

# Drive encourages marrow donation

Organizations partner to encourage blood and bone marrow donations

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Cardinal Key sponsors a blood drive each semester, but senior Madeleine Keough said the drive happening April 17 and 18 will be special.

The organization is partnering with Phi Sigma Pi to offer students the opportunity to sign up with the bone marrow donation registry when they donate blood, Keough said.

"They do that at a lot of other campuses, but it's really cool that Truman is getting involved," she said. "Our coordinator looked into it, got details and decided it would be a good thing to pair up with [PSP] and help them get it established at Truman."

To sign up for the bone marrow registry, Keough said students only need to provide a cheek swab to be placed in the registry to find a match. She said the match has to be very specific, and signing up to donate is a serious commitment — the registry wants to make sure those who sign up actually will be willing to donate if a match is found.

Despite the commitment, Keough said donating blood and signing up to donate bone marrow both are rewarding experiences that can potentially be lifesaving for someone else.

Keough said she is looking forward to the event and hopes to receive more than 500 donations — the amount the

organization received last semester. She said she doesn't expect the combined event to impact participation.

"They're not having to do two donations at once, just the cheek swab at the time," she said. "After the blood drive, there will be a table offering [to join the registry] as an option."

Junior Lauren Cooley, Phi Sigma Pi service chair, said she has donated blood a few times and plans to join the bone marrow registry during the blood drive.

As the service chair, Cooley has communicated with representatives from the Red Cross and Be The Match, the bone marrow donor registry partnering with Phi Sigma Pi.

"Joining the registry is painless," Cooley said. "Donating bone marrow might hurt, but you'll save lives."

Red Cross representative Sara Rex has been working with Keough and Cooley to coordinate the event. She said the blood drives at Truman are something the organization has been doing since she started at the company five years ago.

"These blood drives are great because we can collect a large amount of units at one drive as opposed to splitting it up in multiple drives," Rex said. "It's beneficial for us and I also feel it benefits the students for us to be right there on campus."

Rex said there are many reasons why someone might not want to donate blood, but she would encourage those people to think of the three people whose lives might be saved by just one pint. She said the reasons she commonly hears don't typically outweigh the benefits of donation.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs a blood transfusion.

1 in 10 people entering a hospital will need a blood transfusion.

About 35,000 units of blood are used every day in the United States.

1 in 4 people will need a blood transfusion during their lifetime.

About 38 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood, However, only 5 percent of the eligible population donates.

## BLOOD VS BONE MARROW DONATION

A bone marrow transplant can save the lives of people battling leukemia, lymphoma and other blood cancers.

6 in 10 patients never receive the unrelated transplant — a transplant from a non-family member — that they need.

Young people 18 to 24 years old are the bone marrow donors needed most.

\*according to www.dosomething.org and www.laneblood.org

# Math student accompanies musicians

BY EMILY BRENNAN  
Staff Reporter

As the end of the semester nears, it's time for Truman State music majors to begin preparing for final recitals. Helping some majors practice is a student accompanist who proves the liberal arts philosophy is alive and well at Truman.

For the past six semesters, senior Evan Datz has been using his piano skills to help music majors prepare for concerts and recitals. Despite his participation

in the music department, Datz studies math and physics. He has been playing piano since he was 3 years old, and started solving math problems about the same time. Datz said he loves both, but always knew which subject he would study during college.

"It was never really a question of what I would go into as a major," Datz said. "I just figure that I can still play music and I can keep up my playing piano without having to be a music major."

During his career at Truman, Datz said he has turned his love

of playing piano into a fun extracurricular activity. He has accompanied about 15 students during voice, flute, trombone and French horn recitals and lessons. Datz said he enjoys all the music he is given, but prefers more challenging pieces. He said he notices similarities between how he approaches complicated music and difficult math problems.

"As you go into more advanced math, you will sometimes see problems that you have to look at creatively to find a solution to," Datz said. "I think it's the same

way with music. If you're going to play a song, you just can't play based on what's in front of you ... you have to have some expression and put your own personality into it."

This semester, Datz is accompanying sophomore Alyssa Kapp for voice recitals. Kapp said she wanted Datz to accompany her after first hearing him play at a festival last year. Kapp knew Datz was not a music major, but she said it didn't bother her — in fact, she was impressed.

"It's awesome that he can be

that good and his skills are so up to par, even though he's not a music major," Kapp said.

Datz said he likes accompanying not only because of the joy of playing, but also because he can use his talent to help friends and fellow music enthusiasts.

"I had a lot of friends freshman year that asked me to accompany them without my suggesting, so it just sort of went from there," Datz said.

Datz said he will continue to accompany musicians until he graduates next spring.

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