



Long Term Care Communities Fill THE VOID OF LIVE MUSIC WITH PLAYER PIANOS

HUDSON – Before COVID-19 changed the face of live music, Hudson-Danbury Senior Living offered a wonderful showcase for Kathy Merwin’s piano students. Was there a better way to prepare for Northeast Ohio’s Festival Season than with a warm and receptive audience?

In December 2019, residents sang along to holiday favorites as her pupils



entertained on a beautiful new Boston Grand Piano from Steinway Piano Gallery.

“My students are privileged to study piano and bring the joy of music to audiences of all ages,” says Mrs. Merwin, adding that a Steinway-designed instrument made the experience all the better. “We visited other facilities with digital grands and they didn’t enjoy playing them as much as the Boston.”

Teacher Jan Steedly also found Danbury a great alternative for piano recitals. “My studio families were thrilled to share their musical gifts with the residents. They loved the touch and sound of the Boston, whose rich tones and responsive keys made for a pleasant experience.”

The Boston GP-178 is equipped with a QRS player system and was getting plenty of use outside of live performances, according to Activities Director Julie Campbell. “Most of our

residents enjoy songs from the 50s, 60s and 70s,” she says. “The piano was a nice addition to our life-enriching activities. We had a great experience working with Steinway Piano Gallery.”

“Music lifts spirits, relieves stress and has therapeutic benefits for our most vulnerable citizens and brave health care workers,” says Andrew Maust, Worship and Education Market Director. With public recitals on hold, player pianos like Steinway Spirio are great additions to retirement, personal care homes and assisted living facilities. “So many of these residents grew up when a living-room piano was an absolute necessity, the centerpiece of family entertainment,” he says. “While we wait for the day when students return to Danbury and other communities, player pianos can deliver the next best thing.”