



# MISSION & VISION

Midwest Music Foundation unites and empowers the Kansas City area music community by providing health care assistance, education and career development, events and resources.

Midwest Music Foundation of Kansas City supports a healthy and vibrant music community in a thriving regional artistic economy.

Our goals are to:

- ▶ Strengthen musicians' health through wellness services and health care grants
- ▶ Advance artists' careers by providing performance and educational opportunities
- ▶ Provide access to a growing network of industry professionals



# OUR STORY



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- ▶ Founded in 2009 by KC musician Abigail (Abby) Henderson and friends
- ▶ KC music community rallied to support her through first Apocalypse Meow benefit in 2008 after breast cancer diagnosis
- ▶ Apocalypse Meow became annual fundraiser to help other musicians with health care needs
- ▶ Abby passed in 2013, but we carry on her mission to support musicians
- ▶ MMF runs almost entirely on volunteer basis



# ABBY'S FUND FOR MUSICIANS' HEALTH CARE

Abby's Fund for Musicians' Health Care provides grants to musicians faced with urgent health care expenses.

- ▶ Simple application, quick response time (~one week) for urgent needs

## Eligibility:

- ▶ Must reside in Kansas City or surrounding areas.
- ▶ Must provide three references who will be contacted.
- ▶ Must currently be employed or have been employed in the last 12 months as a musician.
- ▶ Must be able to provide documentation upon request.

# ABBY'S FUND FOR MUSICIANS' HEALTH CARE

- ▶ Grants totaling over \$200,000 to 268 musicians since inception
- ▶ Typical grant up to \$2000
- ▶ Help with emergency or urgent needs
- ▶ Guide to other resources as needed
- ▶ Decided on case by case basis
- ▶ Have kept guidelines fairly open to be adaptable



# ABBY'S FUND FOR MUSICIANS' HEALTH CARE

- ▶ We have also moved towards preventative care services
- ▶ Clinics held throughout the year in conjunction with our events
- ▶ Partnership with RockDocs (physicians from University of Kansas Medical Center) and other area providers
- ▶ Custom earplugs, mammograms, colon cancer screenings, general health screening flu shots...
- ▶ Looking to add dental, mental health, and addiction/recovery services in future

# OTHER EVENTS

- ▶ MidCoast Takeover (4 day, 2 stage unofficial showcase during SXSW)
- ▶ Folk Alliance International Conference (hosted private showcase in KC)
- ▶ Provide volunteer support to area music festivals
  - Crossroads Music Festival, Boulevardia, Westport Roots Festival, Middle of the Map Festival, Greaserama, and many others





# Future Goals/Challenges

- ▶ Increase funding (grants, sponsors...)
- ▶ Provide affordable insurance to musicians
- ▶ Increase preventative health care services

