The Rudy Melone Fund
For Music & The Arts

Celebrate Music!
For more information, contact Tim Filice at 408.847.4224 x109
From the Gavilan community came Tim and Janice Filice, who heard the music, saw the potential, and offered the College the gift of the very thing it had been working slowly to attain, a concert quality grand piano. This unexpected, generous, and most welcome donation meant that the College could take a great leap forward, and it did. The first annual Marian Filice Piano Competition took place in January, 2006 on the Gavilan campus. The winner will be opening the Bach to Blues concert and will perform at the June, 2006 concert of the South Valley Symphony at Bonfante Gardens in Gilroy.

The Rudy Melone Fund for Music and the Arts was proposed by the children of Marian and Michael Filice to honor the memory of Rudy Melone, Gavilan College President for ten years and the Founder of the Garlic Festival. Rudy’s legacy included a close relationship between Gavilan College and its communities. The Fund is intended to be a vehicle to build on that legacy, to stimulate the arts by supporting the rebuilding the Music Department at Gavilan College.

Music Department Growth
Reversing a succession of budget cuts and staff reductions, the passage of Bond Measure E has meant that the Music Department could once again entertain an atmosphere of energetic growth. The Bach to Blues concert was revived in 2004; by 2005, the concert was sold out. Gavilan’s live music performance class, the Gavilan Ensemble, was reinstated, and gifts from the Gavilan College Educational Foundation and the Music Club have allowed the Music Department to purchase a first-rate sound system.

The story does not end here, however. Responding to the Filice donation and the community interest, the Gavilan Board of Trustees has authorized the hiring of another full time music instructor to develop musical performance at the College. And with the funds from Measure E, the College will renovate the Art Lecture music hall to be more suitable for intimate concerts and to house a state of the art recording studio, capable of producing 24 bit digital quality recordings. The Gavilan College Educational Foundation expects to raise $25,000 at its spring 2006 social event in support of the music program. Finally, the Piano Competition and Bach to Blues Concert will merge to become the bookends of a major winter music festival at Gavilan.

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The Gavilan College Educational Foundation, the Gavilan Board of Trustees, the Filice Family and the greater Gavilan community—all have come together to make the music ring again.

Please Join Us
The Rudy Melone Fund For Music and the Arts is now established as a donor-directed fund under the auspices of the Gilroy Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit as designated by the Internal Revenue Service, tax ID #94-2719281.

Join the Filice Family, the Don Christopher Family and others to ensure a bright future for music and the arts in our community. Please make out your check of any amount to Gilroy Foundation/Rudy Melone Fund and mail to Gilroy Foundation, P.O. Box 774, Gilroy, Ca 95021. Please consult with your tax advisor concerning the tax implications of your gift.

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