



2017 UPAF Impact Stories

The performing arts touch many lives in Southeastern Wisconsin. The following is just a sample of the many stories provided by individuals, artists and business people about the impact that UPAF and the performing arts make in our community.

UPAF Donor

"I give to UPAF because I believe the performing arts are critical and are important to Milwaukee and the surrounding areas. I give because I know the impact that it had on my life, and I want to continue to see that play out for my children and all the children in this community. That's why I give to UPAF. That's what tugs at my heart."

Local Actor

"I'm incredibly fortunate to be a full-time theater practitioner. Milwaukee has a surprising breadth of theater institutions for a city of its size. I really love the variety of work that I'm able to do here, plus I can own a house as a full-time artist! I tend to know what my entire season looks like from year to year, so as a freelancer, there is great peace of mind with that. I also love the broad sense of community that UPAF is able to foster. UPAF guides people to see the importance of the performing arts in our community, and that's special."

First Stage Academy Parent

"I felt like my child was in a safe and nurturing environment. My daughter loved it from day one and eagerly shared her experiences with us after each day. She can be very cautious and quiet, and to hear her say after the first day that improv was her favorite subject was music to my ears. Day two and beyond the favorite subject was Shakespeare, and we had many conversations about the different plays she studied and fun facts about the man. It was truly a life-changing experience for her. I am filled with gratitude for your dedication to youth."

Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra Student

"In MYSO, I am surrounded by individuals equally as passionate about music as myself. The skill set that music performance has given me is invaluable. Whether it is playing a concerto, shooting a free throw or taking an exam, I can honestly say that my experience as a performer has equipped me with the tools I need to succeed in life."

Business Executive

"Investment in the performing arts is important to me because it is key to the vitality of our region. Without a thriving arts community Milwaukee will never be a distinctively great place to live, work and play. This is important to me both as a business owner trying to build a great company and as a citizen of the Milwaukee community."