support new students for Fall 2013
- Funds to support Mariachi trajes (uniforms) and music
- Funds to support Chamber Ensembles for Spring 2014
- Funds to create a music theory technology classroom
- Gift Cards to Staples, Costco and Walmart

FOOTNOTE: Rosie’s House: A Music Academy for Children is a 501(c)3 qualified charitable organization. Visit rosieshouse.org for information about donations.

PHOTO CREDITS: Cover - Students playing violins by Jen Rogers; Page 2 - Top image of Maribel performing by SMF Photography; Page 2 - Mariachi Kick-Off image by Mark Susan Photography; Page 2 - Trio Gala saxophone-quartet image by Scott Foust / Image Industry Photography.