



A Year of Growth

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



This year, the
Harmony Program
served over
1,000 students,
**more than tripling its
student population
across four boroughs.**



A Letter from Our Founder & Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The Harmony Program has always helped our students face and overcome challenges. Of course, the health crisis over the last two years presented the greatest test of all, and I am proud that our community has emerged stronger and more invigorated than ever.

Our population of students has more than tripled in number, and we now reach over 1,000 children with in-school, after-school, online, and summer instruction. Our public school partnerships have increased from 12 to 16 across underserved communities in Manhattan, the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens. Our staff has doubled in size to drive the diversification of our programming and preserve the quality of our services, and our leadership has expanded with the addition of two new members of our Board of Directors and three new members of our Junior Board.

This growth is a testament to the creativity and resilience that define our organization. We are deeply grateful to all those who have provided us with the support necessary to advance our mission, during difficult times and joyful ones.

We are now poised to greet the start of our 15th anniversary year with special events, additional partnerships, new opportunities, and continued expansion. We look forward to celebrating this and more with you in the months ahead.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Fitzgibbon'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anne Fitzgibbon

Founder and Executive Director



Why is the Harmony Program important to you?

“We are thrilled Olivia derives so much joy from music... she has continued to dive deeper into her musical education as a result. Whether or not she decides to choose music as her career, thanks to the Harmony Program, her life will be forever richer.”

Olivia & Victoria Jackson

Harmony Program cello student & her mother



Our Mission

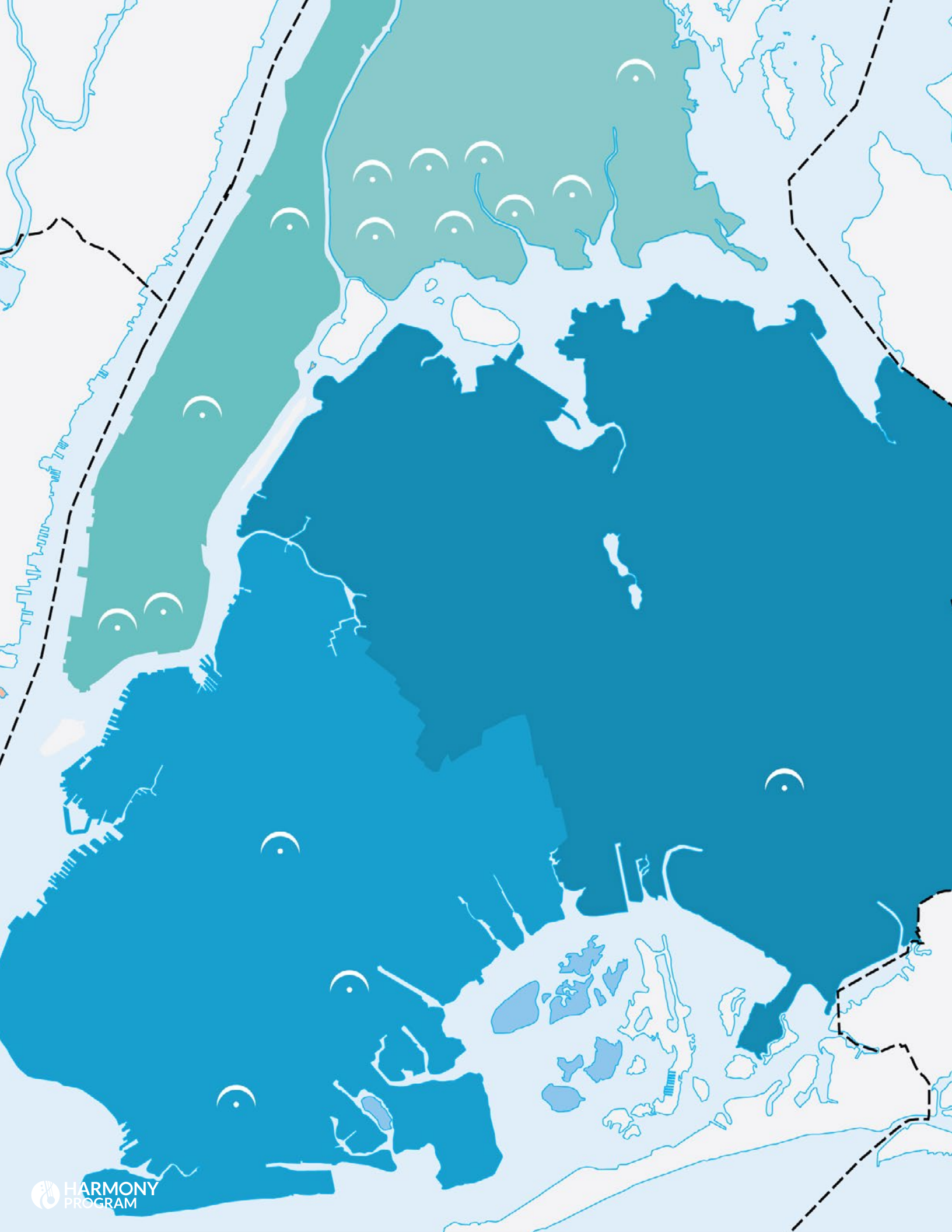
At the Harmony Program, music changes lives every day. Through collective music-making, children from underserved communities explore new avenues and realize their full potential. Our specially trained teachers guide students from beginner group instruction to orchestral performance, building life skills and community from a shared love of music.



Our History

Founded in 2003 by Anne Fitzgibbon, then re-launched in its current model in 2008, the Harmony Program is inspired by Venezuela's national youth orchestra system, El Sistema.

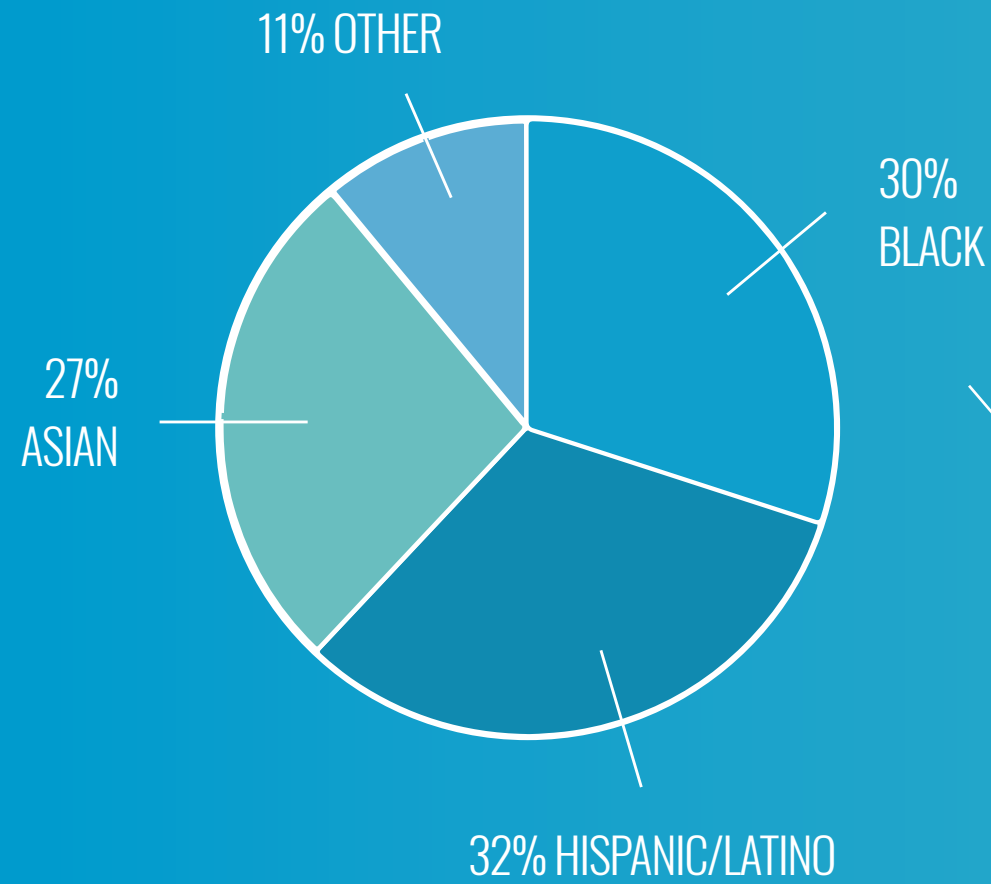
Adapting its model and philosophy to the unique needs of New York City's communities, the Harmony Program creates supportive environments for learning, instills focus and dedication through music-making, and encourages cooperation and responsibility through ensemble training.



We bring our programs directly into underserved communities across four boroughs, prioritizing partnerships with Title I and underperforming schools that would not otherwise have access to music education.

1,039 STUDENTS

served in 2021-22



42%

Speak a language other than English at home

13%

have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or 504 Plans

Our students reflect the broad diversity of our city, and our curricula include repertoire that is representative of Latin, African, and Asian diaspora communities.

80%

in our partner schools qualify for the Free/Reduced Price Lunch program



Why is the Harmony Program important to you?

“The Harmony Program gives the gift of music to children at a time when it can help shape their minds, perspectives, and futures.

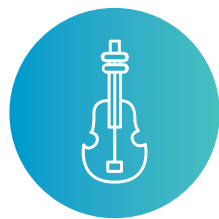
Creating music is not only art – it can be therapy.”

Adriana Diaz

Harmony Program Board Member & CBS National News Correspondent

Our Opportunities

IN SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL & BEYOND



Instrumental Instruction



Chorus



General Music



Summer Camp



Ensembles



Private Lessons



Online Classes

3,646 HOURS

school-year instruction

638 HOURS

private lessons

510 HOURS

summer camp

507 HOURS

online instruction

Our Impact

Neuroscience research has shown that music study engages every known area of the human brain, strengthening coordination, executive function, language acquisition, and emotional regulation.

Music teachers see this growth every day in their students, and so do our parents, school leaders, and even the students themselves.

70%

students meeting or exceeding our standards for musicianship, interpretation & sight reading



100%

parents satisfied or very satisfied with our services



90%

attendance rate across 16 program sites



93%

students showing social-emotional growth



Why is the Harmony Program important to you?

“Harmony Program’s amazing work with talented young musicians from underserved communities is helping to enrich the lives of those students, their parents, and their communities as a whole.”

Through our partnership, Harmony Program has given CMS the opportunity to expand access to the world of chamber music in many meaningful ways.”

Matthew Tommasini

Director of Education & Community Engagement, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

pictured with Harmony Program Founder and Executive Director Anne Fitzgibbon

Our Community

Our annual Youth Orchestra Day brought together 75 Harmony Program students from four boroughs. The day-long event introduced our beginner string students to concert etiquette and orchestral rehearsal and performance.

"Thank you for the event on Saturday. Axel was apprehensive beforehand, but I wish you could have talked to him afterwards. He was so proud and happy. He had a wonderful time."

- Harmony Program Parent



Our Partnerships

LEARNING FROM THE BEST

Our partners provide our students with year-round opportunities:

- Classroom visits and in-school concerts
- Side-by-side rehearsals and performances
- Private coaching and audition preparation
- Master classes
- Free tickets to world-class cultural events



We provide our students with scholarships and other support to ensure their financial circumstances do not impede their progress.

Harmony Program students participated in the following summer programs:



In November of 2021, two of our students had the unforgettable experience of performing side-by-side with violin soloist, Joshua Bell.

Why is the Harmony Program important to you?



"The Harmony Program here at my school inspired, gave voice to, and built confidence in our students."

Keisha Blake

Principal at PS140x

pictured with Director of Education Dr. Christina Placilla

Our Teachers

Our teachers are accomplished musicians who believe in music's power to transform lives.

They have performed at some of the world's most prestigious venues and studied at the nation's top music departments and conservatories.



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BOSTON
CONSERVATORY
at Berklee



Why is the Harmony Program important to you?

“The Harmony Program is important to me for making me think and rethink on the power of music – the power of joy, emotion, and values that change kids’ lives.”

Leandro Gazineo

Harmony Program Teacher & Faculty Mentor

Year-Round Teacher Training and Support

Our teachers have access to ongoing professional development.

- Over 50 paid hours of training
- Access to a network of industry experts in the fields of music, education, child psychology, and neuroscience
- Formal classroom observation, coaching, and evaluation

Why is the Harmony Program important to you?



“The Harmony Program’s training has enriched my growth... it has opened my eyes and mind to new solutions in today’s modern, urban classroom.”

Anthony Morris

Harmony Program Teacher & Faculty Mentor



SELECT TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

“Working with School and Community Partners”

“Increasing Resilience Through Music”

“SEL in the Music Classroom”

“Culturally Relevant Pedagogy”

“Addressing the Needs of All Learners”

The Harmony Program Gala '22

After two years apart, our Harmony Program community enjoyed an evening of heartfelt words and beautiful music.

The event, held at the Edison Ballroom, was hosted by CBS National News Correspondent and Weekend Anchor, **Adriana Diaz**, and featured live performances and remarks by our young musicians; our musical honoree, Broadway star, **Norm Lewis**; and our corporate honoree, CEO of UWG, **Monique Nelson**.



Norm Lewis, Broadway star, and
Monique Nelson, CEO of UWG



The Harmony Program Gala '22



"The presence and confidence, the ability to get up in front of a group, an audience, and perform, it's paramount in leadership. I am proud to have that skill and can testify to its origin [in music]."

Monique Nelson

Corporate Honoree & CEO of UWG



"I realize now that I already am in the position to reach others and to connect with them through music, the way that Harmony Program... has done for me."

Tamika Merise

Featured alumna



"The brain has complex visual, auditory, motor, cognitive, and emotional tasks that it does simultaneously while making music."

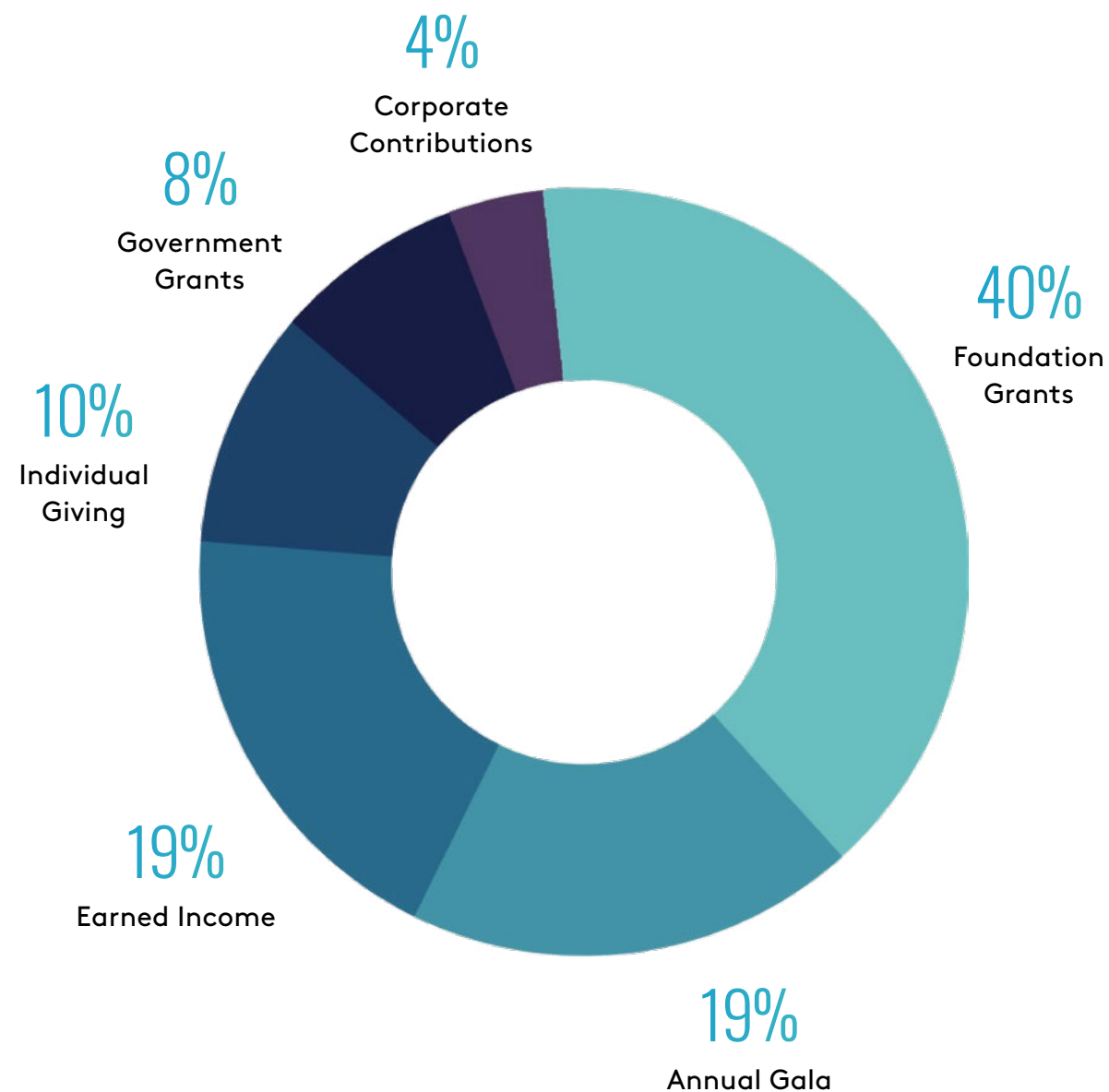
Kalmon Post

Board Chairman & Chairman Emeritus, Professor of Neurosurgery and Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center

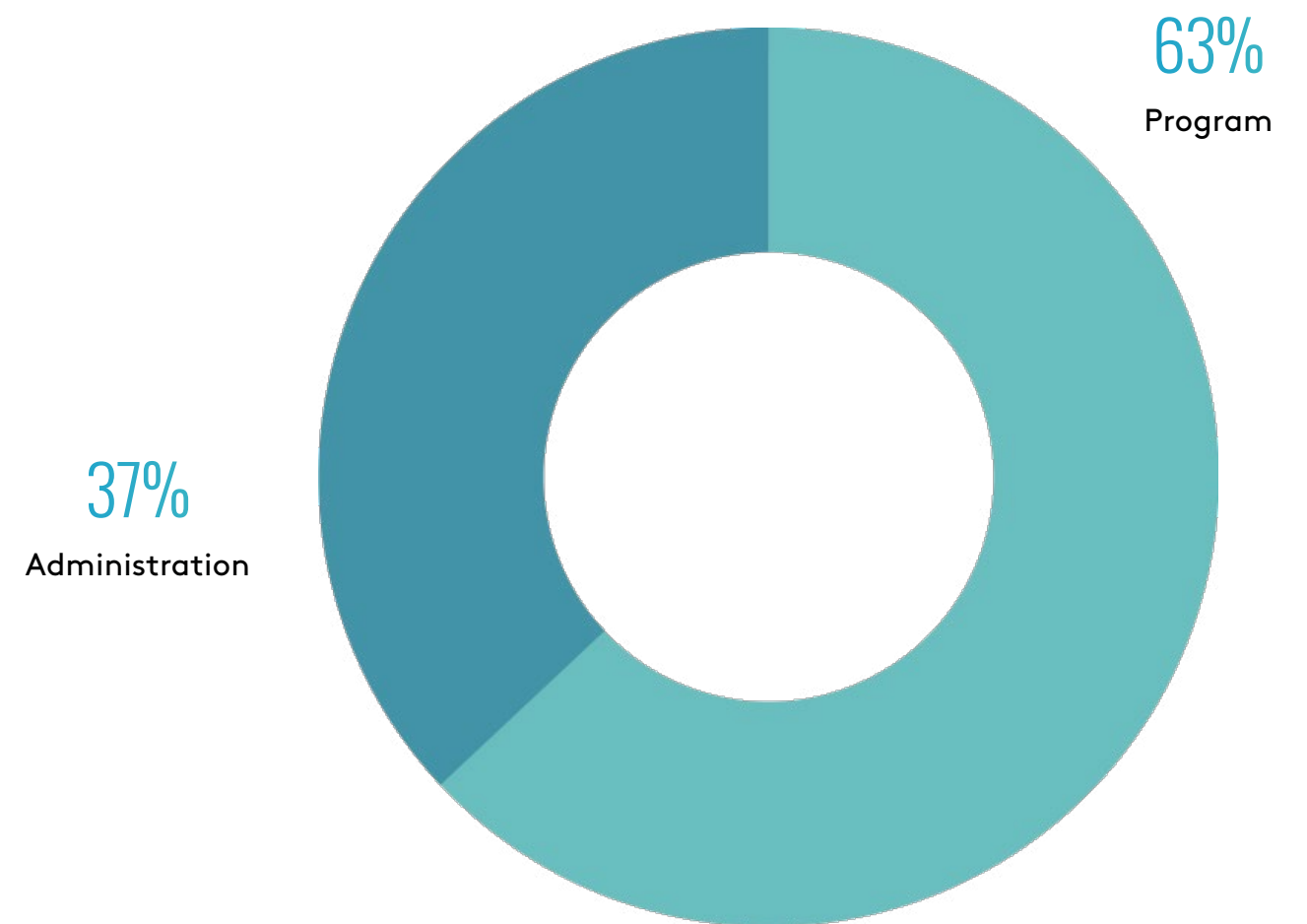


Financial Information FY 2022

Revenue: \$2.03M



Expenses: \$1.74M



Our Supporters

We extend our deep appreciation to all of our supporters. Their generosity was vitally important to our expansion and continued effectiveness this year.

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New York City Council Member, Julie Menin
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

Harmony Program is made possible by the
New York State Council on the Arts with the support of
Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

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Why is the Harmony Program important to you?



“Whether it is watching students master their craft, gain a newfound sense of self-confidence, or access to well-deserved further opportunities, the common thread is consistent success made possible by Harmony.”

Julie Davis

President, Harmony Program Junior Board

pictured with her mother



“The Harmony Program fostered a foundational love for music within me. This program opened so many doors for me that I likely wouldn’t have experienced without it, and for that I am forever indebted.”

Megan Simon

Harmony Program Alumna

How to Help

When you contribute to the Harmony Program, your donation provides students with instruments, books, and instruction. It provides teachers with the tools they need to make a difference in the lives of their students. And it helps us do more than ever for the families and communities we serve.

Donate online at harmonyprogram.org/support

If you would like information about supporting the Harmony Program through instrument donations, volunteering, in-kind gifts, planned giving, recurring gifts, corporate donations, or matching gifts, please contact us: **donate@harmonyprogram.org**

Harmony Program
156 West 56th Street, 3rd floor
New York, NY 10019

646-457-4291

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