Welcome Brian Alverson, New Board Chair ...

To the Greenwood Community,

As of the June reunion 2018, I will have the honor of taking over from Kady von Schoeler as the Chair of the Board of Directors for Greenwood Music Camp. At the outset, I would like to, on behalf of the Greenwood Community, thank Kady for her remarkably successful stewardship of the camp over the past several years. Under her leadership, we have achieved a far more secure financial footing, we have undergone major repairs to the buildings and grounds, and the camp continues to be a safe haven for talented children to express their musical ideas and build their sense of community. Thank you, Kady!

Since I attended the camp, there have been a few changes to the overall structure of the grounds, including a new kitchen and a new performance barn. For some, change is an uncomfortable notion, but as a parent of two current campers, I want everyone to be assured that the camp is still the same amazing place it has always been. I watch my children tick off the days on their wall calendar, a countdown that begins the day they get back from the summer before. In the early days of summer, as the crocuses are done and the leaves come out in full, the campers start getting excited. School can’t be over soon enough. Images of the camp start to pervade into their dreams.

It’s also a bit different, though. Perhaps better. Our children are perhaps better connected than we ever were. With our generation, there were some friends who we saw only at the camp, or maybe some of us wrote each other a few hand-scrawled letters during the year. But nowadays our kids are in touch almost around the clock through social media. In a sense, their palpable excitement for returning is in many ways fueled by their excitement to see old friends, but friends held even closer. They also can’t wait for the music. Just the other day I overheard a few campers, comparing which coaches they loved the most, talking about pieces they wished fervently they might get to play. The essential elements of goodness remain strong.

As Chair of the Board, my main goal is quite simply to help the directors keep it that way. To that effect, however, we need to make sure the place is intact and able to run. Yes, that means fundraising, but it also means keeping up with health requirements, building codes, and satisfying all sorts of rules and regulations that weren’t so important when we were kids. Remember the days of dashing down the lawn and leaping into the pool? Now there’s a fence and a stripe in the pool and there has to be a certified swim instructor present. Part of me is sad about that, but the reality is, kids are still swimming, and laughing, and the sky is still that amazing Greenwood blue.

This magic requires your financial support, but most importantly, this takes a community. To satisfy our dream of keeping Greenwood as it is, our primary goal...
Senior Camp

After another banner year for applications we will be welcoming a wonderful group of many returning, a number of Junior Campers moving up, and some terrific campers who will be entirely new to us. The counselors are a combination of returning and first-timers as well, and I am delighted with the entire group! Our fabulous chefs will again create their daily masterpieces to nourish our health, life and music-making. All faculty will be returning, with the addition of alum oboist Gigi Brady, who will serve as an added on-campus woodwind support staff member. The faculty concerts are already being planned.

We will have two very exciting alum events as well. Lea Pearson will join us at the end of the first week to help the entire camp learn how to play without pain or injury. Lea is a nationally renown expert on the technique known as Body Mapping, and calls her particular technique “Music Minus Pain”. She will give a workshop, attend our concert, and have individual sessions with campers and staff. We are thrilled to have Lea join and guide us in this incredibly important aspect of playing music. Everyone will be set up for total enjoyment of the magical musical experience which Greenwood provides.

We will also enjoy the great gift of a concert by pianist Lura Johnson. Lura has undertaken a huge Prelude and Fugue project (Bach and Shostakovich), and will perform part of this monumental undertaking for us.

We hope to see many of you at our weekly camper concerts, starting on July 7th, as always, at 7:30 PM on Saturday nights. As you all know, there is simply nothing as uplifting and thrilling as a Greenwood concert!

Join us!

Deb Sherr
Senior Camp Director

2018 Reunion

The annual reunion takes place this year from June 21-24. This year, we are celebrating the final season of the Chiara quartet with a special Saturday evening concert. The Chiaras have attended Greenwood as campers, counselors, and teachers for decades, and they are truly part of the Greenwood family. Join us on Saturday night to celebrate their years together and hear some wonderful music.

We will also spend time honoring the memory of
Joe Schaff, who passed away earlier this year. Joe was an architect of the Greenwood spirit, and he touched the lives of hundreds of campers through the years. We will hold a commemorative session at Sing to share stories and sing a few of his favorite works.

Besides these special events, we will welcome Daniel Broitman, a conducting Master’s student at the University of Michigan, to the podium for our orchestra readings. We will leave plenty of time for zilching, work crew, and sitting on the Wall, of course.

So bring your instrument, work gloves, appetites, and love for Greenwood as we gather together for one weekend at that magical place. Register on the Greenwood website or email info@greenwoodmusiccamp.org

Jennifer Chang (J96-99, S00-03)
Chair of the Alumni Reunion

Junior Camp

As I sit listening to the rain, I am feeling very thankful it’s not snow and that Summer is coming! We will have a full and festive camp with thirty one new campers joining our returning campers. They will be coming from New England as well as Chicago and North Carolina.

We will be welcoming two new faculty members. Violinist Clara Kim will be joining us as a chamber music coach and on the violin faculty. Clara is the first violinist of the Argus Quartet which is currently the Graduate Resident Quartet at the Juilliard School. The quartet has won numerous awards and is committed to traditional as well as new music. Clara was a Camper at Senior Camp during high school. Kensho Watanabe will not be conducting the orchestra this summer because of another exciting commitment. We will miss Kensho terribly but the good news is that we have Yaniv Segal joining us as our conductor for this summer. Until recently, Yaniv was the Assistant Conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and Director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. He is currently the main cover conductor for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Yaniv is also an accomplished composer and violinist and a Junior Camper in his youth! We are excited to have both Clara and Yaniv join our faculty this summer. If you would like to learn more about them, they both have websites. The rest of the faculty will remain the same including Hannah Collins who will be back with us this summer as Cello Faculty along with Joe Kimura.

We will not have an orchestra soloist this summer but instead will have an evening of orchestral sight reading where some of our older campers will have the opportunity to play their concertos with the orchestra. We will have four pianists this summer who will be performing chamber music by Haydn, Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, and Shostakovich.

Our usual fun will be had with the scavenger hunt, treasure hunt, contra dance, charades, swimming, ping pong, climbing Mt Greylock, etcetera. Don’t you all want to come back to camp? Well you can come for the concerts on August 18th at 7pm and August 26th at 11am!

Debby Greenebaum
Junior Camp Director
Development

This is my fourth year writing for the spring newsletter, and never have I so looked forward to spring! I live in Baltimore, so I know my winter was not nearly as long or cold as the one some of you had farther north, but the flowers and warm weather were long overdue down here, too. Greenwood is also waking up from a long winter, and the finishing touches are being put on the house renovation. Thanks to all of you, we raised more money this year than ever! Much of it was put into the house renovation fund, while most of the remainder will go towards scholarships for this summer’s campers. A special portion has been set aside to restore the view from the wall, one of everyone’s favorite places to sit, chat, and meditate at camp. Thank you alumni, campers, family, and friends for continuing to provide the wherewithal to keep Greenwood the special place it is.

I encourage you to return to Greenwood to see the fruits of your contributions. The reunion towards the end of June is always a good time to visit, and this year there will be a special concert by the Chiara String Quartet on Saturday evening. This will be one of their final performances before the musicians disband to follow other paths. I am especially looking forward to this concert because Becca Fisher, the first violinist, is one of the reasons I ended up playing viola at Greenwood. I was the third violin in our grade school quartet, and you all know that three violins and a cello do not a quartet make. I switched to viola and never looked back. I look forward to hearing how far she has come from playing Golliwog’s Cakewalk!

I look forward to seeing some of you in Cummington in June. Now go out and enjoy this beautiful spring!

Sonia Klemperer-Johnson (J87, S88-S90)
Development Chair
We sincerely appreciate the generous support from these donors to the Annual Scholarship Fund, Betsy Loeb Music Fund, Greenwood Annual Fund, Oboe Scholarship Fund, House Renovation Fund and the Jane Song Memorial Fund.

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Welcome New Board Chair (continued)
is to continue to foster the community we’ve created for alumni. You, the alumni, aren’t as far from the magic as you might imagine. It takes only a little activation energy to kindle the flame of your Greenwood heart, and so my greatest goal is to get all of you to come back to visit. Please, come to a concert this summer. Hear again the campers screaming and applauding at the end of Mendelssohn Octet (barefoot and 16 years old is the best way that piece is performed). Marvel once more at the way they lean forward into the music, unkempt and enthusiastic. See the white clad children marching over the verdant lawn, heading off to chorus warm-ups. Come to a reunion: enjoy food and beverage and great company and wonderful zilching, or just sun on the wall and admire the view.

Come back and reengage. There are alumni who have been going back to the reunion every year for decades (I have!). Greenwood is still here, and we’d all love to see you!

Brian Alverson
Board Chair

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