

Dennis Monroe was a teacher and musician deeply devoted to his family, his music, his friends and his community. A talented folk singer who played multiple instruments, Mr. Monroe was a fixture in the local folk music world. He was particularly devoted to the children of Rochester.

Mr. Monroe's unexpected death at age 56 a decade ago prompted many of his friends, and his widow Joni, to launch a program providing music for city students. The program founded in his memory, Music through the Ages, brought professional musicians into Rochester city schools. The program, a part of Rochester Education Foundation since March 2009, enabled city students to hear a wide range of music, to get to know musicians who were friends of Dennis, and to learn skills such as songwriting. It has been an honor to carry on the legacy of Mr. Monroe.

After a decade, the program's organizers have decided it is time to move on. But in honor of Mr. Monroe, the organization has donated more than \$682 to support REF's music programs, and additional funds to support the nascent Joseph Ave. Performing Arts Center. We salute Mr. Monroe and are proud to support music in Rochester.

His widow, Joni, noted: "I am pleased to be able to offer these contributions in honor of my late husband musician Dennis Monroe. These efforts continue his legacy of giving back to Rochester's city students and their families and neighbors and sharing the gift of music and the arts."