



Clement F. Shearer
EDA Micro-Grant Program

Client Application/Information

Business/Organization Name: Hot Spot Music, LLC

Type of Business: Music teaching, rehearsal, and performance studio

Business Owners: Martha Larson and Nat Wilson

Contact Person: Martha Larson Title: Owner/Director

Phone: 312-543-3451 Fax:

E-mail Address: info@hotspotmusic.org

Yearly Sales: \$ 30k - 35k No. of Employees: 0 Average Wages Paid: NA

Employee Benefits Offered: NA

Have you utilized the Micro-grant Program in the past? No

Amount Requested: \$ 5000 What type of assistance is needed?

Continue our long-term building improvement plan, expand business operations into summer months, improve occupant conditions and attract new tenants via installation of an air conditioning and ventilation system.

What is the expected impact of the assistance? How will you evaluate this impact?

The assistance will allow us to expand programming in summer months, improve the working environment for existing tenants and attract new tenants. We will evaluate project impact via occupant and customer surveys plus a quantitative count of additional summer programs and income compared to prior years.

Have you contacted the Small Business Development Center or SCORE for these services? No

Have you identified a consultant/organization willing and able to provide assistance? Yes

If Yes, please provide the name and address of the provider and the cost of the assistance.

Streitz Heating and Cooling - total cost \$12,000 (see attached mechanical quote in Exhibit A).

Client Signature Martha M. Larson Digitally signed by Martha M. Larson Date: 2018.03.05 10:26:43 -06'00' Date 3/5/18

Business Overview

Hot Spot Music at 801 Division Street is home to a variety of music, theater and visual arts activities. It provides a fully functional rehearsal, lesson, jam session, workshop and performance space for local musicians. The space comes complete with a piano, stereo system, music stands, drum kit and enough room to set up a band rehearsal. The prominent location on Division Street provides visibility for promoting arts activities and the independent structure assures sufficient sound isolation from adjacent buildings. The north studio serves as a music teaching and rehearsal space utilized by multiple local musicians and an art studio and gallery space for local artist Robert Christy. The center room serves as a lounge and small theater space for ArtMakers Studio. The south room houses a small instrument repair and retail shop run by Evergreen Strings. This blend of compatible occupants and activities creates a constant buzz of creative energy and makes Hot Spot Music a convenient "one stop shop" for artistic endeavors of all types. Since starting the business in fall 2015, we have seen steady growth in our monthly rent income and programming.

Project Overview

The proposed project is the next step in a long-term building improvement plan and will notably boost our ability to expand our business. We began operating in November 2015 by renting the space at 801 Division Street. Since purchasing the building in September 2016, we have been working through a series of building renovations to develop our business and give the building some much-needed care. With this grant we seek funding to supplement the next stage in our improvement plan, specifically the installation of air conditioning and ventilation. A cost breakdown of all past and future building improvements is provided in **Exhibit B**, but the summary is as follows:

Past Improvements

- Painted office, removed old carpet (completed fall 2016)
- Remodeled the bathroom (completed spring 2017)
- Repainted the exterior (completed summer 2017)
- Replaced 50% of the flat roof with a high quality TPO membrane (completed summer 2017)
- Upgraded 8 ft. fluorescents to LED lighting (completed fall of 2017)

Future Improvements

- **Install air conditioning and ventilation. (expected late winter or spring 2018)**
- Add doors on south studio (TBD)
- Upgrade electrical systems (TBD)
- Replace lobby lighting (TBD)
- Install bike racks (TBD)
- Exterior beautification, e.g. landscaping, art (TBD)
- Remove and replace old insulation in the attic space (TBD)
- Replace carpet in the south studio with tile, wood or wood laminate flooring (TBD)
- Replace both exterior doors and add exterior lighting (TBD)
- Install lighting grid in center studio (TBD)
- Refinish wood floors (TBD)
- Replace foggy south storefront window (TBD)
- Replace north 1/2 of flat roof with high quality TPO membrane

Currently, the building is cooled by two window air conditioning units that came with the building but are not adequately sized for the space. The space is hot and muggy during the summer months and lacks any fresh air ventilation since there are no operable windows. This particular project will have an especially strong impact on our ability to grow our business in the following ways:

- Expand workshop, classes and concert programming during summer months
- Provide a more comfortable working environment for our tenants
- Increase our ability to attract new tenants
- Protect the instruments and equipment by regulating air temperature and humidity
- Raise the value of the property
- Increase energy efficiency (compared to window AC units)

Project Cost

We received estimates from three local contractors who all indicated that the project cost - including both mechanical and electrical components - will be between \$10,000 - \$12,000. All three contractors proposed the same cooling and ventilation approach which allows us to control each room individually and without excessive fan noise which would be disruptive to the activities in the space. A quote from our selected contractor, Streitz Heating and Cooling, is attached as **Exhibit A**. We are requesting \$5,000 from the Clem Shearer Grant to pay a portion of this cost. We will pay the remaining cost of these improvements from a combination of available cash in our Hot Spot Music business account and our own personal finances.

Project Schedule

The project would be completed in late winter or early spring of 2018 based on timing of grant funds if received and the availability of Streitz Heating and Cooling.

Community Impacts

We believe these building improvements will allow Hot Spot Music to expand its programming, grow our business and further enhance the community. Please refer to the attached list of customer testimonials and the following list of benefits that our business offers to the City of Northfield:

- **Economic Development** - Hot Spot Music provides affordable music workshop, rehearsal and performance space primarily serving musicians from Northfield and neighboring communities (Faribault, Castle Rock, Cannon Falls, etc.) However, our activities often attract professional performers, instructors and attendees from the Twin Cities and beyond. On multiple occasions, attendees from as far away as Chicago, New York and the Netherlands have dined at Northfield restaurants and stayed at Northfield hotels as a result of our programming.
- **Enable Other Local Businesses** - Our building serves as the primary professional workshop and retail space for one artist, two music teachers, and two luthiers (instrument makers). They rely on our space to support their own economic activity. It is our responsibility as building owners to provide them with a comfortable working environment to support their businesses. One of our tenants, Evergreen Strings, also needs to maintain consistent temperature and humidity conditions to protect the wooden instruments made and sold on

location. We also store a number of musical instruments on site for our instructors and jam session participants. Improved environmental conditions would help keep these instruments in good working condition, protecting them from cracks and other damage.

- **Commercial Real Estate Improvement** - We also take very seriously our responsibility to the community of maintaining a Division Street property. Prior owners allowed the building to become worn and outdated. Since purchasing the property in September 2016, we upgraded to more efficient lighting, replaced a portion of the roof from a thin rubber membrane to high quality TPO, upgraded the bathroom, installed a security system and painted the facade to freshen the exterior (see **Exhibit C** for photos). The project for which we are now requesting grant funds is a continuation of these efforts and will be followed by many future improvements and investment in the property.
- **Community Engagement** - We are extremely proud of the impact that Hot Spot Music has had on the personal growth and development of local musicians, both amateur and professional. It has become a gathering place where people of all instruments and abilities can not only improve their musical skills but also connect with a diverse and open community of individuals with similar interests. The activities that take place in this space have cultivated both life-changing experiences and deep, personal relationships. It is the only public facility in Northfield dedicated to music practice and teaching. Hot Spot Music has also partnered on projects with local nonprofits such as the Northfield Arts Guild, Painted Violins (a Northfield Public School Orchestra Fundraiser) and the Minnesota Music Coalition (MMC). Please refer to the testimonials in **Exhibit E** for a sense of our value to the community.

Conclusion

The indoor air quality improvements we are proposing would benefit the business owners already working in our space, enhance our ability to attract new renters, invest in improvements to Northfield's commercial real estate market, and help Hot Spot Music present more public arts events to the community. We pride ourselves on helping local artists to support themselves and share their work with the community, and Hot Spot Music is one of very few places in Northfield that offer permanent studio space at affordable prices. While this building is long overdue for capital improvements, it is in a prominent location along Division Street. Improving the facilities of this building will also help to expand Division Street points of interest beyond the boundary of Northfield's official historic district. We believe it adds to the fabric of arts and culture offerings that attract new Northfield residents and enhance the quality of life for those who are here. We look forward to continuing expansion of our arts programs and highlighting local artists through more lessons, workshops and performances.

Attachments

- Exhibit A - Streitz Heating and Cooling Quote
- Exhibit B - Building investment list (past & future projects)
- Exhibit C - Photos of improvements to date
- Exhibit D - Profit and Loss, 2016-2017
- Exhibit E - Hot Spot Music Testimonials
- Exhibit F - Business plan

Feb / Mar

EXHIBIT A

Venmar / Broan ERV 100-150
cfm
Daikin Mini-Split



708 Schilling Drive,
PO Box 128
Dundas, MN 55019
507-645-4040

Rebates

Divide quote

Nat Wilson
Music studio

Here is what I came up with for air conditioning your building:

- 9,000 btu min-split for the repair shop area. Outdoor unit mounted on roof and indoor unit mounted to wall where the existing portable ac is located.
- 12,000 btu wall mount unit in the north room
- 12,000 btu wall mount unit in the south room
- One outdoor unit to serve both 12,000 indoor units mounted on northeast roof
- 100 cfm ERV installed in mechanical room. Exhaust from bathroom and mechanical room. Fresh air to entry way. Control mounted in mechanical room.

\$10,900 (PLUS ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS)

This includes installation, permit, and tax

This price does not include electrical costs but we can work with an electrician to get an estimate on what it would take.

Exhibit B

Hot Spot Music Building Investments

PAST INVESTMENTS:

Project	Owner Investment		Status
	Cost	Hours	
Building down Payment	\$ 42,954		Completed fall 2016
Painted office, removed old carpet	\$ 100	36	Completed fall 2016
Bathroom remodel (patch and paint, shelving, new floor)	\$ 410	32	Completed spring 2017
Repainted the exterior	\$ 191	80	Completed summer 2017
Installed security system	\$ 435	2	Completed fall 2017
Replaced south 1/2 of the flat roof with a high quality TPO membrane	\$ 8,474		Completed fall 2017
Upgraded 8 ft. fluorescents to LED lighting	\$ 2,067		Completed fall 2017
Subtotal - owner investment to date	\$ 54,631	150	

FUTURE INVESTMENTS:

Project	Owner Investment		Status
	Estimate	Hours	
Install air conditioning and ventilation	\$ 12,000		Spring 2018 - pending grant
Add doors on south studio	\$ 1,600	12	
Upgrade electrical systems	\$ 8,000		Est. \$ based on electrician walk-through
Replace lobby lighting	\$ 800		
Install bike racks	\$ 500		
Exterior beautification, e.g. landscaping, art	\$ 500		
Remove and replace old insulation in the attic space	\$ 5,000		
Replace carpet in the south studio with tile, wood or wood laminate flooring		TBD	TBD Cost pending material choice
Replace both exterior doors + add exterior lighting	\$ 5,000		
Install lighting grid in center studio		TBD	TBD Scope still TBD
Refinish wood floors		TBD	TBD
Replace foggy south storefront window	\$ 1,500		Quote from Polzin glass
Replace north 1/2 of flat roof with high quality TPO membrane	\$ 10,000		

Exhibit C

Before and After Photographs of Building Improvements

Exterior Paint - Summer 2017



Exhibit C

Before and After Photographs of Building Improvements

South Flat Roof Replacement - Fall 2017



Bathroom Renovations - Spring 2017



Exhibit C

Before and After Photographs of Building Improvements

Lighting Upgrades to LED in south room and storage room - Fall and Winter 2017

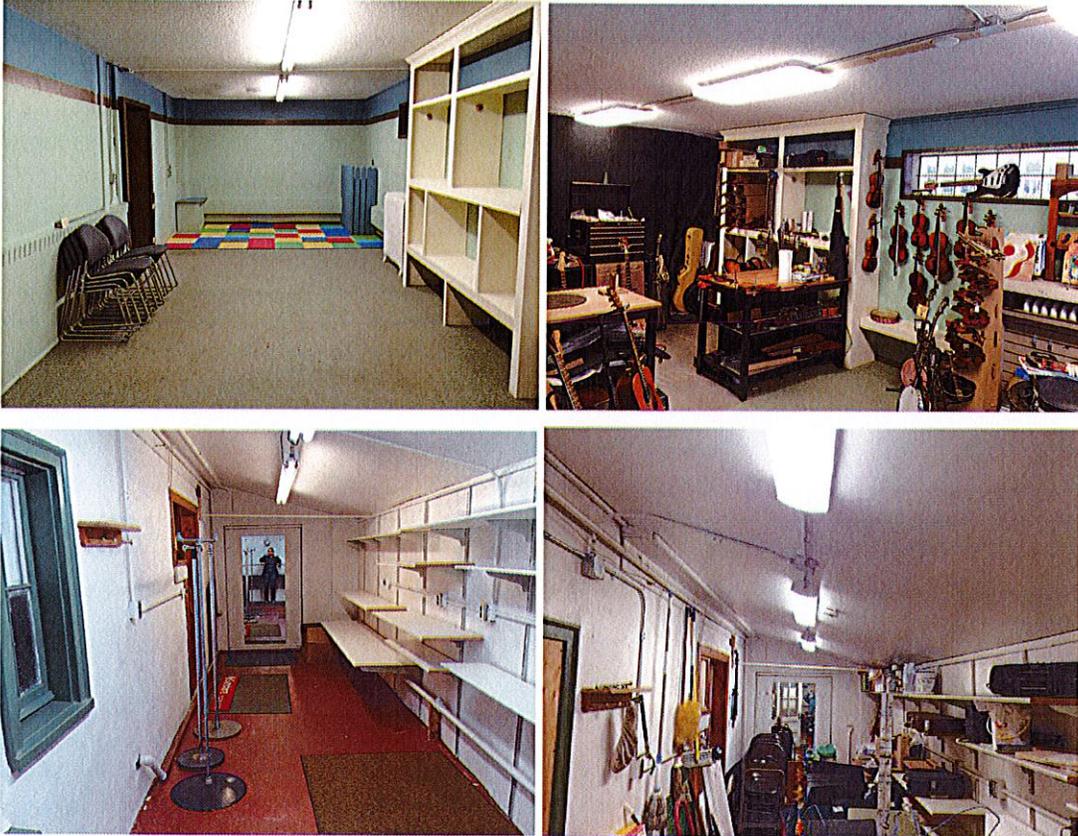


Exhibit E

Hot Spot Music Testimonials

I'm a regular at Sunday jam session at the Hot Spot where I feel safely encouraged as a budding banjoist. In addition, workshops and concerts there provide a unique niche for our community.

Sharol Nau, banjo

Professional artist

Northfield, MN

Hot Spot Music is a vital asset to the Northfield, and Southeastern Minnesota community. Through Hot Spot music, Martha Larson has created an artistic meeting ground for every level of musician, from beginners, to seasoned professionals. This kind of space and organization helps foster creative pursuits in a small town, providing a quality of life that not all small communities enjoy. Northfield Minnesota is lucky to have a Martha Larson working in it. I have had the great fortune in working for this organization, and I also feel that it is of great economic benefit to working musicians, further fueling the creative class in Minnesota. We are blessed to have a strong artistic community in our state, and Hot Spot music is a fine example of that.

Sam Miltich, guitar

Professional Musician

Grand Rapids, MN

Hotspot Music hosted one of the most memorable and transformative events of my musical life: a jazz workshop with David Bloom. This was an incredible opportunity to have here in Northfield; most people have to travel to Chicago to receive this level of musical instruction. Adding to this the great jazz jams (which I want to attend more often), the concerts, the ArtMakers shows and the just plain welcoming space makes Hotspot a highlight of the community.

Rob Thompson

Professor of Math, Carleton College

Northfield, MN

Our family has benefited so much from the all-ages programming offered at the Hot Spot. From storytelling to concerts to lessons to songwriting workshops, it really is such a warm, inviting place that enlivens Northfield's cultural scene and launches new generations of artists and musicians.

Louis Epstein, piano / clarinet / vocals

Assistant Professor of Music, St. Olaf College

Northfield, MN

As producer and director of ArtMakers, a Northfield community arts organization, I have come to greatly appreciate our residence at the Hotspot. The Hotspot's supportive and flexible management, the wonderful collaborative of artists that make up the Hotspot family, and the Hotspot's central accessible

Hot Spot Music Testimonials

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location, have made it the perfect place for our young community arts organization. In ArtMakers year and a half at the Hotspot, we have been able to produce 9 mixed arts events that were given, free of charge, to the Northfield community. In these events, all presented at the Hotspot, Artmakers employed local artists, collaborated with local organizations, and engaged a wide range of the community, including children, college students, senior citizens, and people of varying abilities. Our success in contributing to the rich artistic fabric that is Northfield, has been, in large part, made possible by the opportunities created at the Hotspot. We, at ArtMakers, are grateful to call the Hotspot home.

James C. Rossow

Producer / Director, ArtMakers

Northfield, MN

I am writing to support the Hot Spot grant to acquire air conditioning. In the summer, Hot Spot has concerts, workshops, rehearsals, lessons, and other varied performances. I can attest that it is a beautiful space but it gets very hot as the day goes on. There were some live performances last summer in the evening and it was way too hot to be comfortable.

The Hot Spot is an important creative space for the greater Northfield community. I participate in jazz music practices, workshops, and occasional performances at the Hot Spot. If you want to get better at jazz, there is simply no better place to be other than the Hot Spot. Across the country many a town, city, or neighborhood has tried to get a jazz scene going. It's hard to create and even harder to sustain. Jazz isn't as popular as it was a generation ago. Despite these obstacles the Hot Spot is now known as the place to be for jazz if you live in Minnesota or are traveling through. Because of the Hot Spot, you now hear more jazz in Northfield (in my opinion). When I first moved to Northfield in 2004 it was rare to hear jazz played live. That's changed. It seems now that every weekend jazz is played in front of an audience somewhere in Northfield. The growth of jazz in Northfield is primarily due to the Hot Spot.

A good air conditioning system would really be an important key to doing events in the warmer months at the Hot Spot. With a good air conditioning unit it really opens up the opportunity for a lot creative activities in that space.

Nathan Nelson, guitar

High School Guidance Counsellor, Zoo School

Northfield, MN

Hot Spot Music is a true confluence of superior creative and production talent representing the very best of Northfield's already respectable cultural offerings. Their musicians and their performances are impressive yet approachable, which is what makes the experience of going there absolutely unique. Everyone should attend at least one session at this wonderful venue!"

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Suzanne Lane, cello

**Music Instructor and Film Producer, Suzanne Lane Enterprises
New Brighton, MN**

The Hot Spot is where I go to see familiar faces and participate in community events and music jams. Their space is hospitable and friendly, and I make it over almost once a week. Thank you for what you do!

Anna Chance, violin

**Artist
Faribault, MN**

I am a professional artist and an amateur musician. I have been renting space at the Hotspot for two years. It really fits my needs. I have studio space to paint, walls to hang my art on (basically my own gallery space), and many Hotspot activities to sharpen my musical skills (e.g. a jazz jam every Sunday open to every skill level, a practice piano, and other musicians to inspire me). There is a great feeling of community at the Hotspot - lots of networking goes on between the tenants, several local bands rent practice space, and there are excellent in-house concerts and many special events. I also find the Hotspot to be well-managed and the owners are conscientious and have been diligent in maintaining and improving the building (new lighting, roof repairs, and fixing the little things that go wrong in an older building). Altogether, the Hotspot is a great addition to, and fills a real need in, the Northfield community.

Robert Christy, saxophone

**Professional artist
Northfield, MN**

I am a Twin Cities-based drummer and percussionist. My group, Marimba Nova, performed at The Hot Spot on Saturday, October 21st to a capacity crowd. We loved the warm, friendly ambience of the venue and Martha couldn't have been more helpful or accommodating. She was a gracious host and had delicious soups and sandwiches ready for us just as our sound check ended. The audience was very appreciative of the music and many stayed after the concert to talk to us about their own musical aspirations and interests. Having grown up in neighboring Lakeville, I can attest to what a vital role The Hot Spot plays in the area. I wish it had been around when I was in high school! As Northfield expands and attracts young, talented residents, it needs venues like The Hot Spot to support its local arts and music scene.

Andrew Tuperning, percussion

**Professional musician and teacher
Minneapolis, MN**

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Hot Spot Music directed by Martha Larson has significantly enriched the musical life of Northfield and the nearby region. Martha has highlighted many interesting genres and styles, especially Gypsy Jazz and various contemporary hybrid musical styles that had been neglected in this area. She has brought a number of excellent musicians to perform and teach here as well as highlighting local musicians. I also have to commend her efforts in musical education for resident musicians both amateur and professional.

Steve Kelly, winds

Professor Emeritus, Carleton College Music Department

Northfield, MN

I appreciate The Hot Spot as a "listening room" where the concert audience respects the musicians by listening, instead of talking, during the performance. The Hot Spot also offers unique jamming and instruction opportunities.

Doug Duncan, guitar

Sound System Manager / Engineer, Crossings at Carnegie and The State Theatre

Stanton, MN

The Hot Spot is a valuable community resource. Musicians of all levels gather here to listen to each other and improve their craft. As a gathering place of safety and cooperation, it contributes to the well earned image of Northfield as a welcoming and wholesome place.

Ralph Brindle, trombone

Software Development Engineer (retired)

Edina, MN

Martha's vision for the "music incubator" was bold and she is really making it happen. The Sunday jam sessions provide a rare opportunity for musicians of all skill levels to learn and improve. She has also been able to draw on her wide network of professional musicians to produce some great concerts and workshops. The Hot Spot is making great things happen.

Gary Anderson, winds

Inventor and Beekeeper

Northfield, MN

Hot Spot provides a welcoming place for me to teach guitar lessons. I can also send my students down the hall to purchase a book, a package of strings, or even a guitar at Evergreen Strings. I enjoy the concerts in the intimate performance space. Hot Spot is becoming a magnet for musicians in Northfield!

Holly Fischer, guitar

Music Instructor

Northfield, MN

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Learning to play the banjo thanks to lessons at the Hot Spot has been a life-changing opportunity for me. The ability to play an instrument, which had seemed like a magical ability only other people possessed, is now at my fingertips. I know that wouldn't have happened for me without the Hot Spot.

Charles Mahler, banjo
Media & Communications Manager, Twin Cities Marathon
Northfield, MN

Thanks for providing the Hot Spot to the Northfield community. This center provides a much-needed location and opportunity for people to gather, play, listen, and be creative. My son and I use the space on a regular basis, attending jams and workshops - and learning and growing as musicians. The Hot Spot also helps us give back to the community, by providing practice and rehearsal space for local groups. Thanks and keep up the great service!

David Hougen-Eitzman, violin
Senior Lecturer in Biology, Carleton College
Northfield, MN

Hot Spot classes have provided a welcome opportunity for me to play in an ensemble and not just in my house. They're the best thing to hit Northfield in many years!

Fritz Bogott, violin
Project Manager, CrowdStrike, Inc.
Northfield, MN

Musical life in our town is thriving with the addition of Hot Spot Music. Martha Larson and crew work diligently to cultivate musicians and musicianship. Through lessons, jams, concerts, networking opportunities, personal encouragement, strategic planning, artistic spark and support, and with hosting nationally and internationally known guest musicians and teachers, Hot Spot is growing a culture of accessible and varied musicianship for our town and region.

Wendy Smith, guitar / vocals / bandleader
Music Director, Northfield United Methodist Church
Northfield, MN

The Hot Spot Sunday Jazz Jams, Bloom Jazz workshops, and artist programs have opened a whole new world of beautiful music and friendships for me. I am so thankful to have a venue in our community that offers so much. I hope it continues for years.

Alan Olson, drums
Mediator, State of Minnesota Bureau of Mediation Services (retired)

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Castle Rock, MN

Hot Spot music is one of those most unique businesses in Northfield. I realized that I could improvise on my trumpet through the Gypsy Jazz series and the Bloom School of Jazz workshops, both brought by Hot Spot. The Sunday jazz sessions there are casual and encouraging where we can hone our new skills. It's a place to play music with real, live and talented musicians. I've also attended a few of the small concerts at Hot Spot. In their small space we, the audience, feel like we're part of the show. Thank you Martha and Nat!

Mary O'Connor, trumpet / fiddle
Teacher (retired) and Irish Tune Player
Faribault, MN

I love the Hot Spot! Hot Spot Music is the place where bluegrass and jazz is played, where young musicians find an appreciative audience and where older players can continue to build their skills. With the addition of improved air conditioning, the coolest place in Northfield will be even cooler!

Jeff Crump,
Housing and Community Development, University of Minnesota
St. Paul, MN and Faribault, MN

Never heard or conceived of a music incubator? Me neither, even though I had continued to play in the community orchestra as an adult. I had no idea what I had been missing! The HotSpot has opened my musical world up. From my very first meeting with Martha in the planning stages for the HotSpot, doors have opened, groups have formed and I have become a more confident player, even branching out to new instruments and genres. Yes, I still have my day job, and have no plans to take music to a full time endeavor, but I am part of a musical community, am using parts of my brain that had gone to sleep, and have found a new way to spend time with friends, both those playing and listening. The cozy, family friendly, cross generational jams on Sundays have changed my weekend routine.

Carrie Jennings, saxophone / clarinet / vocals
Geologist, Freshwater Society
Northfield, MN

The Hot Spot has been a unique treasure to Northfield and surrounding areas by providing an incubating arts and music space where creative people can meet and mingle, and new ideas and connections can grow and flourish. I have personally participated in a number of events there, have been happy to support its efforts financially as well, and fervently hope it continues to thrive. I admire Martha and Nat's vision, energy and commitment. I would urge consideration of the grant application to further the community-building goals of this excellent and unique organization. Thank you!

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Mike Hildebrandt, violin

Physician

Faribault, MN

Whether I need a space for band rehearsals, private events, song-writing workshops, or as a location for recording, Hot Spot Music is a unique and valuable resource for me. There's no place like it, and I feel very lucky to be able to rent space at our local music incubator - Hot Spot Music.

Ray Coudret, guitar / bandleader / producer

Teacher, Northfield Senior High School

Northfield, MN

The Hot Spot has filled a hard-to-define but very real hole in Northfield for musical, theatrical, and other cultural experience and involvement! Keep up the great work!

Steve Braker, mandolin

Documentary Filmmaker

Northfield, MN

I live in Cannon Falls, however the Hot Spot has caused me to hang out in Northfield a lot more in the last couple of years. In this learning and practicing environment I have connected with an astounding selection of people involved with arts and entertainment in the Northfield and SE Minnesota area. Through the Hot Spot I have met a guy who used to play with Garrison Keillor in the old days. A music professor at Carleton who plays in a gigging band with a sax player I met there. I've met a bass player who teaches High School music and has played with the Minnesota Orchestra who recommended a long-time local luthier. I have met a local clarinetist and entrepreneur who supplies stand lights to many Minnesota cultural organizations. A guitarist who has a regular holiday gig at the Contented Cow, an establishment many of us patronize and play music at. Some of us regularly meet (and occasionally pull out our musical instruments) at the Chapel brewery and the Contented Cow. Through the Hot Spot I have met members of the Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra, and have joined in their concerts. I have gotten my bass violin repaired at Evergreen Strings, located at the Hot Spot. I have met folks who have a bluegrass jam going that rotates between peoples' houses. Since I am in town so much, I often shop at the Co-op or Econofoods in town and stop by the bike shop.

I met a guy from Brazil at Hot Spot who was in Northfield on a Kierkegaard scholarship and plays Brazilian guitar. He gave one of the several packed performance/instructional concerts I have seen there in a living-room atmosphere that encourages interaction with attendees. These concerts have featured people I know and people I have wanted to know in the music world. I and many others have joined the Gypsy Jazz Jam series sponsored by the Hot Spot. I have joined in workshops with well-known musicians and instructors from out-of-state. I have had a chance to play with well-known Minnesota

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musicians and meet friends of theirs, such as Mark Kreitzer and Sam Miltich. Various attendees go from Hot Spot to check out local players and establishments such as Imminent Berwing and the Tavern and share a table at local restaurants. So, a lot of people are meeting and exchanging ideas here and I think the Hot Spot is increasingly acting as an amplifying nexus for local music and entertainment in the Northfield area.

Jeff Gurney

**Registered Respiratory Therapist, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota
Cannon Falls, MN**

Facebook Comments

Jenny Klukken reviewed Hot Spot Music — 5 star

October 22, 2017

Wonderful place for engaged listening. Martha was an amazing host for my ensemble and treated us like dear friends. Northfield has her and the Hot Spot to thank for keeping high quality music valued in the community.

Jeff Gurney reviewed Hot Spot Music — 5 star

January 2 at 8:00pm

Cool place, kind of like 2 big living rooms and a music store , intimate listening area, weekend jam mostly jazz all levels, (4:00 sundays), place for bands to practice. Met a lot of folks there doing all sorts of music in Northfield.

Rachel Gorden Mercer reviewed Hot Spot Music — 5 star

October 22, 2017 ·

We went to a concert, and it was a wonderful venue! Can't wait to attend another.