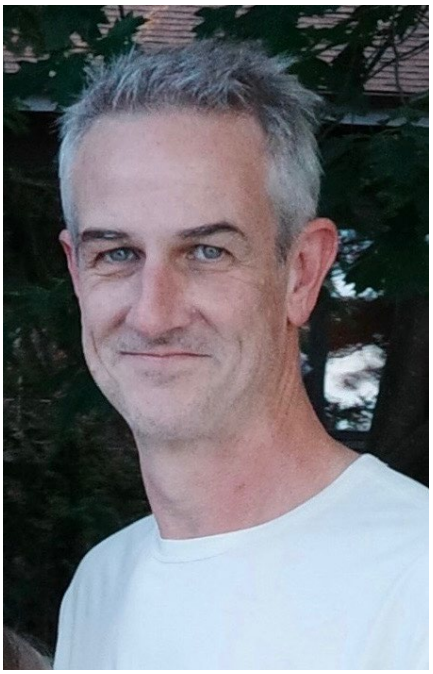
MATT REIF MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

FUND BACKSTORY . . .



The Matt Reif Music Scholarship has been established by Matt's family to honor his memory and love of music. In addition to the family, this immediate impact scholarship is supported by countless friends and community members. Matt died unexpectedly in June of 2026 at age 54.

Matt attended Cabrini Elementary School, John Muir Middle School, and Wausau East, graduating in 1990. He graduated from Hamline University with a degree in music in 1994.

Matt was captivated by music at an early age. He knew all the lyrics from his childhood favorite "Bad Bad Leroy Brown" and to all the music he later came to love. He was a talented pianist and spent countless hours at his many keyboards performing and sharing his passion with others. Over the years he played in multiple bands in Minneapolis while in college, and later in Phoenix, Wausau, and Madison. He enjoyed composing original music as well as recording his own versions of pieces by his favorite musicians. He was sensitive, thoughtful, empathetic, and creative, traits which were evident from early on. He had many friends who treasured both his kindness and his rich talent.

Matt and his wife, Holly, had three sons, Myles, Evan, and Nolan. Holly and the boys reside in Middleton, Wisconsin. The love of music and the love for his boys defined Matt's life.

ELIGIBILITY

- Graduating high school senior
- Attending Wausau East High School, Wausau West High School, or Newman Catholic High School
- Pursuing a degree in music