



Turning Our Stories Into Song



"When you're a musician, you're as good as a doctor." That's COMPAS artist Charlie Maguire's philosophy, and it's hard to argue with him when you hear his reasoning. "You write a song and sing it, and you make people feel better."

There were a whole lot of people feeling great during Charlie's afternoon songwriting workshops at Open Circle in January. The Apple Valley group shared stories, jokes and advice, then got down to the business of writing a song. From suggesting a word or a line or singing along, every person in the circle was engaged and open to the process.

[Learn more](#) about the wide range of COMPAS' Artful Aging programs.



Before You Go

(You'll Never Be Alone)

(Refrain)

Before you go
I want you to know
I'll be waiting for you at home
Before you go away
I've got something to say
You'll never be alone

(Verse One)

You'll never be alone
As you journey far
May your skies be blue
Wherever you are--
And if the rain does fall
And the clouds are dark
You'll still hear my voice
Like a meadowlark!

(Verse Two)

You'll never be alone
If you have good friends
Peace within that never ends
For home and family
And those we love
All helping hands
And grace from up above

*By Open Circle Apple Valley Songwriters
W/Add'l Words & Music by Charlie Maguire
Held In Trust
Copyright 2016-Mello-Jamin Music
All Rights Reserved

Introducing Our New Mission Statement!



[Check out](#) the new blog post to learn more about the revamped statement.

Catch Up With The Blog!

Three new blog posts in January! COMPAS artist of 40 years, [John Minczeski shares](#) how we can all use creativity since it's a skill we all already have. Take a look at our enduring partnership with Children's Hospitals and how the work COMPAS does brings [comfort during hospital stay](#).

Creative Conversations

Artist Spotlight: Supreme Songsmith, Charlie Maguire

"Not every child has family willing to take them to concerts, art galleries, or museums. Within the school setting, with the help of COMPAS artists, children, and adults can literally go anywhere."

[Check out](#) Charlie's journey from New York "C" student to mid-west troubadour.



photo by Cheryl Walsh Bellville



Youth Boost with Kara Andree

"It is interesting now, how much each practice - teaching and making artwork - influence each other. They intermingling in ways that are more exciting than I could have imagined."

[Read](#) where the arts took Kara and how she is still using what she learned in COMPAS' donor-supported ArtsWork apprenticeship program.

It's Never Too Early...



To mark your calendars for Saturday, April 23rd for our second annual [Arts & Crafts event](#). Last year's attendees had an awesome time (see picture).

Enjoy craft beer & spirits & live music from Candid Kid, plus a solo, acoustic performance from LISSIE!

Early bird [tickets](#) available now!



Thank you!

Your support of creativity propels older adults to thrive in this world. Research shows, people who practice the arts as they age visit the doctor less, take less medication, have higher morale, and reduced rates of depression. Will you join COMPAS today in ensuring people of all ages have access to high-quality creative experiences?

[DONATE NOW](#)

COMPAS is a nationally-recognized provider of arts education programs.



affiliated with the Young Audiences Arts for Learning network

[COMPAS.org](#)

