

Why Music?

❑ Music improves us.

- Children who receive musical training demonstrate improved comprehension and educational performance.

❑ Music heals us.

- Research has found that music therapy is beneficial both physically and mentally.

❑ Music binds us

- It brings us together socially, artistically, intellectually and spiritually.



Who was Lowell Mason?

Lowell Mason (1792-1872) is the Father of American Music Education.

- ☐ He said “Children should be taught music as they are taught to read.”
- ☐ He convinced the Boston schools to add music as a part of the standard curriculum.
- ☐ He traveled throughout Massachusetts and across the country as a champion of music education in schools.
- ☐ He taught music teachers how to teach.

Today, largely due to Lowell Mason, most schools in America offer some form of musical experiences as part of their core studies.



Who was Lowell Mason?

Lowell Mason is also considered the Father of American Church Music.



- ❑ He believed in the importance of congregational singing which involves everyone in the worship experience.
- ❑ He composed the music for over 1,600 hymns, many of which are sung today.
- ❑ His best-known works include an arrangement of "Joy to the World" and the tune "Bethany," which sets to music the hymn text "Nearer, My God, to Thee."
- ❑ He compiled a collection of church music which was published in 1822 as the "Boston Handel and Haydn Society Collection of Church Music."

Why Music Education Advocacy?

- ❑ Again and again, the teaching of music is always under threat when schools face budget cuts.
- ❑ School boards and administrators are pressured to maximize Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.
- ❑ Music is often viewed as an “extra”, as something unnecessary.
- ❑ However, research shows that Arts experiences (including Music, Dance, Drama, Visual and Media Arts) strengthen all learning, including that of STEM subjects.
- ❑ Prior to this research, Lowell Mason was ahead of his time by viewing music as a core subject.



The Birthplace of Lowell Mason

- ❑ In 2010 Lowell Mason's birthplace in Medfield, MA was to be demolished to make way for a new development.
- ❑ In 2011, we moved the house to safety in a public park in Medfield.
- ❑ The Lowell Mason House ("LMH") will act as a fitting legacy to Lowell Mason and serve as a major innovation center for music education.
- ❑ The renovated house will serve as the foundation for music education advocacy, instruction and performance.



Lowell Mason House



- ❑ House built early 1700's.
- ❑ Reused timber dated to 1651: The year Medfield was incorporated.
- ❑ Wooden peg construction: Used in timber frame homes in the 18th century.



Construction Goals

- ☐ Be fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”), providing full access to the building.
- ☐ Maximize the use of renewable energy throughout the building.
- ☐ Incorporate modern practice, meeting, and performance spaces within the historic features of the Lowell Mason House.



Floor Usage

- ❑ Garden Level - Modern, all-purpose space available for meetings as well as practice and performance.
- ❑ First Floor - A multi-purpose meeting, performance and gathering room as well as a collections resource room.
- ❑ Second Floor - Four modern music practice rooms with one room dedicated to a library of music scores for use and study by music teachers.
- ❑ ADA compliant restrooms will be on the Garden Level and Second Floor. There will be elevator access to all floors.





**Garden Level – Meeting and Recital Room
Architect's Rendering**



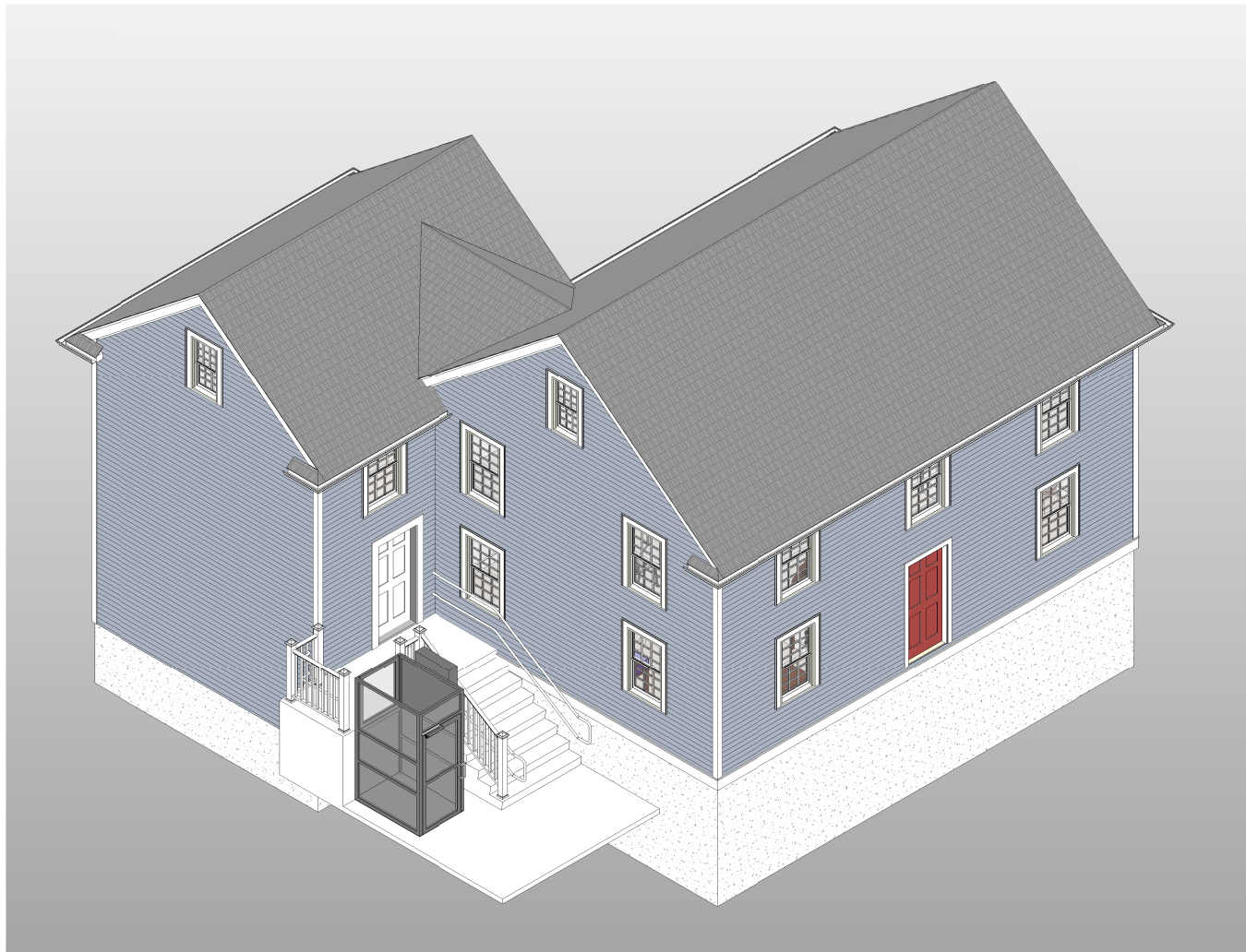
**First Floor – Collections Room
Architect's Rendering**



**First Floor – Meeting, Performance and Gathering Room
Architect's Rendering**



**Second Floor – Practice Room
Architect's Rendering**



**ADA-Compliant Access Addition
with Exterior Lift and Elevator to all Three Floors**

Programs

Dr. Al and Gladys Wright Music Education Innovation Center at the Lowell Mason House

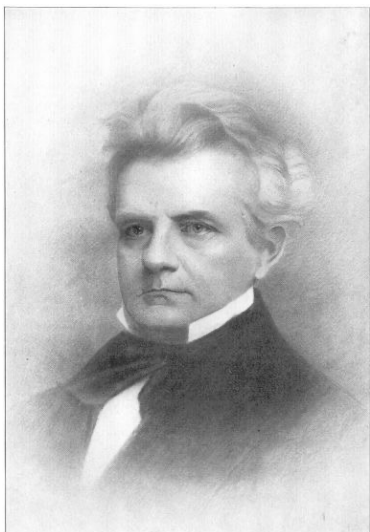
Innovative Music Education Programs and Materials including:

- Cutting Edge Teaching Approaches
- Music Therapy & Health Benefits through Music
- Music Education Advocacy Competitions
- Lyceum Lectures

Lowell Mason House Music Center

Music Making Resource Center for the Region and Beyond:

- Museum/Collections Room
- Spaces for Music Practice and Lessons
- Concert Performances/Recitals
- Meeting space for LMH & Community Use
- Sacred Music Resources





LMH Annual Teaching Innovation Competition

Annually, the LMH invites submissions on topics related to music and music education. LMH has received submissions from more than 20 states and several foreign countries.

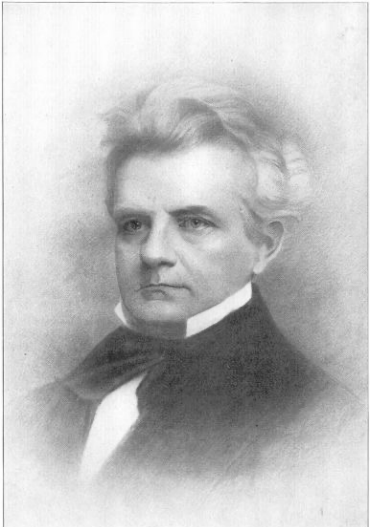


Topics have included:

- What inspired you to become a musician or music teacher
- Share your best music education lesson plan
- Submit a video about the importance of music education

First Place Winners

- 2019 - Winston Schneider, Omaha, NE
- 2020 - Andrew Geocaris, Marietta, GA
- 2022 - Lisa Werner, Dousman, WI
- 2023 - Ella Stark, Bedford, NY
- 2024 - Penny Hanna, Aptos, CA



A list of all 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners as well as Honorable Mentions can be found on our website.

LMH Lyceum Lectures

The Lyceum Lectures is a series of programs focusing on music education advocacy & music teacher education.



Recently, LMH sponsored a talk featuring Allyson Rottman, the Advocacy Coordinator for the Massachusetts Music Educators Association.

Her talk was called “Amplify your Advocacy Voice” which presented supporters of music education ideas about pro-actively advocating for music in our schools.



Mason Family Piano

Thanks to Will and Caleb Mason, direct descendants of Lowell Mason, the LMH recently acquired the Mason & Hamlin piano built for Lowell Mason's grandson, Henry Lowell Mason. It was built in 1929 and voiced by noted pianist Sergei Rachmaninoff.

It is temporarily being used at St. Edward the Confessor's Church in Medfield until the LMH opens to the public.



Henry Lowell Mason,
pianist and President
of Mason & Hamlin
Piano Company.

The Mason & Hamlin
brand is considered
one of the best
pianos in the world.



Construction Project

- ❑ To date, we have raised almost \$1,000,000 of our goal of \$1,600,000 needed to finished the house renovation.

- ❑ The construction project comprises three phases:

- **Phase One**

- ✓ Move the house, new foundation and roof.

- **Phase Two**

- ✓ New energy-efficient windows and doors, interior framing, new siding and exterior paint.

- ❑ Now we are at the ***“Fund to the Finish”***

- **Phase Three**

ADA Compliant Addition

Internal Finishing: Plumbing, electrical, HVAC, flooring, walls, lighting, etc.



Donor Recognition



ADA Access Addition	\$200,000
Garden Level	\$125,000
Gathering Room	\$100,000
Collections Room	\$70,000 - Taken
Practice Rooms (4)	\$50,000
Mason Family Piano	\$25,000
Front Door	\$6,000 - Taken
Music Room Door	\$5,000
ADA Doors	\$4,000
Windows	\$2,000
Sidewalk Bricks	\$200

Wall of Honor

Lowell Mason Society	\$25,000 and up
President's Circle	\$10,000 - \$24,999
Benefactors	\$2,500 - \$9,999
Advocates	\$1,000 - \$2,499
Supporters	\$100 - \$999
Friends	\$25 - \$99

Honor the Legacy Inspire the Future

♪ Lowell Mason revolutionized American music education
and sacred music.

Now it's our turn to carry on his legacy.

- Renovate the historic Lowell Mason House, creating a living center for music advocacy, learning and community.
- Inspire future generations to teach and share the joy of music.

Your support makes this possible.

Join the LMH “Fund to the Finish” Today!

Together, we can make the future sing.



Contact Info



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A 501(c)(3) organization*

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