

# GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

12 Littleville Road Huntington, MA 01050

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Wendy V. Long, Public Relations   
(413) 685-1003

## **Annual concert raises over \$1,000**

**Huntington** – The third annual Shipman Memorial Concert, held on Friday, May 15, raised nearly \$1100 for improvements to the Gateway Performing Arts Center, held in honor of retired Gateway teacher and long-time Tech Crew Director, Rob Shipman.

In addition to his 34-year career as a Gateway teacher, Rob served as the district's Tech Crew Director for many years, including for four years following his retirement in 2008. Rob not only trained numerous generations of student Tech Crew members in running the sound, lights and stage of the auditorium, he also had a hand in designing those systems in the new auditorium built during the building program. Rob's legacy continues with his memorial fund and this annual concert fundraiser.

Audience members—many of whom have attended all three years of the concert—included many retired staff members and former colleagues of Rob's.

This year's performers spanned 6 decades of graduating classes, and included The 3 G's (retired principal Peter Curro, retired mathematics teacher Tim Crane ('71), and John Crane ('96); Jeff Penn ('80); Keith ('03) and Renee ('04) Boylan; Saxophone quartet members Alex Auclair ('18), Dayna Britland ('17), Brennan Foley ('16) and Anna Pless ('17); Samantha Sawyer ('16), Dawson Atkin ('18), and Autumn Marchetto ('20). Band directors (or 'Direct-hers') Beth Guertin and Renee Mosher also performed, as did Alyssa Lemme of the Lemme Sisters.

Following intermission, very special guest star Mikey Sweet ('04) took the stage and brought his wonderful brand of singing, songwriting and storytelling back to Gateway.

The Shipman Memorial Fund, held by the Gateway Education Foundation, began after Rob's passing in 2012 and to date has raised over \$10,700 for the auditorium. It has paid for improvements to the sound (a mobile sound board that operates from an iPad) and lighting systems (a movable spotlight), a new DVD player and 5 sets of lapel microphones.

Anyone who was unable to attend the concert, but wishes to make a tax-deductible donation to the fund may mail a check payable to the Gateway Education Foundation (please put 'Shipman Fund' in the memo) to 12 Littleville Rd., Huntington, MA 01050.

# # #



*Photo (left): Gateway alum and professional singer/songwriter Mikey Sweet performed at Gateway on May 15, during the Shipman benefit concert.*