



Redding Piano Angels

Notable News

March 2013

PIANO UPDATE

Since 2010, we have assisted 32 families in the acquisition of an acoustic piano! Value \$29,762



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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

RPA's First Piano Competition

Winning Student Will Take Home a 48" Yamaha Upright!

To All Redding Area Piano Teachers and Music Educators:

As an active piano teacher for 38 years, I know how thrilling it is to witness the evolution of students from blank slates to accomplished musicians. Certainly this does not occur overnight, and cannot occur at all unless several factors are in play: the parent(s) must have the means and will to keep bringing students to lessons and nudge them through regular practice, particularly when students are in periods of doldrums and want to quit.

The desire to achieve more must be met with an instrument that can express the student's growing mastery of sound production. Students trying to "play the piano" on a keyboard, out of tune instrument or sub-standard instrument are going to become frustrated. It is part of our job as educators to be aware of the home piano situation and counsel parents if a situation exists.

Over the years I've helped many families find great pianos to replace outgrown instruments. My passion, and Frank Strazzarino's similar passion, led to the Piano Angel concept.

To date, Piano Angels has helped 32 students move up to instruments which support their development, and we have managed to secure a beautiful 48" Yamaha upright that will be the prize of our first piano competition on April 27 at The Music Connection in Redding, (3086 Bechelli Lane) at 6:00 pm.

Letters announcing this event have gone out to as many piano teachers and music educators we could identify. We are hoping for at least 25 applicants. The competition will be judged by three north state professional music educators, not having students of their own in the competition. Several factors will be weighed:

- Financial need
Teacher's recommendation that the student is diligent and deserving
Student's written essay describing their piano passion
Student's performance of three selections (memorization not necessary, but encouraged)
Student must be between the ages of 7 and 14

This being said, the very best player may not be the ultimate winner! All of the criteria will be considered.

We are hoping to hear from teachers soon, to get an idea of the contest field. All requirements must be in by April 1, 2013.

So, there it is. A great opportunity to advance one of your students in a rather fabulous way is before you. Hope you will take advantage of the opportunity!

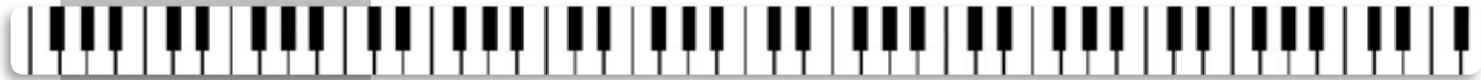
Sincerely, Tienne Beaulieu

For information or questions about the competition, contact Tienne at 243-1191 or tienne11@yahoo.com.

JOIN US!

Redding Piano Angel's First Piano Competition
April 27, 2013 - 6:00 pm
The Music Connection, Redding
3086 Bechelli Lane

Winning student will receive a 48" Yamaha upright piano, model T121



*"Our dream is very simple ... to connect students with a real piano!"*

**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.

**PRESIDENT**

*Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr.*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Tienne Beaulieu  
Treasurer*

*Valerie Washburn  
Secretary*

## President's Corner

**Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr.**

It is most rewarding to see the positive response we have received with Redding Piano Angels. Thanks to the support of our dedicated volunteers and our generous benefactors, we have been able to **assist more than 30 families in acquiring an acoustic piano**. We have enjoyed some very positive publicity and word of mouth is helping spread the news. In April, we will be conducting a **unique piano competition resulting in a beautiful Yamaha piano presented to the winning student**.

Our dream is really very simple: To connect young piano students with an acoustic piano - a real piano! With no piano stores in Redding, it takes a concentrated effort to make this a reality.

I am grateful for the support of my fellow members of the Board of Directors, 38-year local piano teacher and talented performer, Tienne Beaulieu, and Redding Chamber of Commerce Operations Manager, Valerie Washburn. Also, many thanks to our Program Coordinator, Evelyn Peterson.

We **thank you for your help and your interest**, and let us know if you would like to assist us as we perform our important work.

## In The News

### Enjoy Magazine, December 2012

#### GIFTED MUSICIANS

Piano Angels Connects Students with Instruments

Story: Kerri Regan

Music teachers extol the virtues of practicing one's instrument, and that advice is reasonable enough when you've chosen the flute or the clarinet, which tuck neatly into portable cases.

But if your developing talent is tickling the ivories, it gets tricky. Redding Greater Chamber of Commerce President Frank Strazzarino discovered this when he began taking piano lessons himself, and saw that many of his teacher's school-aged students were bumping into a big problem once they left the grand piano in the music studio.

"Some of them have incredible talent and the potential to develop into fine musicians, but they'd go home to a plastic keyboard with 61 keys. You can't really advance your skills without a real acoustic piano, and there are no piano stores in town," says Strazzarino, who also played piano as a child.

And those who were inclined to travel out of town to buy a piano could expect to pay \$1,500 or more. "It's beyond the capacity of many families," Strazzarino says.

Until the angels appeared. *Finish reading article at [www.reddingpianoangels.com](http://www.reddingpianoangels.com)*

### KRCR News, June 2012



*"It's so amazing to be playing the piano because not that many people do it, and it makes me feel special."*





## SPECIAL THANKS!

John Busterna  
Don Chapman  
Allyn Clark  
Jerry Clark, NorCal Presort  
Pat Corey, McHale Sign  
Co., Inc.  
Michael J. Daquisto  
Mike Davis, MD Imaging  
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Kay Ewald  
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Mike Frank, Frank  
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Fran Grissom  
Robert Lincoln Hancock  
Stewardship Trust  
Kim Hayden  
Home Consignment Depot  
Dr. Justin Howland  
Roger Janis  
Jerry Kuske, Crown Motors  
Mary Machado  
Andy Main  
Judy Maxwell, Maxwell  
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Michael Pohlmeier,  
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Roberts Memorial  
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Russell Cleaning Service  
Lee and Judy Salter  
Dave Scott, DH Scott &  
Company LLP  
Don Sheely, piano tuner  
Sierra Pacific Foundation  
Ellen Southard  
Frank and Elaine  
Strazzarino  
Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr.  
Robert Strazzarino  
Stephanie Strazzarino  
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

## Competition Criteria

*All information is to be submitted by the teacher to RPA by Monday, April 1, 2013.*

- ♪ A letter of recommendation from you explaining why you believe the student(s) has above average potential
- ♪ A letter from the family showing financial need (household income or brief statement of financial need)
- ♪ A letter from the student(s) explaining why they love taking lessons and what they hope to achieve
- ♪ The student is to record his or her favorite piece on their home piano/keyboard and also on your studio piano for sound comparison
- ♪ Recordings can be submitted to us along with your letter of recommendation by mail or by email if recorded on a smart phone
- ♪ The student must prepare three pieces to play at the competition (memorization is encouraged, but not required)
- ♪ The student must have a willingness to play in a recital and go through the judging process the day of the competition

### Judging

- ♪ 40% talent (performance and presentation)
- ♪ 40% financial need
- ♪ 20% commitment (family and student)
- ♪ Three judges
- ♪ No judge will have a student in the competition



Winning student will receive a  
48" Yamaha upright piano, model T121

## What They Are Saying ...

*"RPA understands that the gift of music is one of the most beautiful gifts God gives a child. Studies have shown that music lessons increase a student's math, reading comprehension, and communication skills. Music classes are not as available in the public schools largely because of budget cuts. It is more important than ever that, as a community, we support programs like Redding Piano Angels."*

**Judy Maxwell, donor**

*"We must say THANK YOU so much for finding a piano that works best for our family. My daughter loves it and her fingers wander to the piano all the time!"*

**parent**

*"I just need to say again that you have made a very positive change in my child's life by helping get her a piano."*

**parent**

## Teacher Profile

**Ellen Southard, M.A.** studied at San Francisco State University with Istvan Nadas, a student of Béla Bartók. She attended the Staatliche Hochschule fuer Musik in Munich as a junior. She taught at Yamaha Music School and Akademi Musik Indonesia in Java, and at Shasta College for 26 years. Ellen loves moments when students master viable techniques. There is never an end to searching for new potent methods which enable us to fully express the intent of a composer.

Along with that goes our instrument's sound, which very obviously must resonate with us. Electric pianos do allow her students to record and play with various sound colors. She respects all that these instruments do; however, she regrets that the electronic sound does not compare with the acoustic.

She recommends that people sense for themselves the physical vibrations emanating from an acoustic piano, which are not possible with an electronic sound, and stands behind the purpose and performance of Redding Piano Angels!



## CONTACT US

**Frank J. Strazzarino, Jr.**  
President  
530-225-4433, x101  
frank@reddingpianoangels.com

**Tienne Beaulieu**  
Treasurer  
530-243-1191  
tienne11@yahoo.com

## VISIT

www.reddingpianoangels.com  
to view:

- RPA brochure
- piano acceptance policy
- piano request form



## BE OUR GUEST!

**Redding Piano Angels**  
**First Piano Competition**  
April 27, 2013  
6:00 pm  
**The Music Connection**  
3086 Bechelli Lane

Winning student  
will receive a  
48" Yamaha  
upright piano!  
*See inside for details.*

## Special Thanks

*Spring Special*

**Russell**  
CLEANING SERVICE  
3060 Bechelli Lane  
Redding, CA 96002

**PET PROBLEMS**  
*our specialty*

We offer a non-toxic pet stain and odor removal system that sanitizes and deodorizes your carpets.

3086 Bechelli Ln. Redding Ca 96002  
973 East Ave. Suite V Chico Ca 95926

*The Music Connection*  
Chico 530-898-0110  
Redding 530-223-2040

**INSTRUMENTS • LESSONS**



*Redding Piano Angels*

2440 Pinion Court  
Redding CA 96002

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## WISH LIST

- Previously owned pianos in good condition
- Sheet music
- Instructional books

**SEARCHING FOR A USED PIANO?** Check out  
www.reddingpianoconnection.com

Purchasing a used piano can be a challenge and does contain some risks. Frank's website provides you with useful tips and important questions to ask in your search for a used piano. Information includes:

- What types of things you should look for when inspecting a used piano
- How you determine piano's age
- How you can determine the type of piano
- If you should have the piano inspected
- How you know if it is a good deal