

Foundation Focus

Penn Manor Education Foundation Newsletter

Fall 2015

Playing on

Artist in residence DiSanto returns to Penn Manor to share music life lessons

Many teenagers have an interest in music, even dreams of a career in the music industry. Unfortunately, with the current focus on standardized testing at many schools and the resulting budget cuts to the arts, students with an interest in music don't always feel supported.

Penn Manor Education Foundation sent a message that music can be an option for students by bringing a career musician – and a Penn Manor grad – to work with our students.

Singer-songwriter Leo DiSanto (Class of 1996) returned to Penn Manor High School in April as an artist-in-residence through a PMEF-funded Venture Grant.

In the morning, he worked with two guitar classes, plus members of the school's band, orchestra and chorus. He discussed his journey in music through writing and performing and



Penn Manor graduate and artist in residence Leo DiSanto performs for students in a guitar class at Penn Manor High School.

shared stories of his travels in the U.S. and Europe, the highs and lows of his chosen career path.

In addition, Leo played a mini concert for nearly 200 students and worked with students in Penn Manor's Twilight alternative education program.

Leo has spent the past few years

traveling the country as a one-man band, in addition to touring and recording as founding front man of the popular eclectic string band Vinegar Creek Constituency.

In fall 2014, Leo performed in Ireland with his band, then remained in Europe for three months, traveling

More DISANTO on Page 5

Old friends gather as Foundation hosts retiree breakfast



Retirees share breakfast and swap stories in the HS cafeteria.

Retired teachers, secretaries, custodians and administrators came together in the high school cafeteria on May 6 to celebrate and reminisce about their years of service to the Penn Manor School District.

PMEF sponsors this breakfast for our retirees to thank them for their ongoing support of Penn Manor Education Foundation.

While retirees socialized with old friends, Skip Reddig's Guitar II students played a medley of familiar tunes. Diane Glock-Cornman's Floriculture

More RETIREE BREAKFAST on Page 5

Recognition Gifts

Recent gifts given in honor of or in memory of the following individuals

Dorothy Fulmer Mummert
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Mummert

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Mrs. Elizabeth Hoin
Mrs. Elizabeth Loht
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Donald Erb, Terry Robb and David Neff
Mr. and Mrs. James Amigh

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Mr. and Mrs. P. William Hutchinson

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Molly Curtis
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Behmer
Williams Apothecary Inc.
AFSCME Local 1738
PM Youth Baseball/Softball Association

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Derek Weiss
Mrs. Nancy Weiss

Marsha Frerichs
Penn Manor School Board
Mr. and Mrs. James Bridgeman

Betty Doan
Mr. Harry Doan
Mr. and Mrs. John Kirby

PMEF welcomes Tracy Seiger to the board

Penn Manor parent and alumna shares her marketing expertise

PMEF commitment runs deep in the Seiger family.

When Tom Seiger's tenure on the Foundation board ended in 2014, his wife Tracy stepped in to take his place, without hesitation.

Joining the Education Foundation board was a natural choice and a great fit, said Tracy, a longtime community member. "It's easy to get excited about serving when you truly believe in the work the organization does," she said.

Tracy is a Penn Manor graduate (Class of 1986), and the Seigers' children, Lauren and Brad, also are Penn Manor alumni.

Tracy hopes to utilize her marketing skills and local network connections to strengthen public awareness of PMEF within the community.

She has been an active volunteer in a variety of school and community organizations, based on her passion for

helping and serving others.

Tracy spent nine years working one-on-one with at-risk families through the Lancaster County Children and Youth Parent Mentoring Program. She speaks fondly of the rewards she experienced from teaching, encouraging, supporting and mentoring the families and individuals in the program.

Tracy transitioned that passion into the real estate field, joining Life Changes Realty Group in December 2013. Real estate, like social services, is a profession that involves "walking with people through a journey of change," she said.

"I enjoy having the opportunity to walk alongside my real estate clients, assisting and encouraging them throughout the home-buying or selling process. From helping a single mom purchase her first home for \$200 less per month than



Tracy Seiger poses with her husband, Tom, and children, Brad and Lauren, both Penn Manor alumni.

her rent, to helping a recent widow downsize to a more manageable property – there are many purchases that end with a tear in my eye ... always a tear of joy."

Life Changes Realty Group has a Pay It Forward program in which 10 percent of an agent's commission is

donated to a charity of the client's choosing at closing.

PMEF thanks Tracy for adding the Education Foundation to the list of charities her clients are choosing to bless. And we look forward to benefitting from her expertise on the board.

EITC Spotlight: Fulton Bank

Since Penn Manor Education Foundation became an approved organization under the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program, Fulton Bank has been its most generous benefactor—contributing more than \$94,000 since the 2003-04 school year.

"We are one of the larger banks in the country, but we think like a community bank and recognize the importance of maintaining our commitment to our schools and communities by giving back—especially to those who put their trust in us," said Fulton Bank president and COO Curt Myers. "Penn Manor is certainly a school district that we want to continue to support."

Fulton Bank is a full-service financial institution that provides banking and investment products. Even though it is a \$17-plus billion company, it strives

to provide the personal service that is important to its clients. Curt has been with Fulton since he graduated from Shippensburg University in 1990. He has experienced first-hand much of Fulton Bank's growth.



Curt Myers

"Our great products and personal service have helped us grow as a company, which is wonderful," Myers said. "However, I am equally proud that as we have grown, we have still delivered the excellent personal service that is so important to our customers."

Many Fulton employees volunteer in their respective communities. Curt is no exception. He currently serves on the boards of directors of the Salva-

tion Army and the Fulton Theater and has earned the Distinguished Service Award and Volunteer of the Year Award from the American Heart Association.

"We're proud that Fulton Bank employees are serving on nonprofit boards of directors. We're your school volunteers, church volunteers and coaches," Myers said. "We are proud to be a part of the neighborhoods we serve."

A heartfelt thank you to Fulton Bank for its continued generosity to Penn Manor Education Foundation and its strong presence in our community.

The EITC program is an opportunity for businesses to donate directly to qualified organizations and receive up to a 90% state tax credit on those donations. If your business is interested in learning more about the EITC program and its benefits, please contact PMEF Executive Director Anne Carroll at 717-872-9500, ext. 2332.

2015 PMEF Scholarship/Award Recipients

Penn Manor Education Foundation awarded more than \$50,000 in scholarships to the Penn Manor High School Class of 2015 in May. Thank you to the individuals, families and community organizations that funded the majority of these awards. Over the years, the Foundation has given nearly \$500,000 in scholarships and awards to deserving Penn Manor students.

Award

Rachel E. Miller Memorial Scholarship
 Jerry Darrenkamp Memorial Scholarship
 Betty Doan Memorial Scholarship
 Rintz Family Foundation Principal's Scholarship
 Rintz Family Foundation Principal's Scholarship
 Rintz Family Foundation Principal's Scholarship
 Brereton Manor Scholarship
 Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship
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 Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship
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 Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship
 Mrs. Abner Houseknecht Memorial Scholarship
 Christine A. Weidinger Memorial Scholarship
 PMMA Dr. D. L. Biemesderfer Award (valedictorian)
 PMMA Mary Klemmer Award (salutatorian)
 William H. Duncan Jr. Memorial Scholarship
 Donald Wade Woodward Memorial Scholarship
 Hans H. Haverstick Scholarship
 Shellenberger-Hosler Scholarship
 Abram W. Sangrey Memorial Scholarship
 Donald and Susan Martin Family 'Pay It Forward'
 Scholarship
 Capt. Ed Davis Memorial Award
 John R. Milliman Scholarship
 Dorothy Dart Milliman Scholarship
 Lloyd & Ann Boyd Scholarship
 Student Services Award
 PMAA Luella Mellinger Scholarship
 Stella Caldwell Memorial Scholarship
 Kim Wells Scholarship
 Kim Wells Scholarship
 Marsha Frerichs Scholarship
 Dr. Jan Mindish Scholarship
 Dr. Jan Mindish Scholarship
 Dr. Jan Mindish Scholarship
 Jere Hoin Scholarship
 Christopher Johnson Memorial Scholarship
 Donald Pollock Scholarship
 Patricia A. Texter Scholarship
 Kevin B. Smith Memorial Award
 Millersville Business Association Scholarship
 Mario-Angelo Russo Memorial Scholarship
 Molly Curtis Memorial Scholarship
 Olga P. Harvie Memorial Scholarship
 Dr. Diane Meily Memorial Scholarship
 PMEF Scholarship
 PMEF Scholarship

Recipient(s)

Zebulin Pfeiffer
 Ross Frey
 Paige Kellenberger
 Joshua Bye
 Mikayla Fry
 Olivea Norris
 Breahna Booth
 Katey Comeau
 Margaret Gross
 Abrianna Hamby
 Hailey Kresge
 Olivia Stekervetz
 Charlene Wade-Davis
 Allison Weidman
 Alan Dang
 Craig Jahnke
 Victoria Fisher
 Ashton Leschke
 Joseph Dell'Estate
 Elizabeth McIlhenney
 Allison Weidman
 Rachel Olcott
 Justin Torres
 Sarah Beth Ranck
 Margaret Gross
 Collin Bitts
 Benjamin Lefever
 Tyler Spangler
 Katelyn Campion
 Alan Dang
 Sarah Beth Ranck
 Ryan Black
 Shaylyn Fisher
 Sabrina Rodriguez
 Devon Sangrey
 Victoria Fisher
 James Bausano
 Sarah Beth Ranck
 Morgan Henry
 Allison Weidman
 Samantha Shiner
 Alyssa Crook
 Kaitlin Hotchkiss
 Abigail Geiger
 Mitchell Sweigart
 Brittany Imel / Cassie Kline
 Anneli Starry / Christopher Rorabaugh

School Attending

Ursinus College
 Virginia Tech
 PA College of Health Sciences
 Messiah College
 York Technical Institute-Lancaster
 Indiana University of PA
 Bloomsburg University
 Millersville University
 Penn State University
 Penn State University
 Vanderbilt University
 Elizabethtown College
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Lebanon Valley College
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 University of Pennsylvania
 Millersville University
 Stevenson University
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 Elizabethtown College
 Lebanon Valley College
 Drexel University
 Joining the U.S. Marines
 Eastern Mennonite University
 Penn State University
 Thaddeus Stevens College of Tech
 Millersville University
 Millersville University
 Penn State University
 Mass. Institute of Technology
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 Penn State University
 Elizabethtown College
 HACC Lancaster
 University of Pittsburgh
 Millersville University
 Lehigh University
 Eastern Mennonite University
 PA College of Health Sciences
 Lebanon Valley College
 Millersville University
 Muhlenberg College
 Millersville University
 Temple University
 Princeton University
 Allegheny College / Penn State
 Florida Tech / Lock Haven University

In memory of Karen Shenk

PMEF lost a great friend, loyal supporter, dedicated worker and enthusiastic cheerleader with the passing of Karen L. Shenk on August 14, 2015.

A longtime PMEF board member, president and marketing chairwoman, Karen remained committed to the goals of the Education Foundation.

Current board members praised Karen for “giving her time and funds unconditionally” to the foundation.

“Just by her presence, you felt her kindness and generosity,” said one board member. “It was as if Karen had 36 hours in a day for all she did for everyone.”

Karen played a vital role in every major fundraiser PMEF sponsored. She will be greatly missed.

Memorial contributions in Karen’s



memory may be made to: Penn Manor Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1001, Millersville, PA 17551.

Retiree breakfast

CONTINUED from Page 1

class created the flower centerpieces that lucky retirees at each table took home.

A delicious breakfast buffet provided by the high school cafeteria staff was accompanied by a variety of pastries prepared by Mindy Rottmund’s Advanced Foods students.

PMEF Executive Director Anne Carroll provided updates on the Foundation, including a video highlighting a PMEF Venture Grant that provided microscopes to an elementary classroom. Superintendent Michael Lechlitter shared news about school district activities.

Following the remarks, music students of Sara Masten and Lauren Ciemiewicz entertained the retirees with Hawaiian music and other songs they’d prepared for their trip to Hawaii. The morning ended with a raffle drawing and PMEF quiz.

It was great to see so many familiar faces and friends of PMEF!

DiSanto: Musician inspires students

CONTINUED from Page 1

and playing at local venues in eight countries. He has been performing since his high school days at Penn Manor, playing multiple instruments, including guitar, mandolin, harmonica and floorboard percussion.

Leo and his brother, Nick, began playing music in elementary school; Leo also started writing poetry. When he discovered his father’s record collection, Leo fell in love with the Beatles and the idea of writing and singing songs.

The students were especially interested in how Leo is able to make a living as an independent musician. Performing provides 90 percent of his income, he said. He does odd jobs to provide the rest.

As a teenager, Leo wanted to be a big rock star, but now he has a different perspective. He likes being an independent musician and stressed how important it is for performers to have an online presence: on Twitter, YouTube, Amazon, Spotify, iTunes, blogs and websites. Musicians must provide the public with as many outlets as possible to be seen and

heard, he said.

“Networking and learning to promote and book yourself are vital to making a blue-collar living as a musician,” he said. “You may not get a big break, but a lot of little breaks.”

Leo noted that fans in nine countries own his CDs, making him feel a little bit like Johnny Appleseed.

He told the Twilight students he was not successful in high school, yet he continued his education at Millersville University, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with degrees in linguistics and philosophy.

“There are always new things to learn,” he said. “Go out and show people what you can do. Take advantage of opportunities.”

For the Penn Manor students, the opportunity to work with a professional musician was an enriching experience. Their teachers reported that follow-up discussions were meaningful, and students understood the level of commitment required in making a life as a professional musician.

“There are always new things to learn. Go out and show people what you can do. Take advantage of opportunities.”

– Leo DiSanto

THE EXTRATM
ORDINARY
GIVE
NOVEMBER 20, 2015

PMEF to participate in Extra Give Nov. 20

Penn Manor Education Foundation is again participating in the ExtraOrdinary Give, a 24-hour online fundraising event for local nonprofits.

If you would like to contribute, please go to the extragive.org website at any time on Nov. 20 and click on the PMEF link.

A gift of \$25 can purchase library materials to excite young learners. A \$500 gift can fund a scholarship for a graduating Penn Manor High School student.

Last year, many generous donors participated, providing \$5,100 to the Foundation.

PMEF thanks you for your support!

Donor Recognition

Thank you for your recent contributions!

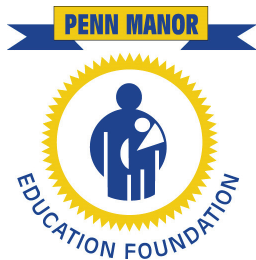
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W. Mylin & Helen Martin	James Ortman Jr.	Jarod Staub	Ralph & Junko Wright
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**Penn Manor
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Miniature robots enliven MS science lessons

*PMEF grant enables students at Manor,
Marticville schools to use hands-on devices*

Robots are taking over science classes in Penn Manor's middle schools – and that's a good thing.

An Education Foundation grant enabled Manor and Marticville middle schools to purchase 11 Lego EV3 robots for use by 350 seventh-graders. The robotics curriculum supports the school's science,

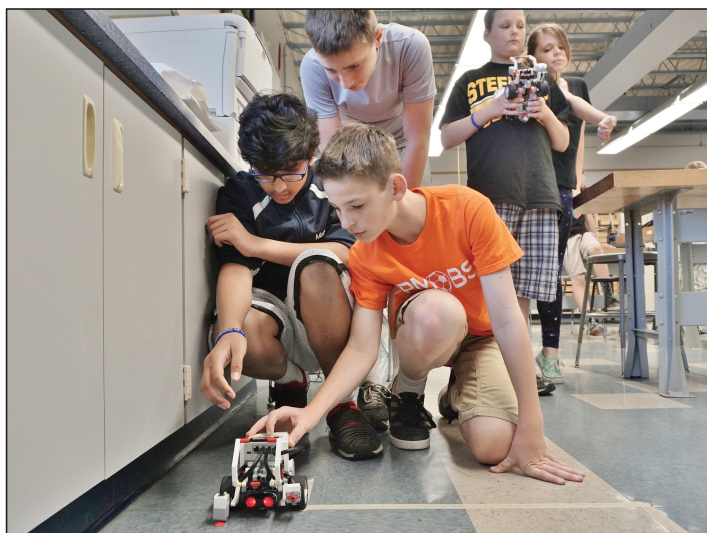
technology, engineering and math (STEM) program.

Working in groups, the students program the robots to perform a specific series of movements, guided by their photo-electric "eyes" and infrared, ultrasonic and push-button sensors.

"As the students learn about the different types of sensors and their capabilities, they are able to use them to navigate an obstacle course," said Manor teacher Janice Adams.

"In addition to learning by doing, the students are able to practice such 'soft skills' as collaboration and communication by working in teams."

"We all worked together," said Manor

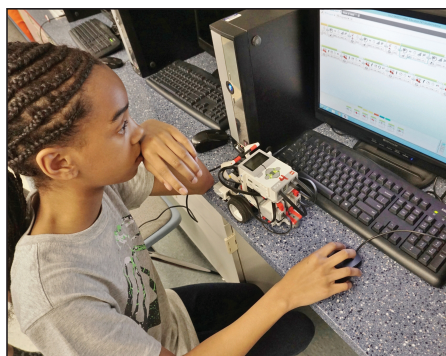


Manor Middle School students try to get an EV3 robot to follow the specific path they programmed for the device.

student Neel Mahapatra, who used the robots last year. "If you didn't program it correctly, you'd have to start all over."

Adams said the robots encourage experimentation and independent learning. They

also have helped spur classroom discussions about the use of robotics in manufacturing, farming, the military, entertainment and the medical field, introducing students to careers they might not have considered before.



A student changes the coordinates of her robot on the computer.