

Memories from Dr. Martin Goldsmith, the donor of Nathan's violin:

My mom, Marcia Goldsmith, attended Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and focused on violin and viola. She described one especially thrilling event in her early years: playing in an orchestra, at Tanglewood (Massachusetts), conducted by Leonard Bernstein. My brother and I grew up listening to my mom teaching violin in our house to young high school students, and to weekend evenings often filled with the sound of string quartets. My dad, who played clarinet, often joined the strings. She went on to teach herself guitar and, with a friend, learned folk music in many languages. Mom often said she felt she was a "citizen of the world". They performed at middle schools, senior centers, etc. Marcia continued to play and perform well into her 80s. She died in 2015 at the age of 92, having lived a full life filled with music. She and my dad raised me and my brother. I played trumpet, my brother trombone. We both moved on to guitar. I feel fortunate to have been inspired by my mom to continue to play and sing for my personal pleasure as well as for others. I served as Pediatric Endocrinologist at Mary Bridge Children's for 25 years. I retired two years ago but have continued as Medical Director at Panther Day Camp for Children with Diabetes, now in Covington, staffed in large part by the Mary Bridge Pediatric Endocrinology division. And of course I often play and sing to the 130 adoring campers (ages 4-13)!! Recently, I started bringing my guitar to the Mary Bridge pediatric playroom - on the 3rd Thursday of each month. I am convinced of the power of live music to heal: listening to it, watching it, and playing it. My mom would be thrilled to know that her violin has found a welcoming home in the hands of a deserving young student of music.