

LEADING THE CAUSE FOR MUSIC EDUCATION

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory believes that every young person inspired by the art and rigor of making music embodies a future rich with hope, joy and the rewards of personal achievement and community involvement. For these reasons, we continue to advance our vision of making high quality music education accessible and affordable for all students. We are proud to share these highlights from our 70th Season.



SDYS Community Partnership Manager Annette Fritzsche, Teaching Artist Mario Miragliotta with the Accidental Trio and Alegria Strings violinists after performance for Chula Vista Mayor and City Council

PERSONAL MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT

Our Conservatory programs in Balboa Park offer students at every level the opportunity to achieve aspirations of personal and artistic excellence. Over six hundred aspiring musicians, aged 8 to 25 from as far as Riverside and Imperial Counties and northern Baja California, Mexico, participated. They gathered every Saturday and Sunday to rehearse under the inspiring guidance of Music Director Jeff Edmons and our expert faculty as they prepared for seven concerts at San Diego's finest venues. Our Inspiration, Showcase and Ovation programs offer three tiers of increasingly aspirational advanced instruction.

To supplement our ensemble instruction, we offer chamber music, concerto competitions, mentoring programs, music theory classes, sponsored lessons and more. Through our expanded partnership with La Jolla Music Society (LJMS), our Chamber Orchestra performed with two world-class artists: violinist Jinjoo Cho and Ning Feng. SDYS and LJMS also launched The Music Institute, which provides students in 9th through 12th grades with college level instruction in music theory, music history, conducting, and chamber music as well as master classes and performance opportunities with visiting artists.

During the summer of 2016, our 12th Annual International Youth Symphony program attracted 24 of the finest young musicians from around the world to play alongside our most talented local musicians while two SDYS Ovation musicians joined Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra of the United States on tour in Europe.

Showcase program students honor music educators at our annual Profiles in Music Education concerts

PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY ACCESS

To fulfill our vision, we open pathways and align resources to ensure access to music education for all children. We collaborate with schools and districts to restore and strengthen music programs throughout the community. Our signature Community Opus Project, in partnership with the Chula Vista Elementary School District (CVESD), serves over 350 students with after-school music instruction. More importantly, the district observed Opus students had better attendance rates, improved test scores in English and math, decreased disciplinary issues and more engaged parents. As a result, CVESD made a \$15 million commitment to fully restore arts education to the regular school day curriculum for all 29,000 of its students in 2015-16. This was the largest single year expansion to arts education in the country and a direct result of the SDYS/CVESD partnership.

We collaborate with other schools and community partners to expand access to music education across the region. Through our involvement with the district and Fortissimo program, San Marcos Unified School District announced its return of music education to the school day at all 11 of its elementary schools over the next two years. Additional partnerships with Casa de Amistad, Gompers Prep Academy, and the Hoover High cluster of schools in City Heights are all devoted to strengthening music in schools.

We are just as devoted to ensuring personal access to our Conservatory programs. We remove participation barriers by providing need-based tuition awards as well as instrument loans, sponsored lessons and free tickets for families to see their children perform. Additionally, we collaborate with organizations that serve under-resourced youth through our Tickets with Purpose program to give access to our performances.

In the 2015-16 season, SDYS provided 123 students with \$72,900 in need-based tuition assistance, 59 students with sponsored lessons for individual improvement and nearly 800 free concert tickets for low-income families. We are also proud that 54 Community Opus Project musicians participated in our Conservatory Programs alongside their peers from across the region. Additionally, nine of these Opus musicians auditioned into the LA Phil's Take A Stand Festival and spent a week in Aspen, Colorado immersed in music and nature alongside peers from across the nation.



RESEARCH MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION

Essential to advancing the cause of music education for all children is having strong evidence of the value of music education to share. SDYS collaborates with multiple partners to gather and analyze the many outcomes associated with music learning.

Our primary research partner is Chula Vista Elementary School District. The district analyzes its own data and provides it to our other research partners for analysis. The most profound impact CVESD identified as a result of its district-wide return of music and arts education was a half percent increase in student attendance across the entire system. Not only does this bode well for student learning, but it also brought an extra \$500,000 to the district.

With Longy School of Music at Bard College and Wolf Brown, we are tracking the social and academic achievements of Opus students in comparison to non-Opus music students in Chula Vista. This study is evaluating the effects Opus and other El Sistema-inspired programs in communities



Opus musicians rehearse during after-school music program sessions

around the United States. Key findings from the first year show Opus students, who receive two afternoons of music instruction per week, are advancing musically as the same rate as students receiving five days of instruction in other cities. Simultaneously, Opus musicians are showing the largest increases in academic behavior measures compared to both the local control group and their national peers. These measures suggest strong preparation for ongoing success in school.

Our five-year SIMPHONY Study with University of California at San Diego's Center for Human Development is examining how music effects the physical development of the brain, language acquisition and attention span. Early results show that students learning music have the most stable progression in multiple areas of learning from perception and cognition to language and vocabulary growth. This study has received media coverage internationally for its role in the emerging field of music cognition.

STORYTELLING, AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY

We educate the community and the nation about the value of music education and share stories of individual and social change as a result of music education.

Individual student stories remind us all that the impact of music education is most profound when it is personal. SDYS became the new musical home for sisters Carla and Christine Chehadeh when they arrived in San Diego after fleeing the war in Syria. Resuming music after years of disruption gave them an anchor around which to build their new lives in the U.S.

In 2015-16, SDYS used every means possible to convey the power of music education and share lessons learned in collaboration with school districts. We met routinely with policy makers and elected officials to influence decisions that strengthen music education. We began a partnership with UCTV and its STEAM Channel to produce and distribute video content highlighting successes in music education. We spoke locally, regionally and nationally at conferences, on webinars, and during legislative hearings. President & CEO Dalouge Smith was a featured speaker at the San Diego TedX conference along with Dr. John Iverson from our UCSD SIMPHONY Study. The event concluded with SDYS' Chamber Orchestra performing for the 1,500 people in attendance.

SDYS and CVESD also co-hosted the 2016 Arts Education Learning Exchange to share practices and success stories with over 100 music educators and administrators from around the country.

MISSION | VALUES

Mission: Instill excellence in the musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences.

Core Values:

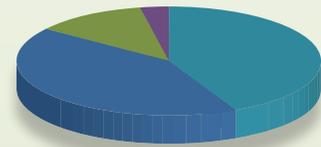
- **Personal Achievement** — Motivating and facilitating performance excellence
- **Inclusiveness** — Embracing diversity and promoting collective learning
- **Community Leadership** — Developing respectful and responsible citizenship for the greater good

YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT

As SDYS continues to grow its budget, its impact in the community grows. Financial highlights for the year include:

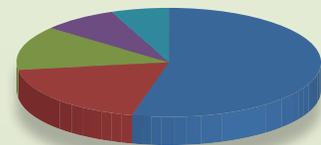
- Earned income of \$655,630, contributed income of \$1,055,953 and endowment distributions of \$54,638 combined to make the total revenue \$1,763,781.
- Nearly \$300,000 of this total was raised from individuals, foundations, corporations, and school districts to specifically support outreach programs like the Community Opus Project and Casa de Amistad.
- Our 2016 Encore! Scholarship Fund Raiser generated over \$200,000 in revenue to support our Annual Scholarship Fund which provides need and merit-based scholarships, sponsored lessons, coaching, access to instruments, sheet music and other services.

Our audited financial report is now available online at www.sdys.org under "About SDYS."



INCOME

- 43% Conservatory and Community Donations (individuals, foundations, businesses)
- 42% Earned (tuition, tickets, contracts)
- 12% Government (city, county, state)
- 3% Endowment Disbursement



EXPENSES

- 54% Program Staff (faculty, production)
- 19% Administration & Fundraising Staff
- 13% General Overhead (technology, storage, insurance)
- 8% Rehearsals & Concerts (concert halls, music, programs)
- 6% Marketing & Fundraising (postcards, CDs, events)