



Dear Music Lover –

Thursday, December 1, 2022

The power of community music is amazing!

Consider Sue Niemoeller, who is 59 years young and plays alto sax in the Pops. Next month, Sue will receive a Bachelor of Arts in Music degree which she started 35 years ago. She says: *"It bothered me since 1987 that I could not complete that degree. Along the way, I got a B. S. in plant biology and had a rewarding career, but I never stopped wanting that music degree."*

Sue also never stopped playing. She says *"the Maine Pops has fostered and nurtured my confidence. Getting this degree is closure for me. Don't ever give up!"* Sue will soon be the oldest degree recipient crossing the stage at Mount St. Joseph University.

We are all so proud of Sue! She embodies the Maine Pops mission to "foster a life-long love of music, music history, performance, and our shared heritage."

As an educational non-profit organization, we work to build community through music. Our members are diverse in age, experience and ability. Yet, they all share one thing: a love of playing band music. It's all good, non-competitive, high-quality fun. In fact, if you have an old horn and want to join, just send me an email.

In addition, the Maine Pops helps the broader community. Each holiday season, we partner with local churches to support their efforts to help others. The rest of the year, we play concerts in parks, at local events, and retirement communities, and at the local schools.

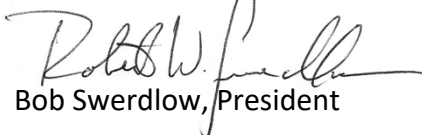
Next year – 2023 – is the band's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Watch our social media for our celebration events! In the meantime, join us for **A Maine Pops Holiday** benefit concerts this month:

- Sunday, December 11, 2:30 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral in Portland
- Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 pm at Mountainside Community Church in Falmouth

We are so thankful for our donors who support our work financially. Please consider a tax-deductible gift to the Maine Pops this year!

- Send a check made out to "Maine Pops" to *Laura Merten, Maine Pops Treasurer, 72 Harbor Place, South Portland, Maine 04106*
- Or, Venmo your gift to Victoria Swerdlow at 207-712-7119

Many, many thanks! Wishing you fine music and all the best in the coming year.

  
Bob Swerdlow, President