

## **Bill Gerstel Music Scholarship to Bandwriting Collective Summer Program**

A group of PS3 parents created a musical scholarship for the Bandwriting Collective Summer Program. This scholarship honors the spirit of freedom of expression and love of music inspired by Bill Gerstel, a PS3 dad who spent many years serving within our school, including acting as sole PTA President while he was battling cancer. Bill coined the expression “PS3 Your Mind” and spent years inspiring (and teaching) kids to play, listen to and appreciate music, helping at PS3 even after his son, Sawyer, had already graduated.

The mission of the Bill Gerstel Music Scholarship is to provide the opportunity each summer for a musically-gifted PS3 4th or 5th grader to attend a summer program to foster his/her creativity and expand his/her musical and songwriting abilities.

The summer program is a two-week session in the Collective’s Chelsea studios where the beginning is spent writing and creating music as a group and later recording the songs in a state-of-the-art recording studio. There are many guests from fields related to professional songwriting. Participants will receive a CD of their work at the end of the program. They also end each session with a performance at a major NYC venue.

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are eligible to apply for the scholarship via a questionnaire which Bruce already distributed to the classes. If your child is interested in this scholarship but has not received a questionnaire, please contact your class parent who will get you the form.

At the Spring Concert Bruce will announce the winner of the scholarship. The scholarship has already been funded for ten years by a GoFundMe campaign!

Go [here](#) for more info about the Bandwriting Collective, and [here](#) is a link to the GoFundMe campaign.

PS3 Your Mind!