



SPONSORED CONTENT



A publication of  
**LifePath**  
options for independence  
Editor, Janis Merrell  
GoodLife@LifePathMA.org  
(413) 773-5555 x2255

# THE GOOD LIFE

Find past editions on [www.LifePathMA.org](http://www.LifePathMA.org)

[www.facebook.com/LifePathMA](http://www.facebook.com/LifePathMA)

## Positive Partnerships Keep LifePath Moving Forward

By John O'Farrell, Associate Director of Marketing and Development



John O'Farrell

Once again, the Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH) Music program hosted their annual benefit concert supporting LifePath's efforts in the community. For the past 21 years and beyond, the NMH school's faculty, staff, and students have all come together to help raise much-needed funds in support of LifePath's many programs and services. Aimed at supporting older adults, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers alike, LifePath provides opportunities for people to maintain a level of independence within their homes with dignity and respect. It takes long-standing partnerships such as this to truly make LifePath's programs possible year after year.



Steven Bathory-Peeler, Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH) Orchestra and Band Concert Director, conducting students at their annual benefit concert in support of LifePath.

The two-hour performance contained a variety of musical pieces, covering band, orchestra, and jazz ensembles, including *Colonel Bogey March*; *Scenes from Swan Lake* by Tchaikovsky; *When the Saints Go Marching In*; and *Romanian Folk Dances* by Bartok; just to name a few. It was so wonderful to listen to and enjoy the musical talents of students come to life. Conducted and compiled by Steven Bathory-Peeler, Orchestra and Band Concert Director, as well as Ron Smith, Director of Music Programs for the Northfield Mount Hermon school, the school had been practicing for the concert since the beginning of January in preparation.

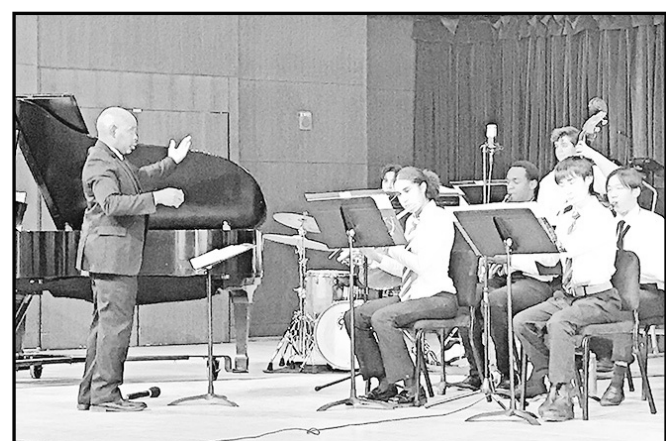
LifePath staff were on hand at an information table promoting program offerings and volunteer opportunities, as they interacted with concert attendees making their way into the auditorium of the Rhodes Arts Center on the school's beautiful campus. At the end of intermission, a presentation was made by Bathory-Peeler, Smith, and Grace Huang, student representative for the Penguin Pals Student Club, explaining that they raised over \$1,000 through their collective efforts. These efforts even included a fundraising dinner the

night before, coordinated by the Penguin Pals Student Club, which focuses on supporting older adults in their local community through fundraisers on campus, hosting pen pal programs, volunteering at nursing homes, and organizing awareness campaigns.



Gary Yuhas, Executive Director at LifePath, receiving a check from Steven Bathory-Peeler, with Grace Huang, student representative for the Penguin Pals Student Club, and Ron Smith, Director of Music Programs for NMH, looking on. NMH raised over \$1,000 for LifePath's programs.

Gary Yuhas, LifePath's Executive Director, was also on hand to accept the donation and shared some remarks with the crowd about the positive impact that LifePath plays throughout our community in helping to support our local neighbors. During his remarks, he highlighted the importance of building positive partnerships with one another and collaborating together on projects such as this, where both sides benefit greatly from the experience.



Ron Smith, Director of Music Programs for NMH, conducting the Jazz Ensemble during the second half of the concert.

As LifePath celebrates its 50th Anniversary, we are truly thankful to so many people who have partnered with us over the years. Much like our partnership with the Northfield Mount Hermon school, collaboration and new ways of thinking have allowed LifePath to provide positive, life-changing programs for residents throughout Franklin County and the North Quabbin region.

### Openings Available at LifePath's Community Engagement Center!

LifePath's Community Engagement Center (CEC) is an innovative social day program that provides respite and resources for caregivers, while providing socialization and meaningful activities for participants, two days per week. We currently have openings in our Wednesday/Friday program group. To learn more or to request a referral, please call our Information & Caregiver Resource Center (ICRC) at 413-773-5555 x1230, or email [info@lifepathma.org](mailto:info@lifepathma.org).