

# Helen Marketti's Music Corner

## HALO Live at the Mohawk Studios Part Two



In last month's issue, Shawn Daley shared his dream for finding a church to house a recording studio that was equipped with overnight accommodations for musicians. His business partner, John Davenport shared in his vision and together they obtained a church that was for sale on Wayne Street in Sandusky. Musicians are traveling far and wide to record at HALO Studios. There are also other special projects in the works that Shawn hopes will continue to grow.

"John used to run a bed and breakfast. He brought his own creativity to the table and offered his own spin on my ideas. Everything came together. I don't really believe in fate," said Shawn. "If something is meant to happen it will find its way. You make it happen. I set the bar higher than I should which makes me an overachiever."



As with many cities and towns, Sandusky is changing and growing. "I think the leadership here is amazing. I sat down with the leadership of Sandusky and told them my plan. They were actually excited and encouraged me to make it work. One of the city commissioners told me to "make it weird". I am a weird person (laughs) so that works out perfectly. Who would have ever thought about buying a church and turning it into a recording studio?"

HALO is an appropriate name for a church studio. "My business partner, John came up with the name HALO since we are working in a church. HALO stands for Harmony And Lyrics Ohio," said Shawn. "We can do banquets and wedding receptions. We have a full kitchen in the basement. It is called The Midtown Supper Club. We have started special projects as of January 7. We have started a culinary arts program for underserved youth in Sandusky. There are four chefs from the local area who have volunteered to teach children (ages 8 to 16) how to prepare a meal, be a hostess, waiting tables, making change and so forth. We also have a dance group that rehearses here because they do not have anywhere else to go right now. The third tier to this is called Sandbox Records which is a 16-week program open to young teens. They will participate in creating a song the first month. The second month is going to be rehearsal and production. The third month is going to be spent recording. The fourth month is going to be distribution. They are going to get their music out there on iTunes, Spotify and Pandora. They are going to learn how

to market their work. In addition to all of this I am in three full time bands with all of them due for new album releases over the next few months and I work a full time job!"

The vision for HALO Studios is one in which will continue to create and expand. There are many wonderful programs happening underneath the roof of this former church. Shawn feels the energy as well as he looks into an optimistic future. "I am hoping these programs continue to grow and develop beyond where we are. For HALO and Mohawk Studios, we are going to keep moving forward and establishing ourselves. We want to be known throughout the Great Lakes region and on the



Eastern side of the United States. I would love to be known nationally as "the place" to go. Musicians that come here are from all over Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. I am working on a sound track right now for a movie that's being filmed in Las Vegas. PBS has been here to do a story about an album. We want to keep this going."

[www.HaloLive.us](http://www.HaloLive.us)

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