



The Sam and Cynthia Blasenstein
Memorial Fund
to Benefit Music Therapy at
Hospice, Inc.

*“Music has the power to entertain,
uplift and heal. Your support will
bring this power to another level.”*

- Terry Blaine,
daughter of Sam and Cynthia Blasenstein

In 2006, the family of Sam and Cynthia Blasenstein established a donor-advised memorial fund at Hospice Foundation, Inc., to help support the music therapy program at Hospice.

Originally from NYC, Sam and Cynthia shared a love of the arts all their lives, believing strongly in education and the power of music to entertain, uplift and heal. Sam was an avid music fan; Cynthia was an accomplished pianist, music teacher, composer, producer and arranger. They passed their love of music on to their daughter, Terry Blaine, who has pursued a career in jazz singing, and to their grandson, Michael Desisto, a budding violinist who performs in and around the Hudson Valley.

Ms. Blaine, her family and friends feel that this Fund, established in her parents' names to support and encourage those working in the arts, specifically in Music Therapy, is a fitting tribute to their life-long love of music and education.

The Music Therapy Program at Hospice began in 2004 as a joint project with the State University of New York at New Paltz. The University provides the Hospice program with music therapy interns who assist the music therapy professional staff in serving the needs of hundreds of Hospice patients and their families. It is the hope of the Blasenstein family to provide financial support and encouragement to those staff members and students interested in pursuing hospice and palliative care music therapy. This may include helping to pay stipends to student interns, funding educational opportunities for staff members and purchasing new musical instruments and supplies for the program. Most importantly, it will help keep the music playing for Hospice patients and their families.

The fund is supported by charitable donations and the proceeds from an annual concert to be presented by Terry Blaine and a group of caring musicians. Donations may be made online using the Hospice, Inc. website at www.hospiceinc.org, by contacting the Hospice Foundation, Inc. office at 374 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, or by calling 845-473-2273, ext. 1109.