



## School of Piano Technology for the Blind receives \$3500 Northwest Lions Foundation grant

### News Release from **School of Piano Technology for the Blind**

(August 11, 2015– Vancouver, WA)

The School of Piano Technology for the Blind received a \$3,500 grant from the Northwest Lions Foundation to purchase a Braille Sense U-2 Mini 18-cell Braille Notebook for the school's Director of Instruction, Mr. Don Mitchell. The Braille Sense U2 Mini is an accessible portable "mini-computer" which will allow Mr. Mitchell to easily access instructional information, input and update notes while in the classroom, and eliminate the high cost of printing classroom documents in braille.

"The purchase of a Braille Sense U2 Mini will positively impact the learning environment for our students," said Cheri Martin, Executive Director. "The ability for our Director of Instruction, who is blind, to easily and accurately access curriculum, notes, student files and records, personal and professional calendars, email, contacts and other important information generally stored on a computer, is vital to an efficient and effective classroom environment."

Lions Clubs, locally, regionally, and nationally, are strong and consistent supporters of the School and having funded items ranging from installation of a new HVAC system for the school to the re-organization of the Piano Parts Room.

The School of Piano Technology for the Blind, founded in 1949, is the only school in the world dedicated to teaching blind and visually-impaired individuals piano tuning and repair. For more information, please contact the school at 360-693-1511 or online at [www.parksfoundation.us](http://www.parksfoundation.us)

#### **Contact Info:**

Cheri Martin

Executive Director School of Piano Technology for the Blind

360-693-1511

[Cherim@pianotuningschool.org](mailto:Cherim@pianotuningschool.org)

[www.pianotuningschool.org](http://www.pianotuningschool.org)

*The School of Piano Technology for the Blind was founded in 1949 by Emil Fries, a blind teacher and tuner who had a vision to start a school that would teach blind and visually impaired students the skills of piano tuning and repair so they could earn a good living and enjoy independent, productive lives in a financially rewarding profession. Since the School's inception, more than 300 graduates have gone on to good careers in universities, music stores, school districts, and most often operating their own business.*