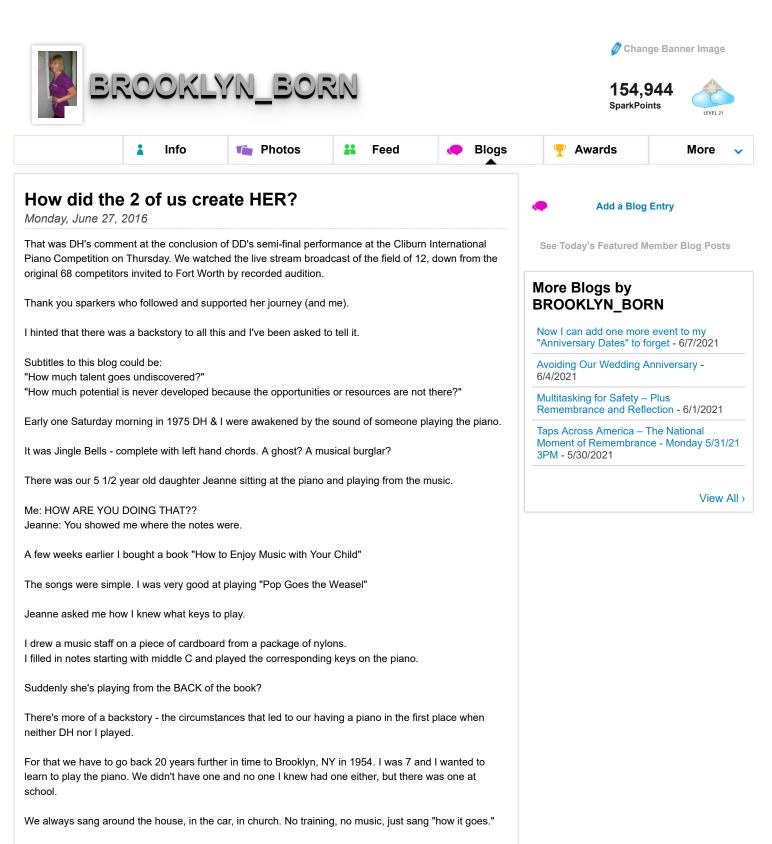
LOG OUT



We lived in a 3 family walk-up apartment (3 rooms on the 2nd floor) in a neighborhood where everybody's

grandparents or parents had immigrated from somewhere in the world.

The only piano that could be hauled up those narrow stairs and hallways was a "spinet." The cheapest we could find was several hundred dollars. Dad opened a savings account for me. I used to collect bottles for the "deposit" and newspapers for the "junkie." The big additions to my account came in the summers when I was sent to live with my grandmother in small town in northeast PA.

Grandma lived as she did in the old country - heating and cooking on a coal stove with an "ice box" on the front porch. Nearby was "Blueberry Hill" - miles and miles of endless wild berries.

Not only did this city kid find it fun to pick them but there was a location where you could sell your berries to a "man from the city" for 25 cents a quart. I picked hundreds and hundreds of quarts of berries.

Finally 1958 - I bought my piano and Dad arranged for a lady to come to the house to teach me. I was so happy. He also had a friend who worked as a printer in a music publishing house. He used to bring me the music that had not printed correctly and could not be sold. I still have some of it.

Suddenly the post-war economic boom sputtered. My Dad, a welder, had his hours cut to only 4 days a week. So much for piano lessons. I continued to play on my own and sing. I had learned as much as I needed to know for my minimal expectations.

My parents kept the piano, but no one played it. When DH & I settled in Columbus, Ohio in 1972 they sent it along with us where it was waiting for Jeanne to discover it.

As for her story, I fortunately found a piano teacher, a Chinese lady, who believed early music training is not only possible but essential. Jeannie loved to play, perform and compete.

She made her debut with the Cincinnati Symphony at age 12 and had a very successful career through college. After graduation she married her wonderful husband, taught music in the public schools, raised 3 kids and became part-time church music minister. Recently a friend and competitor from her youth suggested she enter the Cliburn Amateur Competition - those musicians who had studied music but whose life followed a different path.

She has had a wonderful time.

As she posted from Texas:

"Hey everyone, I'm totally pooped and crawling into bed, but I wanted to say thank you for being such a great audience and support system. I had a good run here and got to play three times for a jury of worldclass pianists. I got bravos and a standing ovation and I'm cool with that! Goodnight and see you soon!"

If you have read this far, thank you.

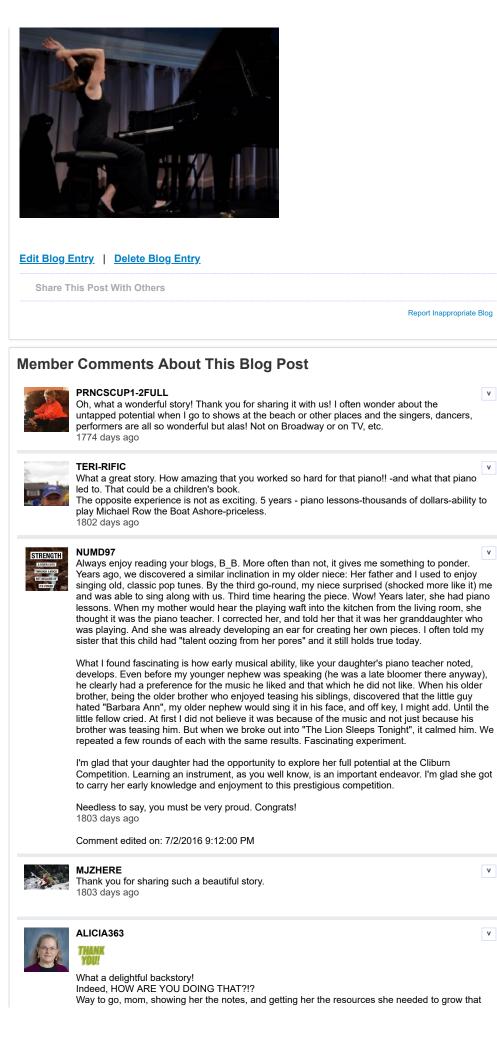
It was my daughter (Hayburner1969) who introduced me to Spark 7 years ago.

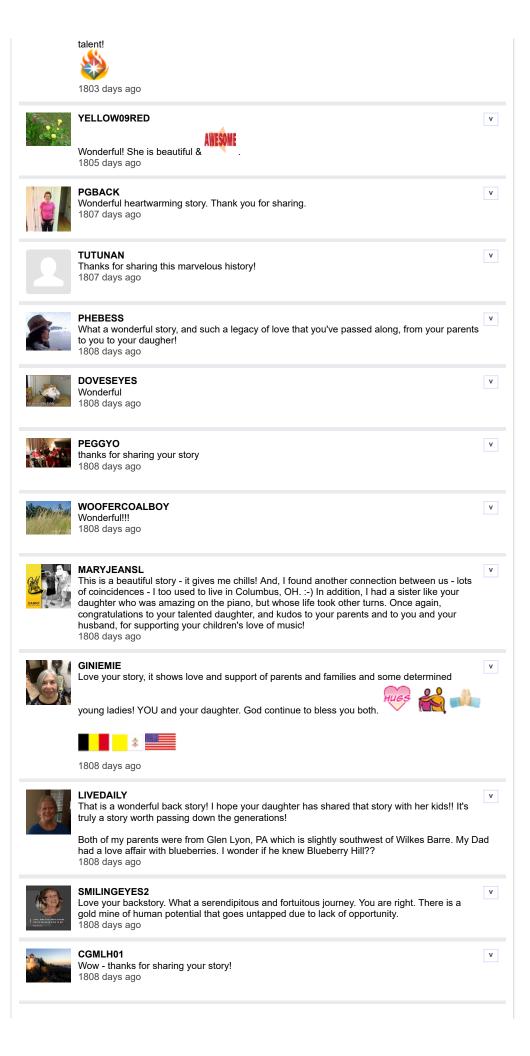
In so many areas of life, how much talent and potential is out there and goes unnoticed and undiscovered?

1977



2016





	KRISZTA11 Congrats to your entire family, starting with grandpa who opened the savings account for you! View 1808 days ago	v
	CD12068097 Loved your wonderful story. Thanks for sharing. 1808 days ago	V
	HELEN_BRU What great talent - I listened to her semi-final video - and a wonderful story to go along with it. 1808 days ago Comment edited on: 6/27/2016 11:19:04 AM	V
	CHAYOR73	V
	SUBMOM2 What a great story! 1808 days ago	V
	WUMPASTAR Thank you so much for sharing. What an awesome start to my week to read this!!! Both you and your daughter are very inspiring. 1808 days ago	v
	MISCHAKEO That was a lovely story. 1809 days ago	V
	SYLPHINPROGRESS Thank you so much for the perfect back story. Now I'm crazy about your father, too. You and Joe are naturals to have gotten Jeanne in the baby lottery, as she was for having draw you as her parents. It's the old sowing and reaping thing. Last week's photo of Jeanne is thrilling a woman who is one with the music that was compose so that it would one day come to her hands. P.S. We spent some of my childhood summers at a Catskills bungalow colony. Nearby was a circular field of bunchare bunches to which we had access.	ed
	sizeable field of blueberry bushes to which we had access. I loved berry-picking and can still he the "plink-plunk-thump" of the first layer of berries hitting the bottom of the aluminum pot which used to hold them. Heaven. 1809 days ago Comment edited on: 6/27/2016 9:44:03 AM	
Or se vis are the set of the the set of the	PHOENIX1949 Great story. Couldn't help but think about how many children today would roll their ideas at the thought of being industrious and earning money to make a desired purchase. I saved babysittin and housework money for years and paid cash for my first car when I was a senior in high scho can still summon up that feeling of pride. You and your daughter make quite the pair and I appreciate getting to meet y'all virtually.	
	1809 days ago POINDEXTRA Thanks for sharing this wonderful story. I so enjoyed listening to Jeanne's semi-final performance last week - this week I'll listen to her quarterfinal performance. She's amazing! 1809 days ago	v
	SWEDE_SU wonderful story! just loved it all the way to the end, and feeling a bit teary-eyed now:-) you must be so proud!!! 1809 days ago	V
	CD8113065 What a great story. Thank you for sharing. That photo of Jeanne in 2016 is outstanding. 1809 days ago	V

	HOLLYM48 Your story brought tears to my eyes for some reason. It is very touching and very moving. Where there is a will, there is a way and your story of your childhood and how you got that pian was so moving as well. Thanks for sharing this beautiful story with us. Congratulations to your daughter. It is one thing play in church or schools or for small crowds, but what she did was beyond amazing. You and y hubby are to be commended for encouraging her and teaching her that anything is possible, as she proved. Hats off to all of you! 1809 days ago	to your
	WILSONWR Great story! It's always nice to hear stories of people succeeding in the things that they love. We all have some potential in ourselves - it's nice when that potential is realized! 1809 days ago	v
	DEBVNE Such a beautiful tale, simply amazing! Your love, pride, and admiration shine through your words. Thank you for sharingyou sent this to your daughter, right? 1809 days ago	V
69	ONEKIDSMOM THANK	V
	LOVE it! Got tingles reading it. So glad THIS talent was discovered and nurtured! 1809 days ago	
Like Netering	CARBMONSTERII So many "might not have beens" to make such a wonderful story! Thank you so much for sharing the story that is equally yours and your daughter's! 1809 days ago	V
	HEALTHYANDFIT27 What a wonderful story! Love the persistence and resilience of you and your daughter! Thanks for sharing! 1809 days ago	V
	50YEARSAWIFE	v
	What a wonderful story. Thanks for sharing. Congrats to you and your daughter.	
	B-LESS-ED Congratulations to you and your gifted daughter! 1809 days ago	۷
	WATERMELLEN Well, it's absolutely evident how the 2 of you created HER!!	v
Y	What a marvellous story of both musical talent and resiliency.	
	As my dad used to say, "Genius is 99% perspiration and 1% inspiration": and you transmitted both!! 1809 days ago	
• 0	SCHNOOTIE What a great story to share with us! And it brings me to an equally important questionhow many stories go untold? Glad you decided to tell us about it! Have a great day! 1809 days ago	v
In the	NELLJONES Congrats to you both! 1809 days ago	V
	BBEAGAN Wonderful story - thanks! 1809 days ago	V
A state of the sta	HMBROWN1 Beautiful story! Congrats to your daughter! 1809 days ago	v
	SEAMUNKI #proudmom	v



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arkPeople's Community Guidelines.		
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