

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IMNF Launches Intergenerational Ukulele Club with Joyful Performance and Donation of Kana Ukuleles

Mount Vernon, NY – June 2025 – The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function (IMNF) is proud to announce the launch of its Intergenerational Ukulele Club, a new initiative designed to bring people of all ages together through the power of music. The club's inaugural event was marked by a live ukulele and hula performance on May 15th at the Berkemeier Building's Creative Aging Room on the Wartburg Senior Campus, in Mount Vernon, NY.

The event featured talented performers Jason and Vania, who led residents, family members, and community friends in a spirited celebration of music and movement. In addition to the performance, participants enjoyed a hands-on ukulele workshop, highlighting the accessibility and joy of playing music together.

A special highlight of the launch is the generous donation from *The Kanikapila Project* of 10 Kana brand ukuleles, ensuring that the IMNF Ukulele Club will continue to bring music to life for years to come.

"The ukulele is a wonderful way to foster connection and creativity," said Dr. Concetta Tomaino, Executive Director and co-founder of the IMNF. *"We re excited to offer this program as a way to engage older adults and the broader community in the healing and joyful benefits of making music together."*

"We believe music should be a shared experience—one that connects people across generations and backgrounds," said David Blake, founder of The Kanikapila Project. *"It s an honor to support IMNF s vision with these instruments and help bring the joy of ukulele playing to such a vibrant, inclusive community."*

The IMNF Ukulele Club will meet regularly, providing a space for intergenerational engagement, skill-building, and fun. All are welcome, from seasoned players to those picking up an instrument for the first time.

For more information or to join the IMNF Ukulele Club, please visit www.imnf.org or contact imnf@wartburg.org.

About the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function (IMNF)

Founded in 1995 by Concetta M. Tomaino, DA, MT-BC and Oliver Sacks, MD, the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function (IMNF) is an internationally recognized non-profit agency offering groundbreaking music therapy programs to restore, maintain, and improve patients ' physical, emotional, and neurological function through the methodical use of music.



David Blake, Vania, Concetta Tomaino, Jason



Wartburg and IMNF staff and students join Vania, Jason and David Blake to launch new Ukulele program