

Keeping IHM in Tune

Indian Hill Music's piano tuner, Keena Keel of Littleton, loves the challenge of keeping the school's twenty-three pianos in tune. She enjoys the trouble shooting and the versatility of the job. Plus, she finds the work to be "very soothing." Keena is a Registered Piano Tuner-Technician, which is the highest rank for piano tuning. And like the musicians who teach here at Indian Hill, she had to audition for the job. Keena tunes, regulates and adjusts Indian Hill's pianos four times a year, each piano taking 1 hour and 15 minutes. She must work around classroom schedules and find the most effective way to make the repairs. "Most people are not even aware of Keena's presence," noted Director of Education Michael Havay, "but her work is essential to maintaining our instruments. Well over \$10,000 is budgeted every year for this task, but it would cost us more than a half a million dollars to replace our pianos."

At Indian Hill, Keena encounters the run-of-the-mill problems you might expect at any busy school. In addition to tuning, there are the pencils, bits of jewelry, and paper clips that get jammed under the keys or the strings.



IHM piano tuner Keena Keel checks a damper.

These are usually easy repairs to make, but they are time consuming. Recently, one piano suffered serious water damage. An air conditioner unit housed above one of the studios leaked water, causing damage to the felt ham-

mers, the strings, and the soundboard of the piano, which amounted to about \$2,300 in repairs. Keena worked some triage on that one to get it in functioning order and will do more extensive refurbishing this fall. "The Music School is insured for such occurrences," Michael added, "but it is another good indication of the daily challenges of running a non-profit music institution. Our students and teachers expect and deserve pianos in good shape, so it's important to know what it takes to provide that. We've benefited from Keena's artistry for fourteen years." ♦

Puttin' on the Knitz

Benefit
Fashion
Show

Sunday,
November 2nd
2:00 p.m.



PHOTO: VOGUE KNITTING INTERNATIONAL. ROSE CALLAHAN

Join us for a unique fashion show of sweaters, knitwear and accessories! **Sunday, November 2 at 2:00 p.m.** View day into evening styles from Evans on the Common, Designers Kim Nyles and Lynn Ferrillo, and Vogue Knitting magazine. Our special guest will be Vogue Knitting editor, Carla Patrick, who will bring sweaters from Vogue issues and share upcoming trends in knit wear. Wine and dessert will be served. Proceeds to benefit IHM. **Tickets: \$30 per person.**

Annual Grand Wine Tasting

Raise a glass at our seventh annual Grand Wine Tasting to benefit the Orchestra of Indian Hill!

Friday, November 14
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Presented by Jack O'Lantern Wine & Spirits of Ayer and The Friends of Indian Hill. Sample over 100 wines from around the world, gourmet food tastings, live jazz, and fabulous raffle items.

Tickets: \$25 per person
Call (978) 486-9524