

In Our Neighborhood



Hello Neighbors,

Upper Valley Presents began with a handful of summer campers and six Open Air concerts back in the summer of 2005. Four summers later, we run four distinct programs, serving over 300 campers each summer; we have played host to scores of local and national musicians including Odds Bodkin, Cheryl Wheeler and Ruthie Foster; operate the UV Rock School, an ensemble, lessons and music camp program for musicians and bands; and conduct Music Together® and Greatest Hits music and movement classes. Through our four programs, we have served approximately 850 families in 2008.

In May, Upper Valley Presents participated in Hypertherm's Volunteer Fair. Inspired by the interest and activism of Hypertherm associates, we worked with some of them this summer as ushers and car-parkers at our Open Air Summer Family Concert series. We continue to be inspired by the families who participate in this organization's programs - the students of Rock School and their parent volunteers, the visiting artists at Summer Days Camp and the families at Music Together™ and Greatest Hits. This Upper Valley is truly a place with a deep commitment to family, neighborhood and the arts. Our job is to provide the structure and ideas, yours is to participate.

Like a family, Upper Valley Presents is growing and maturing, and 2008 was truly a year of growth. Our board composition will change with the addition of new trustees at our annual meeting of membership. You are welcome to come to that meeting—it is at 7 PM on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 in the common room of the UV Events Center in Norwich.

Based on feedback from parents, teachers and participants we evolve our programs to meet the needs of our community. With each conversation, grant received or e-mail of support, we feel a renewed sense of purpose and commitment. We are energized by this work and know that it is making a difference in the lives of Upper Valley Families.

Please take a moment to read about our programs and events of the past year. As always, we welcome your feedback, your participation and your involvement.

All the best in 2009,

Janna and Bruce Genereaux
Artistic & Executive Directors

Upper Valley PRESENTS

Our Mission
To run arts and educational programs that enrich the Upper Valley.

Board of Trustees
Anne Clemens
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Upper Valley Presents, Inc. is a Vermont nonprofit corporation recognized by the IRS under section 501(c)(3) as a tax exempt organization
EIN# 71-0993579

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UV ROCK SCHOOL—A YEAR OF GROWTH

Upper Valley Presents' UV Rock School® is a community-based educational program that teaches creativity, teamwork, social skills and builds self-esteem and confidence through music. Our mission is to create a positive atmosphere in which students are motivated and encouraged through hands-on learning to achieve their own personal fulfillment, whether through instrumentation, song writing, singing, or recording. Rock School brings communities together, reaches out to kids, young or old, and creates an atmosphere that truly Rocks! 2008 saw growth in many areas of Rock School with expanded class offerings and performances, increased enrollment, and new staff.



Foremost, during this past summer of 2008, Rock School introduced Rock Tools—a day camp—which brought 24 students together for six weeks. Rock Tools will return during the school vacation weeks in 2009. Dave Keeney, the music teacher at Plainfield Elementary School joined the Rock School staff as an instructor for the Rock Tools camp and plans to continue on as an assistant to our director, Tuck Stocking.

In addition to the in-kind, in-person and in-cash support Rock School has received from so many local individuals, companies, and parents in the Upper Valley, we are proud to report the receipt of grants from the Vermont Arts Council/National Endowment for the Arts and a State of Vermont human services department. The VAC and NEA grant covers the costs of public performances in area towns and the human services grant purchased a mixing board for the classroom.



Members of the 8 bands that performed on April 1, 2008 in the "No Foolin'" Show at Lebanon Opera House gather on stage, after their shows.

ROCK SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

Year Established: 2006

By the Numbers: In 2008 **64** musicians from **14** towns played and presented **5** concerts where an average of **5** bands performed each concert.

Genres Played: Folk, jazz, classic rock, punk, metal, blues, pop and reggae.

Little Known Fact: Rock School operates its own recording studio and produces CDs for existing bands.

Rock School in 2008 was assisted with direct funding or in-kind support from the following individuals, companies and organizations:

Scholarship Fund

Mascoma Foundation
Hypertherm
Suzanne MacKay
Eric Janson

Equipment Purchase Grants

Vermont Human Services Agency

Donations or Loans of Equipment, Supplies and Time

Anne Clemens
Tuck Stocking
Deb Goodwin
Mark Dantos
Janna & Bruce Genereaux
Hanover Strings
Mike Bailey
Spike Demerest

Live Performance Underwriting

National Endowment of the Arts
Vermont Arts Council
Pentangle Council on the Arts
Lebanon Opera House
Hanover Strings
King Arthur Flour
CATV

SUMMER DAYS CAMP INTRODUCES ENHANCED CURRICULUM FOR OLDER CAMPERS

Summer Days Camp® is a project driven, nurturing day camp for ages 4-12. We pride ourselves for having an outstanding ratio of return campers and counselors.

In its first year (2005), Summer Days Camp was populated by primarily 4 to 6 year olds. These campers explored art, science and teamwork, crafting and created multiple projects and works of art to bring home. Now, four years later, these original campers return, effortlessly falling into the rhythm of a summer day with Janna and her staff, but having grown.

To meet their growing interests, skills and abilities of these older campers, Summer Days Camp introduced new aspects of its Art Smart, Kitchen Science, Fair Play curriculum and rolled out new features at its rented site this past summer. Campers found zip lines, hiking paths, a climbing wall and enhanced water engineering features added to the already diverse play grounds and yard features of our site. Similarly, new experiments, building kits and art projects challenged all campers in new ways. Our counselors, all college bound or educated, brought their expertise to bear in our curriculum. For example, our Kitchen Science curriculum's lessons were planned and executed by our Williams College-student counselor, Kate Shaper.

"We maintain a family and neighborhood atmosphere where all ages are welcome and encouraged to interact, grow and develop. It is an amazing dynamic to have a multi-age environment where all children have the opportunity to choose their activities, their playmates, their projects. With the new features I've added for the older children, we are finding them engaged and challenged." -*Janna Genereaux, director*

Summer Days Camp will be offered in late December, mid February & April and for nine weeks this summer. Learn more or register by visiting us online at www.SummerDaysCamp.org or by calling 802 526-2055.



Summer Campers in August 2008 are pictured getting ready to do a science experiment. Camp director, Janna Genereaux, is seated at the base of the stairs on the left.

SUMMER DAYS CAMP AT A GLANCE

Year Established: 2005

Average # of Campers Per Session in 2005: 12

Week-Long Sessions in 2005: 6

Average # of Campers Per Session in 2008: 24

Week-Long Sessions in 2008: 11

Little Known Fact: Our director, Janna Genereaux, is a fine artist whose work can be seen in Upper Valley homes and businesses. See it yourself at www.OliviaJanna.com

FAMILY MUSIC DELIVERS GREATEST HITS AND MUSIC TOGETHER® CLASSES

These two programs kept families moving and dancing with music throughout the year: Greatest Hits and Music Together® classes.

Music Together is an internationally recognized early childhood music program for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, kindergarteners, and the adults who love them. Each season there is a different theme to the curriculum – such as “bells”, “maracas” or “bongos”. Families receive CDs to play in the car and at home and a book explaining the significance of the music they are hearing. Our Music Together classes are offered in the fall, winter, spring on weekdays and Saturdays. Our teachers are all Music Together trained and regularly take refresher courses.

Our Greatest Hits class is offered during times of the year when Music Together sessions are not run. This interim program allows families to experience the styles of our individual teachers, get to know other families and to experience the joys of music. This class features our teachers' favorite songs and can be taken on a drop-in basis.



We continue to fine tune the programming to maximize availability for families while attaining sustainable class enrollment. Like all of our programs, we have also developed a formal scholarship policy which makes it clearer and easier for families who need financial assistance to make the request.



Brooke Wilkinson (center, in green) poses with her Greatest Hits class in December 2007. Greatest Hits is a music and movement class for families that features our teachers' and your favorite songs and selections from Peter and Mary Amidon's classics: Jump Jim Joe and Down in the Valley. Classes are available on a drop-in basis.

FAMILY MUSIC AT A GLANCE

Year Established: 2007

of families per year: 70

of Music Teachers: 5

Little Known Facts: Our teachers are multi-talented. Brooke is a songwriter and pre-school teacher. Gary is a singer, thespian, and a children's librarian. Katie performs in local theatrical productions and speaks French. Meg is a former camp counselor and marketing director at VINS. Leslie was a kindergarten teacher at Marion Cross School and teaches music at other venues around the Upper Valley.

OPEN AIR SUMMER FAMILY CONCERT SERIES HITS ITS STRIDE

As in past summers, Open Air brought something for everyone to the Norwich Gardens Amphitheater at the Events Center in Norwich. This year, we invited four artists—Red Molly, Betty Johnson, David Wilcox and Marko the Magician—to the neighborhood stage. The results of narrowing our focus on four performances rather than six brought significant results. Each event was capably organized, managed and executed. The venues were full, the performers impressive, and the attendees enjoyed every minute.

As we have done in the past, this year's Open Air concerts met our goal of bringing quality, nationally known acts while also showcasing up-and-coming local artists by offering them slots as opening acts. We will continue with this as one of our guiding principles as we look ahead to the 2009 season.

Open Air's success each summer is in part due to the diversity of acts and the resulting unique audience for each show. We continue to support of local artists and musicians by allowing them to open for our national acts. We are thankful to our neighbor businesses and organizations who lend financial support, donate space for shows and generously offer in-kind contributions. Without these friends and neighbors, Open Air wouldn't be possible.



Folk/
Country trio
Red Molly
performing
on a warm
July evening.

DYAR



Open Air
banner over
Main Street
in Hanover

Open Air at a Glance

Year Established: 2005

of Concerts Presented Since 2005: 18

Maximum Attendance: 350 for Marko the Magician in 2007 and Red Molly in 2008.

Unique Artist Award: A toss up between Odds Bodkin and Gabriel Q.

Little Known Fact: 2008's rain location was indoors in the Sand's Room of King Arthur Flour's Baker's School.

2008's Underwriters

Ledyard National Bank • Upper Valley Radio • Simple Energy • Tele Atlas
Gilberte Interiors • R. C. Brayshaw Printing • Hypertherm • Trumbull Nelson
Hanover Strings • Norwich Wine & Spirits • King Arthur Flour

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Members of Upper Valley Presents:

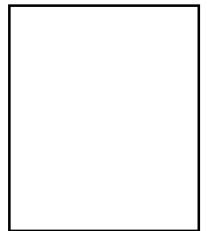
As Executive Director, I am pleased to report 2008 as another year of managed growth for our programs. Total revenue increased from \$106,000 in 2007 to approximately \$180,000 in 2008. Cash reserves have remained constant at approximately \$10,000. We granted a total of \$2,000 in scholarships and were the recipients of grants or in-kind services valued at \$29,000.

A list of individuals and organizations who contributed to Upper Valley Presents is available at our website www.uvPresents.org

Your contribution as a member or a participant in a program is welcome. Please use the included envelope to donate to one of our programs' funds and come join us at one of our classes or programs in 2009.



Upper Valley Presents
PO Box 75
Norwich, VT 05055



It is a strong community that recognizes the simple gifts we each have to offer.

—Janna Genereaux, *Artistic Director*