

## The Piano Player—Brad Mersereau

Barbara Peschiera, Foundation Executive Director



Many Plaza Members are attracted to this community because of the strength of our artistic and musical culture, and we have one special volunteer who not only celebrates our culture, but also enhances it. Brad Mersereau has been a volunteer for more than 20 years, providing piano performances nearly every Wednesday and Sunday by the entry to the dining room. He played at our Volunteer Appreciation Celebration in April. He has helped us celebrate birthdays and other special occasions over the years.

His musical talent stands out as an avenue for expressing his personal commitment to improve the quality of life for our Members. A Member recently wrote a WOW card to honor “The Piano Player.” She wrote, “This Café Society Jazz adds a sophisticated atmosphere to Terwilliger Plaza that relaxes one and stirs the memory of forgotten melodies.” If you are not coming to the Duniway Restaurant for the food, you may want to come by for the atmosphere and the calming tunes that Brad produces.

Brad began visiting Terwilliger Plaza in 1997, when his dear friend, Alice Sedgwick, moved here. He can often be found playing Alice’s piano just outside the Duniway Restaurant or Jeanne Pendergrass’s piano in the Heights Café. Or you may even see him playing pool with Members in the Game room.

Brad is invested on many levels to the well-being of our Members. He served for six years on the Foundation Board of Directors, including terms as vice president and one year as president. In 2003 he became a member of the Cornerstone Club, a recognition society for major donors.

Much of Brad’s inspiration to bring joy and quality music is grounded in the loss of his sister Laura, who died of complications related to alcoholism. He co-founded a safe house called Laura’s Place in collaboration with Central City Concern. He also served six years on the William Temple House Board of Directors, including one year as secretary. His crusade to help addicts become and stay sober has included projects with the YWCA, Union Gospel Mission and other organizations and churches.

Terwilliger Plaza is famous for our caring, generous and talented Members, and those qualities extend to attract angels like Brad who volunteer to make our world at the Plaza joyful, hopeful and calm.