



Making music where it counts.

2018 Annual Report



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The Oboe Foundation Policy on Cultural Equity and Inclusion: The Oboe Foundation recognizes the importance of and values diverse life experiences and heritages and ensures that all voices are valued and heard. It provides a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment where all employees, volunteers, partners and stakeholders, whatever their race, ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, national origin, geography, citizenship status, education or religion, feels valued and respected. At the Oboe Foundation, we are committed to a nondiscriminatory approach and provide equal opportunity for employment and advancement in all of our departments, programs, and worksites. We also are committed to the same for all who volunteer for the Oboe Foundation.

TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS

Our first year was one of discovery, excitement and development but most importantly, of learning. Our goal for 2018 was to learn and understand where our resources could best be used to advocate for instrumental music in public schools. We chose to be conservative in providing support as we did not want to simply write checks without fully understanding how best to invest our time and resources. That's not to say we didn't begin in our passion to help student musicians. We sponsored kids for events, funded and helped develop a day of jazz performance and clinics, helped with school program funding needs and even fought, successfully, to save a public school instrumental music facility.

We met with many people. From Pasadena City Council Members to PUSD Board Members, from school administrators to music instructors, from potential donors to community leaders, we wanted to understand where our focus should be for 2019 when we begin our phase two: creating the programs that best can use our resources and identifying our funding resources.

Each of us, after having one year of discovery behind us, believes strongly that our mission will benefit so many kids and reward our supporters as both see all of the benefits that music brings.

Your support is felt deeply; from the students to their families and to those who are the beneficiaries of the joy that the students bring through their music. Thank you.



Brad Ratliff, President

THE OBOE FOUNDATION is based in Pasadena, California and is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that advocates for instrumental music in public schools.

We put people and organizations together for the betterment of student musicians who are a part of the public school system.

THE OBOE FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 347
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91012
www.oboefoundation.org
(818) 692-1409

OUR MISSION is to provide support to instrumental music programs and students in our schools, focusing on instructional and developmental opportunities for students through strategic partnerships, community association and educational outreach.

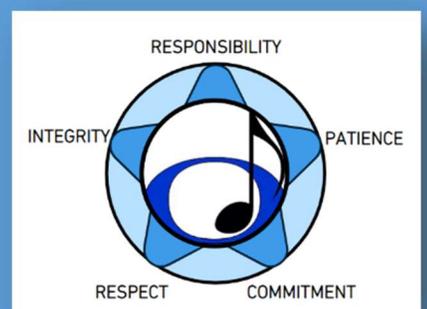
We are working with our community and industry leaders to provide every opportunity for students to take advantage of all that music offers.

Programs

This first complete year of OBOE was one of discovering where our resources best could be used. Although we were conservative in our first year, we knew where we immediately could focus our efforts to help student musicians. This next year will bring in new programs as well as grow those that we supported in 2018.



In life, we strive to be successful in our efforts to be the best we can be. In the OBOE CIRCLE OF FIFTHS, are the fundamental building blocks for success. In its music advocacy, OBOE expects these of its members, and expects the same from those whom it supports and from those whom it receives support. It's OBOE'S directive to make sure students have every chance in beginning their paths to begin their success as they experience all that music has to offer.



The Oboe Foundation is structured to create opportunities that focus both on the student and on the community.

We provide support both to student musicians and to instrumental music programs in our schools, focusing on instructional and developmental opportunities for students through strategic partnerships, community association and educational outreach.

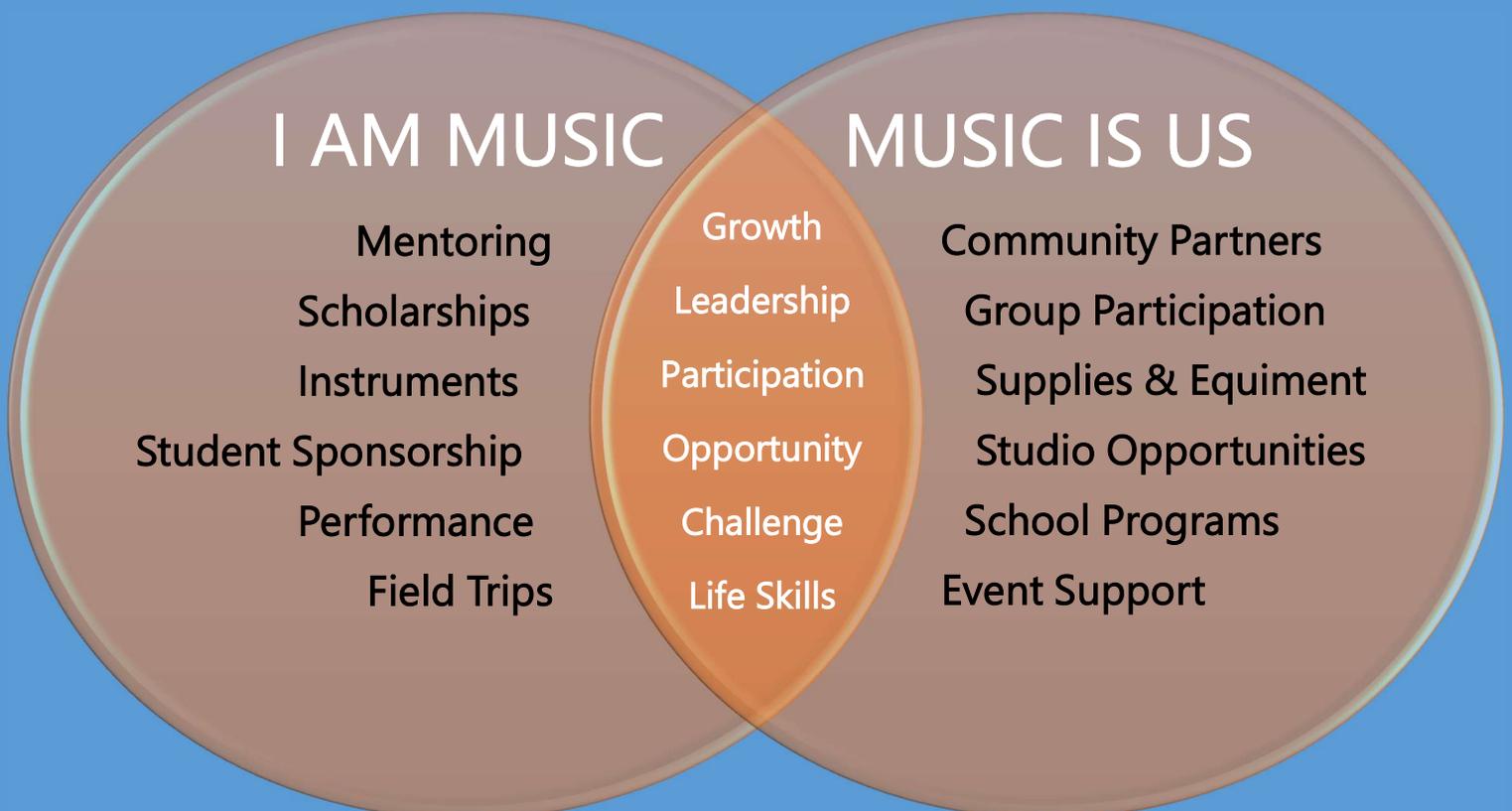
We are working with our community and industry leaders to provide opportunities for students to take advantage of all that music offers.

With our two Spheres of Advocacy, "I Am Music" and "Music Is Us" we make every effort to include everyone in the strengthening of instrumental music in our public schools. With leadership strengthening, musical instrument lending and performance opportunities, our **I Am Music** sphere focuses on how music opportunities directly impacts the student while the **Music is Us** sphere engages others to in program development. Group participation, attending and participating in events, project sponsorship, group support and community partnering offer opportunities for others to become a part of the process of student musicians' successes.

The Oboe Foundation has benefited hundreds of students in its first year. Its programs have supported several organizations and schools that are enriching the lives of student musicians:

- The John Tirabasso Youth Jazz Ensemble
- John Muir High School
- Hamilton Elementary School
- Eliot Arts Magnet
- Arcadia Music and Arts Symposium
- Wilson Middle School Performing Arts

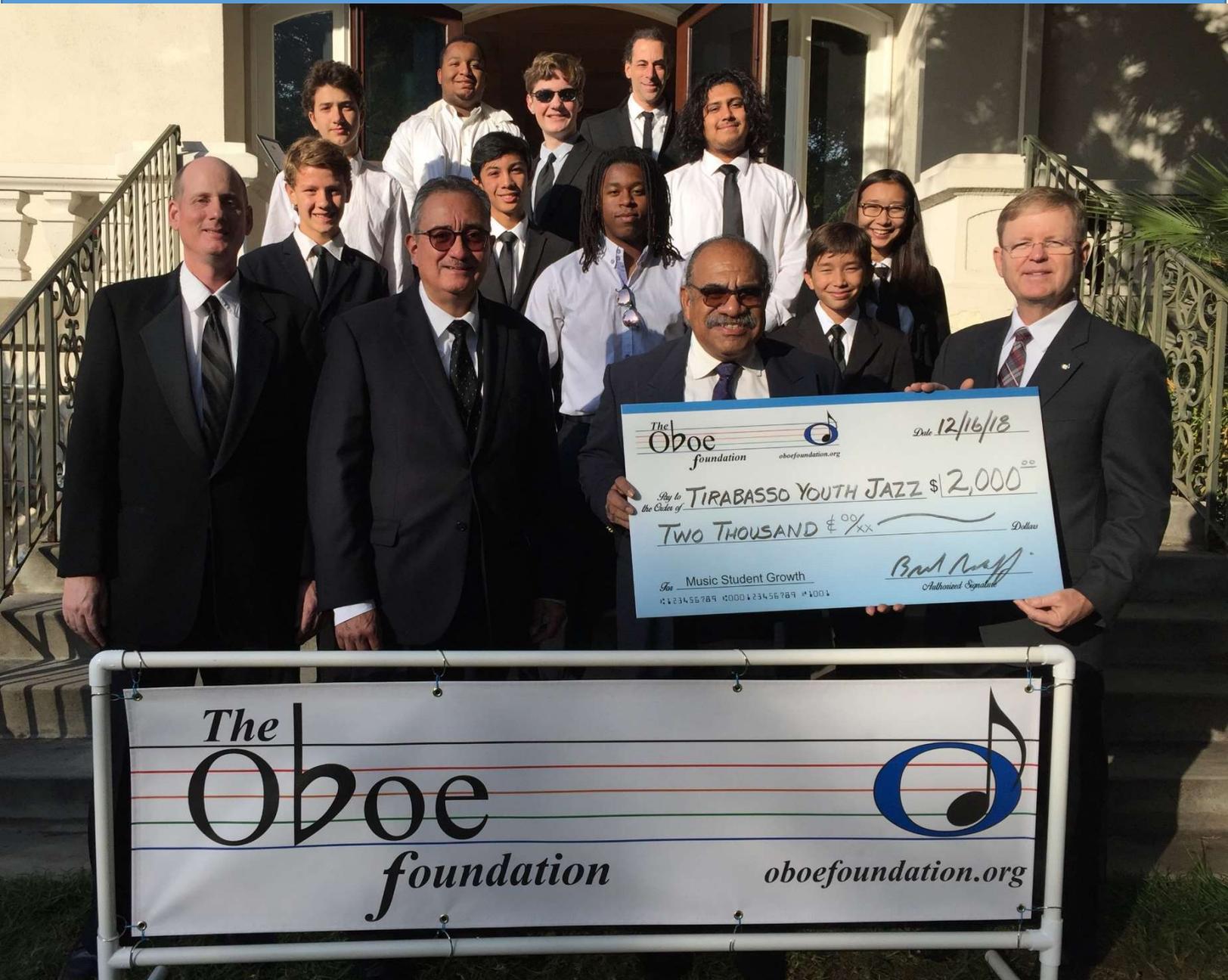
Through events like the *Musical Salute* and *Paz Jazz!*, we were able to bring students and organizations together to offer new experiences for everyone.



Financial

Program Support • Development • Start Up

In our first full year, we chose to focus on those programs that we knew would realize immediate benefit for the students. We also needed to manage our start-up investment conservatively. We used our first year to understand where we should focus our resources and efforts for the future and to best benefit the student musicians. Now that we have a year of investigating and learning, this next year will focus on fundraising and strategic program development.

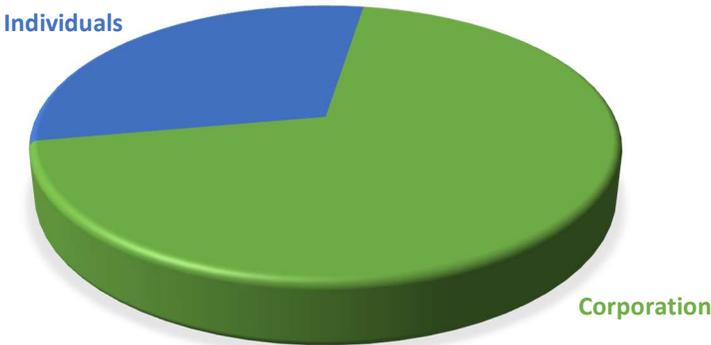


"I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to the Oboe Foundation for their support of the John Tirabasso Youth Jazz Ensemble. Their generous financial contribution helped make the 2018 season a success." -Sam Estrada, Founder, The John Tirabasso Youth Jazz Ensemble

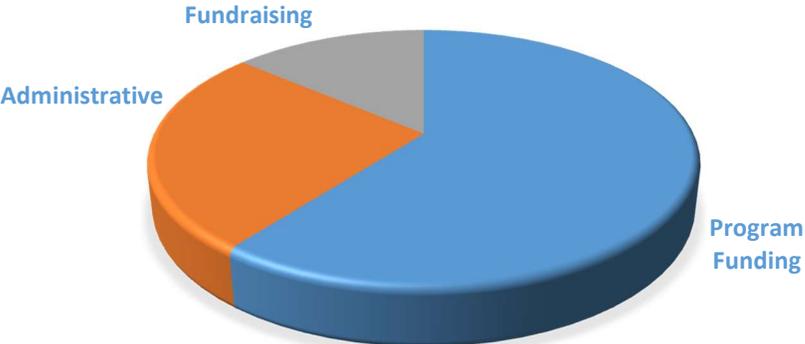
Our inaugural year administrative expenses were just the essentials: insurance, office supplies, fees and subscriptions. We have no paid staff, only volunteers with big hearts and a deep desire to help student musicians grow. The Oboe Foundation started in the fall of 2017 and carried forward a small balance of start-up funds.

- Total Revenue - \$24,825
- Total Program Funding - \$8,766
- Total Fundraising Expenses- \$1,990
- Total Administrative Expenses - \$3,744

REVENUE



EXPENSES



We wanted to keep a fair amount of funds in 2018 as we learned where we would be able to help the most in the coming years. These funds will be the seed to do many wonderful things in 2019 as we advance our program development, invest our assets and widen our impact as we focus our efforts on growing our resources.

"We are very happy with all of the great things that the Oboe Foundation is doing for student musicians. Our continuing support is an investment that MW is pleased to see is being well managed."
Matt Waken, President, MW Investments



A significant achievement in 2018 was saving the John Muir High School Instrumental Music Facility and the Choral Room. Muir is Pasadena Unified School District's (PUSD) Early College Magnet with pathways to college. With Muir's smaller enrollment and Pasadena City College's (PCC) desire to grow into northwest Pasadena, the fit was right for PCC to expand to the Muir campus. PUSD entered into an agreement with PCC to lease Muir's "D" building. The discussions however, did not consider the music facilities that occupied the east end of the building. After the issue was raised, the solutions offered were to move the instrumental music facility to the abandoned auto shop and move the choral program to an empty classroom. Brad Ratliff was made aware of the issue and the Oboe Foundation became a leading partner in the effort to retain the music facilities. The Oboe Foundation had discussions with members of the PCC Board of Trustees, PUSD Board of Education and Pasadena City Council. Additionally, calls went out to the music directors of the top high school music programs in the country asking for support by sending letters and emails to the PCC Trustees and PUSD Board members explaining the hardships on the programs created if the proposal was accepted without the necessary attention for the music programs.

Through the combined efforts of dedicated supporters - Dr. Lawton Gray (Muir's Principal) Karen Klages (District Music Specialist), the John Muir Alumni Association and the Oboe Foundation - PCC and PUSD agreed to continue the use of the music facilities by Muir and its students. A successful victory for all parties, but most importantly, a victory for the students.

EXCERPTS FROM THE BAND DIRECTORS' CORRESPONDENCE TO PCC AND PUSD

"I was surprised to hear of the Board's plans to lease the band room at John Muir HS, possibly relegating these music students and teachers to a converted classroom. I believe these students are worthy of quality instruction in a setting that is both appropriate and conducive to good teaching and learning."

-Kerry Taylor, Director of Bands
Westlake High School, Austin Texas
Board of Directors, American Bandmasters Association
Past President, Texas Music Educators Association

"A band room is a safe haven and a sanctuary for music students to hone their musical abilities. Without such spaces music students can feel vulnerable and possibly lose interest in fine arts programs all together."

-Travis W. Kimber, Director of Bands
Martin Luther King, Jr. High School, Lithonia, GA

"It seems that there are no immediate plans for PCC's use of the band room for anything other than storage, relegating the instrumental music program to a classroom. This would be a tremendous blow to the music program and the students that consider that space, home."

-Travis Pardee, Director of Bands/Performing Arts Chair
Foothill High School, Henderson, NV

"While I am extremely aware of the budget constraints being placed on school districts across the nation, I am also incredibly aware of the awesome influence music has on children – our students and their learning! One of those benefits is a place to belong – a safe place, a place where community exists, where lifelong friendships are created, and a place where organizations of great influence rehearse. Unfortunately, there is not a single other room that can provide this!"

-Joel Denton, Director of Music
Ooltewah High School, Ooltewah, TN

Thank you to all who supported the campaign to keep the music facilities open for the music students. A band room is more than just a place to practice, it's our musical home.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

PAZ JAZZ!



**FRIDAY,
MARCH 2
2018**

**PASADENA
CITY
COLLEGE
WESTERBECK
HALL**

9:00-11:30 AM
PUSD STUDENT
PERFORMANCES

1:30-2:00 PM
PCC FACULTY
PERFORMANCES

*With support from Pasadena
City College*

CALL 626.396.3600 X88129
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Sponsored by

**The
Oboe
foundation**

Paz Jazz! was an
incredible success!

Paz Jazz! is the brainchild of Karen Klages, Music Director at Eliot Arts Magnet and PUSD District Music Specialist. Karen wanted an event that gave an opportunity for all of the jazz bands in PUSD to perform at a single event and also to receive feedback from qualified jazz instructors. The Oboe Foundation was honored to produce and fund the event.

"Paz Jazz is really cool, we had a good time and learned a lot."

-Shamir, Tenor Sax



THANK YOU

Our first year would not have realized the successes it had without the generosity, kindness and support of so many wonderful people and organizations.



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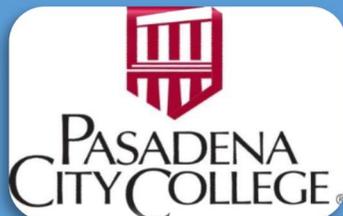
Dorothy Potter

Bill Bing

Dilip Patel

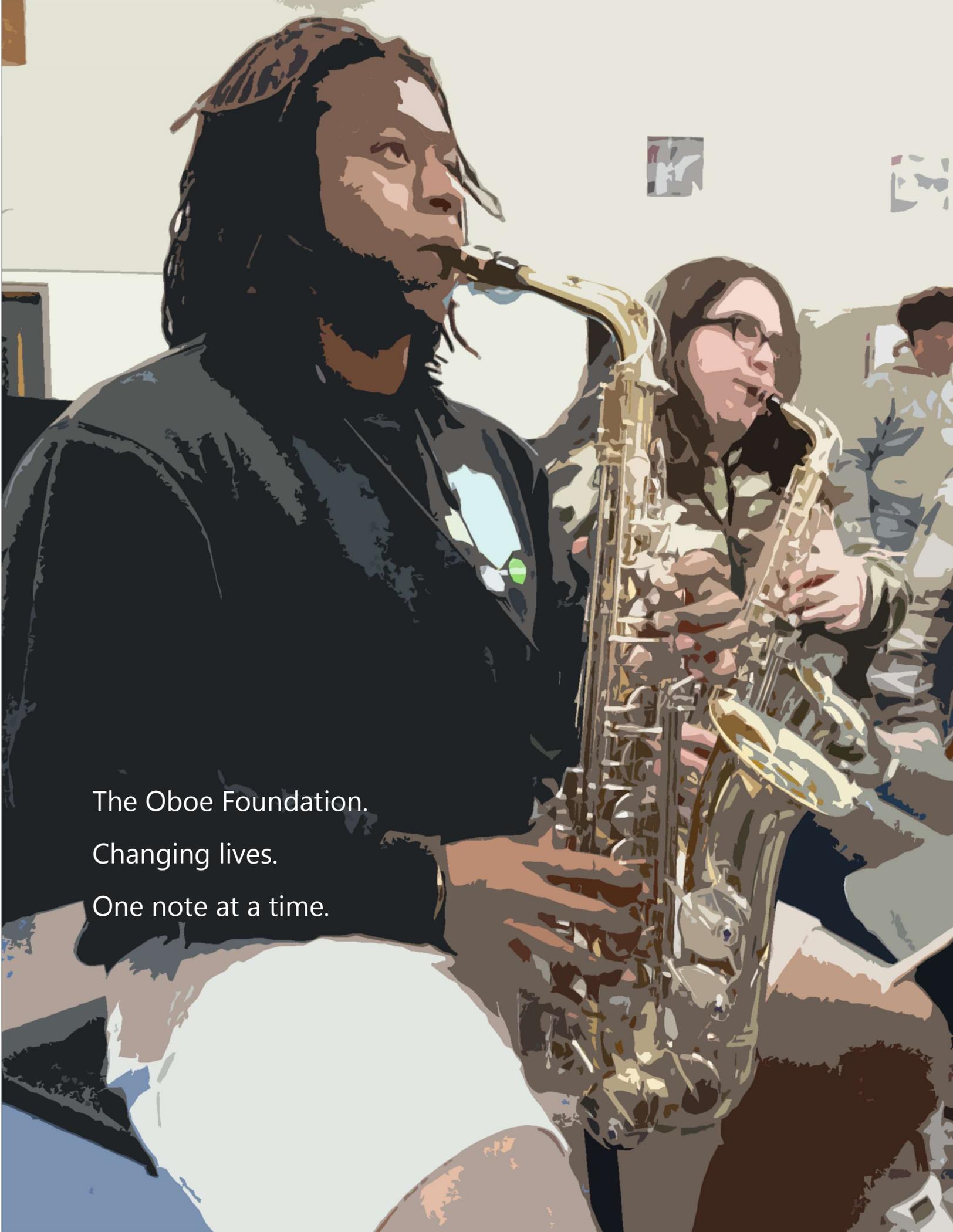
Jill Hawkins

Sarah Ratliff



"The Arcadia Music and Arts Symposium sincerely appreciates the generosity of the Oboe Foundation, and its generous contribution to help supply scholarships to the 2018 Symposium. The Oboe Foundation provided a once in a lifetime opportunity for these students to learn from some of the finest music educators in the nation."

-Kevin Sherrill, Director of Bands, Arcadia High School
Arcadia, CA



The Oboe Foundation.
Changing lives.
One note at a time.