

## Corporate Profile: Bush Foundation

**MacPhail breaks down barriers to participation and increases access, thanks to the Bush Foundation**

The MacPhail name may grace three buildings in Minneapolis, Apple Valley and White Bear Lake, but MacPhail's reach extends far beyond the walls of these structures.

Thanks to a multi-year grant from the Bush Foundation, MacPhail has been able to recruit, hire and train new teaching artists, forge new Community Partnerships, and offer even more students the opportunity to receive the highest quality music instruction regardless of their ability, age, race, ethnicity or socio-economic status.

For 57 years, the Bush Foundation has invested in courageous and effective leadership that significantly strengthens and improves the well-being of people in

Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota through investing in education achievement and tomorrow's courageous leaders.

"MacPhail is wonderfully attuned to the needs of their community, and has shaped this work to meet those needs" says C. Scott Cooper, Bush Foundation Director of Engagement and Communication. "That is exactly the kind of leadership we need; the kind that engages the community in order to address real-life problems."

With this grant, MacPhail will award 39 dedicated young musicians with Bush Foundation scholarships this year and focus its efforts around ensuring a culture of diversity and inclusiveness across all aspects of the center.

At the center of this initiative is Aaron Keith Stewart, MacPhail's newest Community Liaison.  
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Cello student Ashlee Herring takes a cue from MacPhail cello faculty member Daniel McIntosh.

## Bush Foundation Grant at a Glance

Key highlights of the grant include:

**39 new scholarships**

**New staff and teacher training**

**New teaching artists** reflecting diversity of musical styles, including Terrell Woods (a.k.a. "Carnage") and JD Steele of Minneapolis, Pinar Basgoze of Turkey, Momoko Tanno of Japan, Jose D. Uriarte of the Philippines, and Ling-Ya Wang of Taiwan to teach hip hop, voice and piano classes, to name a few  
**Diverse programming** of musical styles that reflect the increasing diversity of MacPhail's population, including the International Music Series and Hip Hop Camp

Addressing key barriers to participation:

**Financial:** Scholarships and instrument assistance are available to qualifying students

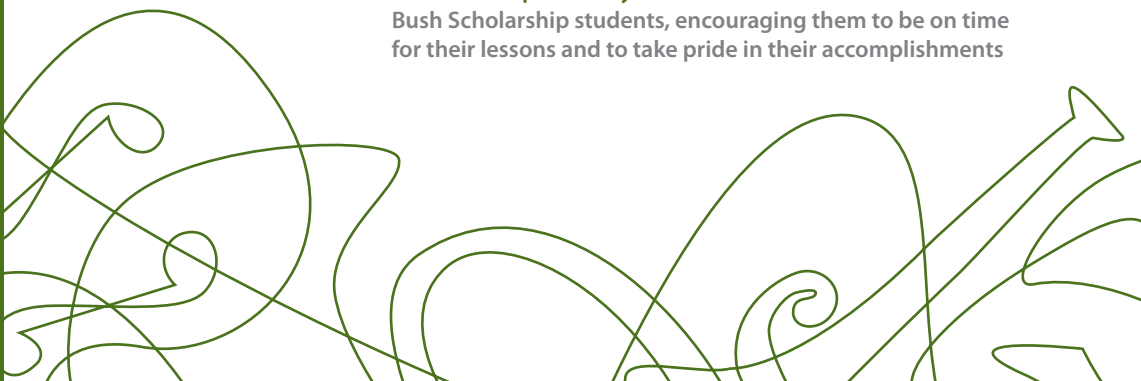
**Transportation:** Students and their families are eligible for free bus passes

**Communication:** Translators in Hmong, Spanish and Somali are available on an on-call basis

**Personal Responsibility:** Aaron Keith Stewart mentors the Bush Scholarship students, encouraging them to be on time for their lessons and to take pride in their accomplishments

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## Bush Foundation

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In a position made possible by the Bush Foundation grant, he is developing new programs like a youth choir in North Minneapolis, running school music clinics and organizing the International Music Series, as well as mentoring the Bush Foundation scholarship recipients.

"This scholarship literally means everything to the student who would not be able to afford to attend MacPhail due to their financial situation. All of them have a strong interest in music, and we want to give them access to quality music education," says Stewart.

When students are awarded a Bush Foundation scholarship, Stewart is there to ensure that they feel supported and welcomed

from the moment they register for their first lesson until the end of their tenure.

"For me, it's not just about mentoring them with their lessons," he says. "It's really important for me to let them know that I'm just as concerned about their schoolwork and what's going on outside of MacPhail."

Stewart is busy building relationships with schools and community organizations, prospective students and teaching artists, all who will help increase the diversity of MacPhail's offerings.

"It's important for the faculty to represent the students who are taking lessons here," says Stewart. "It's a good way for role models to be established for kids of color, to see teachers who look like them."

Ajay Gupta, board member and chair of MacPhail's

Inclusion Committee, echoes Stewart's sentiments.

"Given the diversity in ethnicity, age, economic status and gender of our students, we need to be thoughtful about designing program offerings and hiring staff who are inclusive to the community we serve," says Gupta.

With support from partners like the Bush Foundation, MacPhail will continue to be committed to ensuring a culture of diversity and inclusiveness, for now and for years to come.

*If you work for a corporation who is interested in getting more involved or partnering with MacPhail, please contact Leslie Fideler at 612.767.5326.*



**"This scholarship literally means everything to the student who would not be able to afford to attend MacPhail due to their financial situation."**  
*Aaron Keith Stewart, MacPhail Community Liaison*

**Herring and McIntosh share a laugh during a recent cello lesson. Herring is one of 39 talented musicians receiving scholarships to study at MacPhail through funding from the Bush Foundation.**



Photos by Kris Drake Photography

# Grand Opening

## New Apple Valley Site to Open in April 2010

Thanks to our growing student population, the Apple Valley site will be moving two blocks west to a larger space in the Ryan Real Estate building on the corner of 147th Street and Cedar Avenue in April 2010.

Sharing a building with successful charter school Paideia Academy since 2005, MacPhail has quickly grown—and out-grown our current space.

“Before we opened Apple Valley, we had fewer than 25 students south of the Minnesota River. Now we have more than 300,” says MacPhail President and Chief Operating Officer Paul Babcock.

To accommodate this growth, nine instructional rooms will be custom built with the acoustical treatments needed for student lessons, music therapy, Early Childhood Music programs and small recitals. And to top it all off, this accessible one-level building has plenty of free parking right outside the front door.

With the Metro area’s population continuing to sprawl into the suburbs and traffic times increasing exponentially, sites in Apple Valley and White Bear Lake opened in 2005 to help broaden MacPhail’s reach in the community. “We’d rather have our students practicing than sitting in a car,” says Babcock.

The grand opening celebration will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.



Kris Drake Photography

## GiveMN.org

### MacPhail donors raise \$126,868 during “Give to the Max Day!”

MacPhail is proud to participate in an exciting online giving endeavor called GiveMN.org, an easy way for Minnesota donors to give to their favorite Minnesota nonprofit.

During the “Give to the Max Day!” on Nov. 17, all individual gifts were matched 50 cents to the dollar—and donors like you showed your unwavering support for MacPhail in droves.

Gifts to MacPhail reached an amazing \$126,868 in just one day, with an additional \$1,045 in matching funds. Moreover, local foundations absorb the expensive credit card and transaction fees when donors give through GiveMN.org, allowing MacPhail to receive \$127,913—the full amount of your generosity.

More than 43 percent of MacPhail’s students benefit directly from donations like these. Thank you for supporting their unique gifts with your own.

*If you would like to donate to MacPhail without MacPhail incurring credit card or transaction fees, visit [GiveMN.org](http://GiveMN.org) to make your gift of any size.*



# Faculty Tribute: Gary Sipes

**The memory of MacPhail pianist and faculty member Gary Sipes will live on in the hearts of all he touched with his humor, music and dedication to teaching.**

On November 27, 2009, MacPhail lost a friend, a colleague and a mentor. Heralded as the longest-tenured faculty member at MacPhail, Gary Sipes seemed destined to teach.

Fresh out of college, he moved to Minneapolis in 1962. While walking by the old MacPhail building one day, he heard music coming from the windows. He came in, met founder William MacPhail, and the rest, as they say, is history.

During his 47-year teaching career, he taught music appreciation, theory, percussion, and eventually piano, his true love.

Sipes was known around the Twin Cities as being able to take students to the next level, and pushed his students to greatness through rigorous lessons and minimum two-hour-a-day practice schedules. As a result, many went on to study piano at such prestigious institutions as the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Juilliard.

"Gary had a knack for finding the right piece, composer or style that motivated the student," says Director of

**Gary Sipes Memorial**  
Join us in celebrating the life of Gary Sipes at 3 p.m. on March 14 on the Gary Sipes Performance Stage at MacPhail Center for Music, 501 S. 2nd St., Minneapolis, MN.



Individual Instruction Timothy DePrey, also a longtime student of Sipes. "His enthusiasm was contagious.

I have memories of him being teary-eyed in recitals," DePrey recalls. "Gary cared deeply about the MacPhail faculty and his students. It was not just a job, it was his life."

Sipes was thrilled to see the new MacPhail building come to life, and spent two years in studio 517. A plaque in his honor now graces the doorway as well as on his namesake Gary Sipes Performance Stage.

His deep love of music will also live on through the recipients of the Gary Sipes Piano Scholarship. Developed in 1999, Gary initially funded the scholarship himself by performing recitals at MacPhail. Generous donor support now makes a full scholarship possible for one promising pianist per year.

"My mom was telling me that if I wasn't able to get a

scholarship, we would probably have to discontinue the lessons because we couldn't afford it," remembers former student and scholarship recipient, Scott Cuellar, who is currently studying at the Oberlin Conservatory.

"The most important thing is finding a great teacher," Cuellar says of Sipes. "Anyone can teach you scales and different notes, but the right teacher can get you to actually enjoy what you're doing and take you to a whole new level."

"People adored him," says DePrey. "This is a huge loss at MacPhail. He's the type of teacher we all strive to be. We learned from him as a teacher, and now we step up to the plate."

*If you would like to contribute to the Gary Sipes Piano Scholarship Fund, contact Jonathan Lundgren at 612-767-5308.*

Kris Drake Photography



Gary Sipes was a major influence on the young pianist, Kenji Cataldo, who now continues to take piano lessons at MacPhail with Judy Lin.

# Events

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

## MASTER CLASS

Hear and learn from the best.

Pamela Frank, violin

*Wednesday, March 17, 7 p.m.*

Antonello Hall

Pamela Frank has performed regularly with today's most distinguished soloists and ensembles and is on the faculties of the Peabody Institute, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

\*\$5 admission at the door  
FREE to MacPhail students

## BACH'S LUNCH SERIES

Give your wallet a break: Bring your lunch and enjoy a free 45-minute concert on MacPhail's grand staircase.

19th Century Klezmer Music  
from the Old World

*Friday, April 2, 12:15 p.m.*

Gary Sipes Performance Space

Judith Eisner, fiddle, and guests

## JAZZ THURSDAYS

Each concert is designed to present jazz chamber music in a comfortable, family-oriented environment.

Dosh

*Saturday, April 10, 8 p.m.*

Antonello Hall

Dosh is a one man band consisting of drums, Rhodes piano, and various looping devices. A world-renowned performer, he is one of the most popular local artists the Twin Cities has to offer.

\*\$12 admission at the door

Dakota Combo

*Thursday, May 13, 8 p.m.*

Antonello Hall

Now in its fourth season, MacPhail's premiere high school jazz combo the Dakota Combo is an outstanding group of students selected through a live audition process. With generous support from the Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education, this group is lead by jazz artist Adam Linz.

## STUDENT RECITALS

Celebrate the talents of MacPhail's finest student performers at an Honors Recital. A special reception is held after the recital to honor each student's achievement.

Adult Honors Recital

*Friday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.*

Antonello Hall

Concerto & Aria

*Sunday, April 25, 7 p.m.*

Antonello Hall



Spring Honors Recital

*Friday, May 21, 7:30 p.m.*

Antonello Hall

## MACPHAIL SPOTLIGHT SERIES

The MacPhail Spotlight Series showcases the finest musicians in six concerts staged in MacPhail's stunning Antonello Hall. Stay for the post-concert reception to meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments.

Operatic Overtures

*Friday, April 30, 8 p.m.*

Antonello Hall

Conclude the MacPhail Spotlight Series season with a dynamic mixture of instrumental-only arias and overtures from some of the world's most celebrated operas—opera without words! MacPhail's teaching artists perform works from great masters such as Rossini, Verdi and Mozart.

\*Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and youth (ages 6–18)



The Dakota Combo

Kris Drake Photography

## Summer Take Note Available Online Only

Don't miss out on the Summer edition of *Take Note!* Share your e-mail address with us to receive all the latest news at MacPhail, concert dates and more. You'll also benefit from special e-mail reminders for MacPhail events, and the heartwarming feeling of knowing you did your part to conserve ink and paper. Send your e-mail address and first and last name to [givemusic@macphail.org](mailto:givemusic@macphail.org) with the subject line "Summer Take Note."

# Student Profile: Destination 2010

## Piano students Thoua Xiong and Zang Xiong celebrate nine years at MacPhail thanks to generous donor support

Thoua Xiong has not missed a piano lesson since she was in the fourth grade. Now a senior at Patrick Henry High School, her dedication to her craft has been evident since a very young age.

Along with Zang Xiong, a senior at Minneapolis Roosevelt High School, Thoua has been studying with MacPhail's Sue Ruby for the past nine years.

Both from large families (Thoua is one of nine children and Zang is one of 11), piano lessons were not something their parents could readily afford. But thanks to MacPhail's partnership with The Minneapolis Foundation's Destination 2010 program (formerly Cargill Scholars) and generous support from donors like you, Thoua and Zang have been able to cultivate their love of music for nine years.

"Playing piano means a lot to me," says Zang of his years at MacPhail. "It's given me the opportunity to explore music—something my brothers and sisters never got a chance to do."

"I love it. It's a good instrument!" echoes Thoua.

Being able to watch one student grow up before your

eyes is a rare occurrence for any teacher, says Sue.

Watching two students is even more rewarding, and she fondly remembers those early group lessons on Friday nights with six squirrely fourth graders.

"Thoua and Zang were both very diligent, and both had a very natural musical ability," recalls Sue.

After doing their best to practice at home on small keyboards, each was ecstatic to receive their own full-sized piano, thanks to an in-kind piano donation to MacPhail's

**"Their experience at MacPhail through Destination 2010 has given them an independence, a voice and a confidence that nobody can take away from them. You can't put a price on that."—Sue Ruby**

Community Partnerships program. "After that, I did see quite a bit of change in their playing and approach because they realized that MacPhail was investing in them as well," says Sue.

Generous donor support of MacPhail's financial aid program helped deepen that investment. When Zang and

Thoua were faced with leaving MacPhail due to the financial requirements of private lessons, a combination of financial aid and Bush Foundation scholarships ensured that each could continue with their studies, uninterrupted.

With graduation on the horizon, Zang and Thoua are both



**A proud Sue Ruby looks on as her piano student of nine years, Thoua Xiong, perfects an upcoming recital piece.**





## **ANNUAL DINNER** **MacPhail supporters celebrate musical milestones and strong financial performance**

On Thursday, December 10, 2009, 110 supporters, staff and faculty gathered for the second Annual Dinner to celebrate another extraordinary year at MacPhail. CEO David O'Fallon reflected on the organization's many successes in fiscal 2009, including a record enrollment of 8,200 students (a 6% increase over last year), a growing reach into the community with 962 music therapy clients and 54 Community Partnerships, and a balanced budget of \$7.6 million.

O'Fallon also presented Duet Awards to Best Buy Co., Inc., and life board member Stuart MacPhail, Sr., who accepted the award on behalf of the many MacPhails, early instructors and staff who helped shape the center into a world-class institution. The Duet Awards are given annually to individuals and organizations who go above and beyond the call of duty in advocacy, service and giving to MacPhail.

**"I am delighted to accept this honor not only for myself but also in recognition of the other founding family members, because they laid the foundation for this enduring enterprise."**  
—*Stuart MacPhail, Sr.*

Thanks to generous MacPhail supporters, Zang Xiong has been able to study piano with MacPhail piano faculty member Sue Ruby for nine years.

looking forward to college in the fall. Thoua is hoping to study photography at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design or Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Zang, who will be among the first generation in his family to go to college, is considering several schools, including UW-Madison, Concordia College and the University of Minnesota. He hopes to someday be a teacher.

Whatever they choose to do, Sue is certain they will find

success. "Their experience at MacPhail through Destination 2010 has given them an independence, a voice and a confidence that nobody can take away from them. You can't put a price on that."

*If you would like to contribute to MacPhail's financial aid program and help promising musicians like Thoua and Xiong, visit [macphail.org](http://macphail.org) to make a donation online, or send your contribution of any size in the envelope attached to this newsletter.*

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# Take Note

## Back Page News



Dear Friends,

With spring just around the corner, I am energized by the promise of green grass, warm sunshine and a fresh perspective. I'm thrilled to be part of an organization that celebrates the rich diversity of our students, our faculty and our community through music, every day.

This year, we're excited about the return of our Hip Hop and Rock Band camps to inspire young musicians in the style of music that speaks to them.

From everyone at MacPhail, thank you for helping us extend our reach and create unique musical experiences. You are helping us make a real difference in our community.

*Paul Babcock*

Paul Babcock  
President and Chief Operating Officer

### Lunch with MacPhail

Join us for a delicious free lunch and a chance to check out MacPhail's amazing facility on Friday, April 2 at 11 a.m. Afterward, enjoy a performance by talented teaching artist and fiddler, Judith Eisner. Contact Amanda Schroder at 612.767.5343 to reserve your spot for lunch.

### Music in Motion Tours

Learn first-hand how MacPhail transforms the lives of more than 900 students through the Music Therapy Program during a tour of MacPhail's flagship Minneapolis facility. Attending a tour at MacPhail is an excellent way to get acquainted with the work we do and the people we serve. Tours are available on Friday, March 26 at 12:30 p.m. or Monday, May 10 at 6:15 p.m. For reservations, contact Amanda Schroder at 612.767.5343.

### Music Matters Luncheon— Save the date!

Mark your calendar for MacPhail's annual Music Matters Luncheon on Wednesday, April 14 from 12–1 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Join fellow MacPhail supporters for lunch as you experience the power of music through performances and touching testimonials. Call Amanda Schroder at 612.767.5343 to reserve your seat.

## Contact us!

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