



An Annual Message from Your GPFS Board

A Reflection on the GPFS 2022-2023 Season

On behalf of the GPFS Board of Directors, its committees and other volunteers and supporters, we thank you for your membership, and your support. We look forward to bringing us all together again in-person and online in the coming 2023-24 GPFS season.

As many of you know, GPFS is an organization run entirely by volunteers. **88+ individuals volunteered for GPFS this past year alone, representing countless hours of time and talent. 90 individuals represent almost half our membership.** These are dedicated, committed members whose volunteer planning and work, publicly and behind the scenes, make possible the programs and resources available to our members, potential members and community.

We are proud of the diversity in our ranks, from professionals to adult amateurs of all ages, students from middle school to graduate programs, private studio teachers to college professors, composers, arrangers, ensembles, choir leaders, and more. We're a broad-based community of volunteers dedicated to music education and performance. GPFS is all about the teaching and learning of the flute since 1979.

GPFS Board goals continue to include bringing outstanding, affordable programs and events to our members, conducting meaningful outreach in our communities, from schools to the general public, all while being fiscally responsible.

Here's an overview of the 2022 – 2023 GPFS season:

- **Flute Fair:** Finally, together again in person, we celebrated our **39th Annual Flute Fair** (our signature annual event) with guest artist Zart Dombourian-Eby, piccoloist and flutist from

the Seattle Symphony and Keefe Piccolo Artist. Co-sponsored again this year by the Clackamas Community College Music Department along with Keefe Piccolo Company, 200+ people attended to enjoy a recital, workshop, and masterclass by our guest artist as well as a range of GPFS member performances and workshops. [Twelve flute vendors](#) showcased their wares in the Exhibit Hall.

- **Fall Event:** We varied our fall event this year by coordinating a Speed Duetting event with 25 flutists getting together to play music together, visit, laugh, and meet new people.
- **Student Study Grants:** We awarded three young, dedicated flute students with study grants to help offset economic difficulties and allow them to pursue private lessons with GPFS member teachers.
- **Flute Loans:** We maintained our instrument loan program to ensure that students, who might otherwise be financially unable to buy an instrument, have one available to keep playing.
- **Big Flutes Rental:** We maintained our alto and bass flute rental program, including doing needed maintenance and repair. Learn more/rent: [Big Flutes](#).
- **Band Director Outreach:** We kept regional school band directors in the loop regarding opportunities for their flute students. We made a special effort to reach out to Title 1 schools and offer free access to Flute Fair and Flute Academy.
- **Flute Teachers:** We kept an up-to-date list of area flute teachers. If you're looking for lessons, look at the GPFS Teacher Member list on this webpage - <https://gpfs.org/local-flute-teachers>
- **Sheet Music Lending Library:** We continue to inventory our extensive sheet music lending library, free to members, and update our offering with contemporary music donations. Working with our GPFS teachers, we plan on another round of sheet music donations to benefit those students with need. Take a look: [Library](#).
- **Flute Academy:** We continue to offer an annual Flute Academy in the Mid-Valley area to give middle- and high-school students: access to music education sessions; an opportunity to play together; and, a chance to listen to a masterclass by talented young Oregon flutists and a professional flutist from Oregon. This year's artist and educator was piccoloist/flutist with the OR Symphony Zach Galatis. Learn more/stay tuned: [Flute Academy](#).

- **Young Artist Competition:** Our Young Artist Competition for middle and high school flutists, started just a couple years before the pandemic, continues to flourish. Learn more: [YAC Participants and Winners](#).
- **First Tuesdays:** We celebrated our second season of *First Tuesdays Online with GPFS* and are currently planning our third season. Learn more/stay tuned: [First Tuesdays](#).
- **Development:** We formed a Development Committee whose focus is to help GPFS strengthen its financial stability and sustainability for the coming decades as well as to support new programming/services aspirations. We are especially proud to say we received \$3,000 operating grant from the Oregon Arts Commission. We also had a small but mighty group of individual donors.
- **The Portland Piper:** A comprehensive, 4-6 times yearly web-based publication full of resources and articles, including book and music reviews – all available to you. It’s not something to simply peruse and be done with – but a lasting resource of information and opportunities only a click away, now or later, for our members.
- **Connecting and Networking:** We’ve worked to keep you informed about performances, workshops, masterclasses, and other flute-related offerings by GPFS members, area ensembles, the National Flute Association, flute clubs across the county, other nonprofits and colleges and universities. We also maintained this extraordinary list of flute resources – [Flute Resources Webpage](#).
- **Communications:** We’ve kept our communications channels open through our website, email, and Facebook and Instagram sites.

That’s most of it – in a nutshell. We think it’s a lot. It’s available. It’s accessible. We want you to know that behind each of these things mentioned, there is a person or persons working hard in the volunteer spirit.

If you are a member, we encourage you to take advantage of your organization. And to be involved. Offer your expertise, participate, attend, share ideas, donate time or money, let us know how we’re doing. If you’re not a member, consider joining this active, dynamic group of flute lovers.

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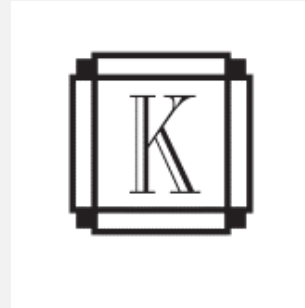
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GPFS is also a proud and grateful recipient of an Oregon Arts Commission grant – 2022.

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