
SWEET SUPPORT: SPOTLIGHT

Interview with Rochelle Rabouin: Musician & Educator

As we all know, the world has been shocked by the devastating effects of the pandemic. We at Sweet Relief, are aware of the enormous medical and financial burden that COVID-19 is having on



the music community and we are actively taking steps to provide assistance where it's needed most. Due to massive cancellations, artists like Rochelle Rabouin are struggling to find the means to make ends meet during these unprecedented times. We wanted to shed some light on her story and how supporting Sweet Relief's efforts goes such a long way. Read her Q & A below.

SR: How did you hear about Sweet Relief Musician's Fund?

RR: I combed the internet for financial help and/or grants for musicians during the pandemic and came across Sweet Relief's website. As of March 23, 2020 all of my concerts and programs for schools and libraries were officially cancelled. This WAS my main source of income beside my social security allotments.

(Above image)
Rabouin's TEKS based educational music programs for children PK-5th grade.

SR: What type of instruments do you play and for how long?

RR: *Voice, guitar, steel drum, percussion, trombone, trumpet, piano for 50 years.*

SR: What type of work do you do within the music community?

RR: *My main source of income is creating and presenting arts in education programs, focused on reading and music. My target audience is PK-5th grade students.*

SR: How has Sweet Relief's support changed your life?

RR: *The stipend I received from Sweet Relief helped me to avoid eviction and gave me the ability to work with my landlord in a cordial and trusting manner. I saw so many people's belongings thrown on the curb and in dumpsters....I was sad for them.....however, so glad I found this organization that reached out to help.*

SR: How do you see music being an important force in your life and the world?

RR: *I have ALWAYS known the power of music for healing and bringing people/cultures together.*

SR: What would you say to others in need of support, who are hesitant to ask?

“the power of music for healing and bringing people/cultures together”

-ROCHELLE RABOUIN

RR: *For financial support - first approach family and friends...use Go Fund Me and other platforms as well. Apply for any grant you think you might get.....Just ask for help. For most musicians who provide live entertainment via the field of edu-tainment, this has been the worst year ever! All in-person gigs in schools, libraries, churches, recreation centers, Senior Citizen communities and other family friendly venues came to a complete stop in March. For so many the consequences have been devastating. I am one to keep a hopeful attitude. I am sure that my gift will sustain me through hard times HOORAY FOR MUSIC....AND THANKS FOR PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND HOW POWERFUL IT IS.*



(Above image)
Rochelle Rabouin live sessions.

Learn more about Rochelle and her commitment to the music community via her website www.rochellerabouin.com