

## 2011-12 Annual Fund Letter

### From The President

Dear Friends of Texas Winds,

Texas Winds ushers in its 27th year of touching - and changing - lives through the power of music. Through music, Texas Winds bridges the gap between the community, the arts, and those individuals, young and old, who are isolated by their health, physical and mental, and their economic situations.

Our professional musicians do more than just provide free concerts. They awaken spirits, lift hearts, and broaden minds at nursing homes, hospitals, and Head Start Centers. I can't think of another charitable organization that serves so many - the elderly, the sick, the injured, Alzheimer's patients, veterans, at-risk children, the poor - while at the same time serving and supporting the arts. Texas Winds is a truly unique charitable opportunity of which you are a part.

Tell your friends, family, co-workers, and even strangers on the street about Texas Winds. Let them know what we are doing. Join us for a concert so you can see and hear first hand how Texas Winds is improving lives. And please join me in making a donation to Texas Winds today!



Karen L. Hart, President



Concerts For Seniors



Charles Barr  
Concerts For Head Start



William E. Rice  
Concerts For Hospitals

Give online at [www.texaswinds.org](http://www.texaswinds.org)  
Contact us at 972-386-8380 or  
[info@texaswinds.org](mailto:info@texaswinds.org)



## Mission

Texas Winds Musical Outreach enriches, educates, and entertains by bringing free musical programs to persons confined by ill health, the economically disadvantaged, isolated seniors and at-risk children.

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## Your Annual Gift and The Texas Winds Endowment



Last year your individual gifts supported twenty five percent of all Texas Winds concerts. You are incredibly generous, for which I am truly thankful. With your annual gift this year, our musicians will continue to enrich, educate, inspire and comfort through music.

The Texas Winds Endowment was established in 2006. The endowment ensures that Texas Winds will be a strong organization into the future and continue to provide free concerts for disadvantaged people.

Please consider giving to the Texas Winds Endowment. Gifts in Memory may be placed in the endowment and are a great way to honor your loved one for years to come. You may also consider Texas Winds in your will. Your gift will be recognized in the Year-End Report.

Catherine Barr, Executive Director

*"The test of a people is how it behaves toward the old. It is easy to love children. Even tyrants and dictators make a point of being fond of children. But the affection and care for the old, the incurable, the helpless, are true gold mines of a culture." - Abraham Lincoln*

## Programs Rock



With Thanksgiving fast approaching, I have been considering all the things for which I am thankful. I count among my blessings, Texas Winds Musical Outreach.

Last January, I attended a Sentimental Journey concert that still rocks me to my core. The location was Manor Care in South Oak Cliff. The performance started in the usual way with heads nodding, toes tapping, smiles coming to faces, but then a spirit entered the room when our jazz duo began "My Girl" by the Temptations. Seniors with walkers and wheelchairs pushed themselves up to go to the dance floor to move to the beat. Bodies moved in ways they hadn't moved for years. Coletha Terrell, the activity director, told me several days later that family members had asked her if the party their parents reported had actually taken place. She exclaimed, "Yes, it's true. Texas Winds performed and we had the time of our lives!" This confirms that life doesn't end in the nursing home, and that events such as Texas Winds concerts are life affirming.

I would love to meet you at a concert to share the Texas Winds experience. Because every ensemble has its own personality, I can't guarantee you'll be rocking to the Temptations, but I can guarantee you a day you won't forget.

Laura Irvin, Program Director

## Seniors



I began my relationship with Texas Winds as a performer. As pianist, I performed with Gloria Stroud, violin, Beth Smith, viola, Gretchen Nichols, cello, and Cathy Barr, oboe. In the course of several years, we brought music to hundreds of nursing home residents. Since that time, I have served as a board member and continue to help in an advisory capacity.

As a senior, it was particularly meaningful for me to perform in programs for those seniors who could not participate in society as I do daily. Our group brought joy and comfort to many of Dallas' senior residents and I am proud to have been a part of that endeavor; an endeavor that continues daily throughout our city.

Nancy P. Penson, Advisory Council

## Head Start

Research has proven that children who are actively involved in music, do better in reading and math as they go through school. Additionally, they are able to focus, control their bodies, play better with others, and have a higher self-esteem. In this endeavor, Texas Winds has served Head Start since 2002. Their "Meet the Instruments" programs, although full of fun, are important learning venues challenging our children to look, listen, and think.

Iris Colebrook, Site Manager, Head Start of Greater Dallas



## Hospitals



Texas Winds is a breath of fresh air to our veterans. Many of them receive only a few family visits a year, and with limited mobility, aren't able to get involved in the community. Texas Winds is important to us because it provides a new outlet that brings a different kind of spark - and that alone has had a positive impact on our veterans and staff alike.

Texas Winds provides programs throughout the Veterans Hospital, as well as in-room performances for bedridden patients.

Chris Merrell, Director of Hospitality, VA Hospital



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**What special gift can  
I give Mom and Dad  
for the holidays?**



*Surprise them with a  
"Just for You"  
Concert*

Texas Winds has 27 years experience performing for all types of audiences and occasions.

Our variety of professional ensembles perform everything from classical selections and jazz to gospel and old favorites.

With costs starting at \$125, this special occasion concert can be tailored to the recipient's taste.

Please contact:

Texas winds  
musical outreach  
972-386-8380  
www.texaswinds.org