

Broader Reach, Deeper Impact

ANNUAL
REPORT
2024





A Letter from Our Founder & Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This year has been especially eventful for the Harmony Program:

We have tripled our reach, serving over 3,000 children at 21 sites in Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, and the Bronx.

Our students have performed on the preeminent stages of 92NY, Merkin Hall, and Lincoln Center. And, we have begun a three-year plan to build a city-wide network of choirs and orchestras.

Our year-round programming now enables young musicians to progress along a continuous pathway, from beginner instruction and summer camp to ensembles and scholarship opportunities – all free of charge to children and families. By investing long-term in our students, we foster their development both as musicians and as thriving members of their communities.

We thank our supporters for helping us advance our goal of putting musical training within reach of all our city's children.

Sincerely,

Anne Fitzgibbon

Founder & Executive Director

The Harmony Program harnesses the power of collective music-making to help children gain critical life skills and make meaningful peer connections. Bringing music education directly into underserved communities across New York City, the Harmony Program creates opportunities for children to develop musical proficiency and social-emotional skills within a supportive environment.



OUR MISSION

OUR HISTORY

The Harmony Program was founded in 2003 by Anne Fitzgibbon as a privately funded project within the New York City Mayor's Office. After a successful pilot period, the Harmony Program was incorporated as an independent non-profit organization in 2004, and in 2008, entered into a temporary partnership with the City University of New York (CUNY) to foster growth and sustainability.

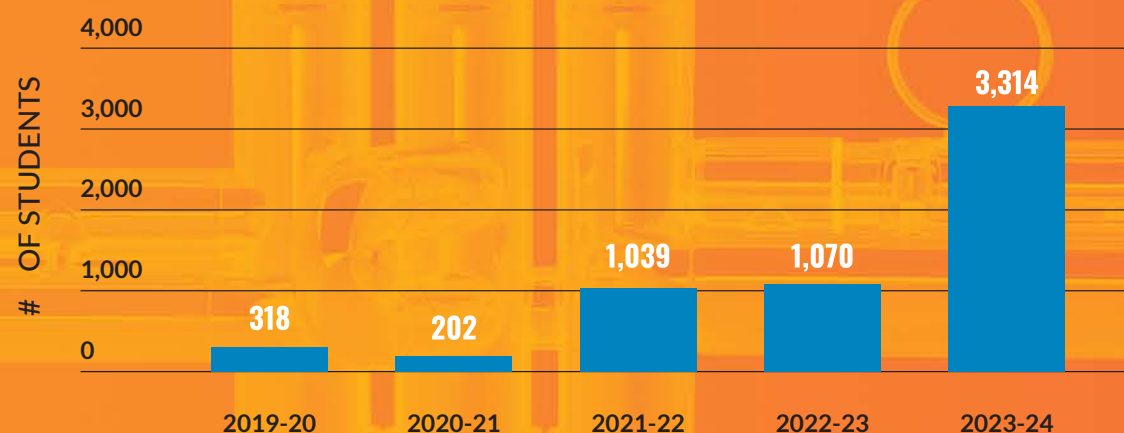
The Harmony Program is inspired by Venezuela's world-renowned system of music education, "El Sistema," which the Harmony Program's founder studied during a year-long Fulbright Fellowship. Since then, the Harmony Program has adapted the model and philosophy of El Sistema to the unique needs of New York City's communities, emphasizing community-based instruction and the social value of ensemble learning.

OUR STUDENTS

The Harmony Program began in 2003 at a single location serving 35 children. By the 2023-24 school year, the organization had grown to 3,314 students at 21 sites in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx.

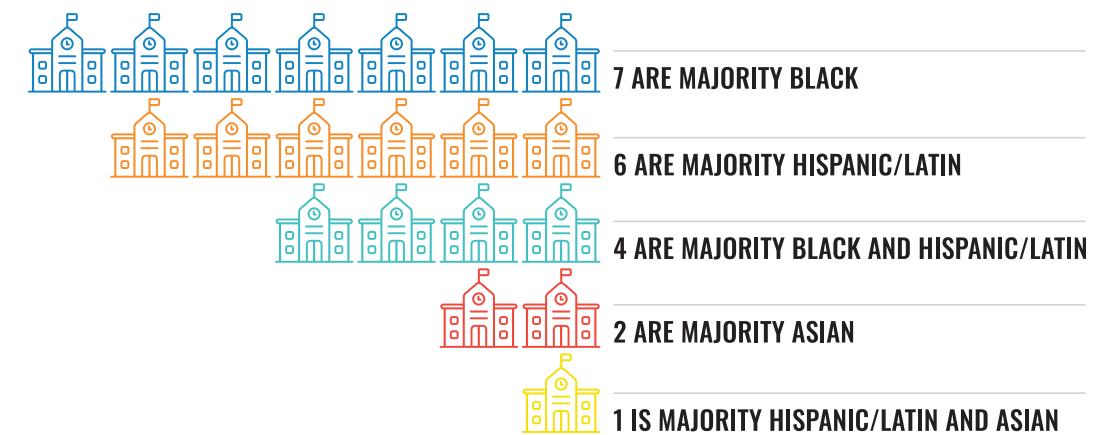


Five-year Growth in Number of Students Served



STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

OF OUR SCHOOL PARTNERS THIS YEAR:



3,314

students served in
2023-24

On average

81%

of students at our
partner schools qualify
for the Free/Reduced
Lunch program.

On average

13%

of students at our
partner schools are
English language learners.

On average

19%

of students at our partner
schools have a disability.

"I cannot express enough how much I adore this program and the exceptional instructors! It has undeniably uplifted Elijah's confidence."

Harmony Program parent

"I wanted to say thanks to Harmony for all the help you have provided me along this journey. I truly believe without your assistance I wouldn't have been able to make it this far."

Harmony Program alumnus
and 2024 graduate of the
New School (B.A. in Music
Performance)

"Harmony has been an amazing adventure not just for Chaniya but certainly for me and the entire family... Harmony has been a phenomenal experience. Chaniya has been accepted to the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and will continue to pursue what has become a lifelong passion. I cannot thank you enough."

Harmony Program parent

OUR PROGRAMS

11,414

hours of school-year instruction

660

hours of private lessons

540

hours of summer camp

185

hours of ensemble rehearsals



The Harmony Program provides students with opportunities to advance from enthusiastic beginners to dedicated performers.

Community-Based Instruction

The Harmony Program served 3,181 K-8 students at 21 schools and community-based organizations with general music, recorder, percussion, choral, and instrumental instruction.

Ensembles

The Harmony Program provided students with the chance to play together in our Manhattan-based beginner orchestra (65 students) and advanced orchestra (23 students), and our Bronx-based beginner string ensemble (22 students).

Scholarship Opportunities

We provided 18 students with audition preparation and tuition assistance for selective programs such as Juilliard's MAP program and the Interlochen Arts Camp.





More than 200 students attended one of our four borough-based summer camps.

Throughout the school year, members of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra coached, rehearsed, and performed side-by-side with our ensemble students.



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS



On December 14th, five students performed alongside the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and New York Philharmonic Principal Clarinetist Anthony McGill on the stage of 92NY.

On April 6th, Harmony Program's advanced youth orchestra was featured in the Uptown Downbeat Youth Showcase, hosted by The Harlem Chamber Players.



On April 26th, Harmony Program students and alumni performed in the New York Philharmonic Festival Youth Orchestra, conducted by Gustavo Dudamel, and with the Philharmonic under Maestro Dudamel at the New York Philharmonic's gala on April 25th.

On June 5th, Harmony Program students performed at the Venezuelan American Endowment for the Arts (VAEA) gala, where Joshua Bell received the Paez Medal of Art in recognition of his commitment to music education.



89%

retention of our students from last school year

91%

attendance rate across all programs

85%

of students received good or excellent ratings in music literacy, musicianship, and technique

80%

of students received good or excellent ratings in social-emotional development across a range of indicators:

- ability to communicate with peers and teachers
- willingness to try new things
- perseverance in the face of challenges
- cooperation and respect for others
- ability to self-manage

PROGRAM IMPACT

ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE

196 Harmony Program students benefited from our partnerships with the following cultural organizations.

Orpheus

CMS
Chamber
Music Society
of Lincoln Center

Juilliard

Interlochen
ARTS ACADEMY

YOUNG
CONCERT
ARTISTS

THE
HARLEM
CHAMBER
PLAYERS

17 Harmony Program students participated in the following study and performance programs.

Juilliard Music
Advancement Program

Interlochen
Arts Camp

New York Philharmonic
Festival Youth Orchestra

Mostly Mozart
in Harmony

Manhattan School of
Music Summer

Elisabeth Morrow
String Festival

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp

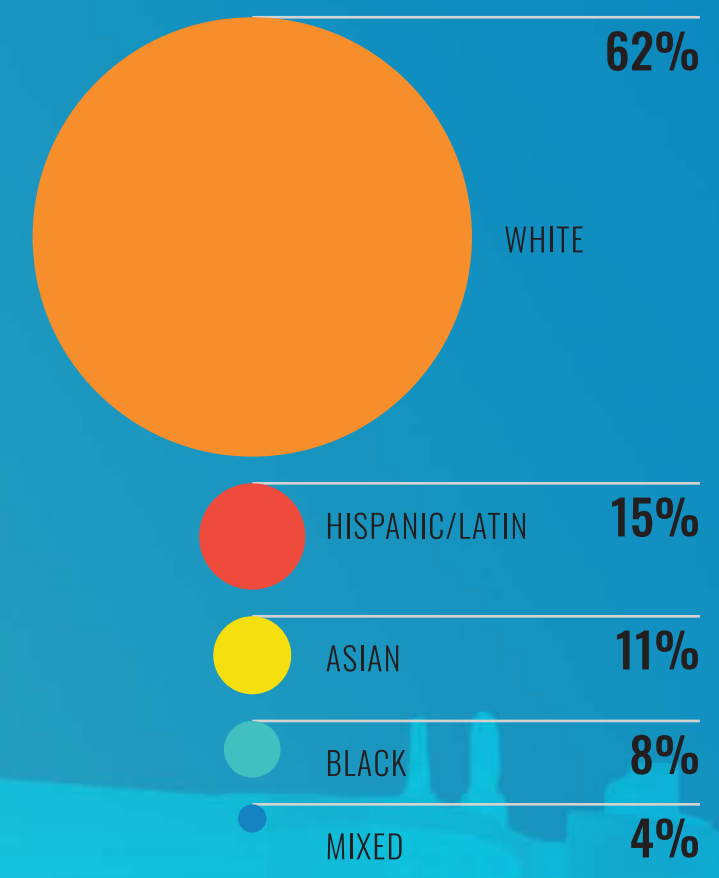
OUR TEACHING ARTISTS

Quality teaching lies at the heart of our impact. Our 62 accomplished teaching artists have studied at the nation's top music departments and conservatories and have performed at some of the world's most prestigious venues. **Over 75% of our teaching artists have received a master's degree or higher**

Selected accomplishments:

- Juilliard Career Advancement Grant
- Ravel Prize at the Summer Festival in Fontainebleau, France
- Toured for 15 years with the Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra
- Performed in the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra
- Performed in the Phoenix Symphony alongside Andrea Bocelli
- Performed in the Philly Pops Orchestra
- Performed in Derrick Hodge's Color of Noize Orchestra
- Played in two GRAMMY-Award-winning recordings

Teaching artist racial demographics:



Harmony Program teaching artists receive year-round support.

- Paid professional development
- Classroom teaching experience
- Formal evaluation by a team of faculty mentors
- Access to a network of peer educators

Our teaching artists received 75 hours of paid training in a range of topics:

- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Pacing and Classroom Management
- Forging Social Interaction through Music
- Neuroscience of Music Learning and Executive Functions
- Planning Your Recital
- Understanding the Emotions Behind the Behavior
- Note Reading and Visual Processing Disorders
- Collective Composition to Boost Creativity



OUR TEACHING ARTISTS

Harmony Program teaching artists are evaluated at the end of each semester.

100%

met organizational
expectations of
effectiveness

20%

exceeded
organizational
expectations of
effectiveness

How our teaching artists describe their experience with us:

Motivating ^{Entertaining} ^{Flexible} Impactful
^{Enriching} ^{Fulfilling} ^{Creative}
^{Heart-opening} ^{Collaborative} Fun Rewarding
Enthusiastic Inspiring Exciting
Meaningful ^{Enlightening} ^{Respectful} ^{Positive} Engaging
Challenging ^{Growing} ^{Innovative} Joyful
^{Instructive}



IN THE NEWS

The Harmony Program continually promotes its vision of a city where music is part of every child's education.



On September 26th, PIX11 produced a piece on the Harmony Program's increased presence in the Bronx this school year.

On February 27th, BronxNet conducted an in-depth interview with Founder & Executive Director Anne Fitzgibbon, exploring the Harmony Program's history and vision.



On November 1st, Bronx News 12 featured a Harmony Program drumming class in the Bronx.



On March 21st, *The Bronx Times* visited a Harmony Program general music class.



On January 19th, FOX 5 aired a live interview around the collaboration between the Harmony Program and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

On March 12th, PIX11 previewed the Harmony Program 2024 summer camp, hosted at the Juilliard School for three weeks.



On January 29th, CBS New York aired a live interview with Harmony Program student, Savannah, and New York Philharmonic Principal Clarinet Anthony McGill and Executive Director Anne Fitzgibbon prior to a collaborative performance with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra at 92NY.



On March 14th, Bronx News 12 previewed the Harmony Program 2024 summer camp at Juilliard.

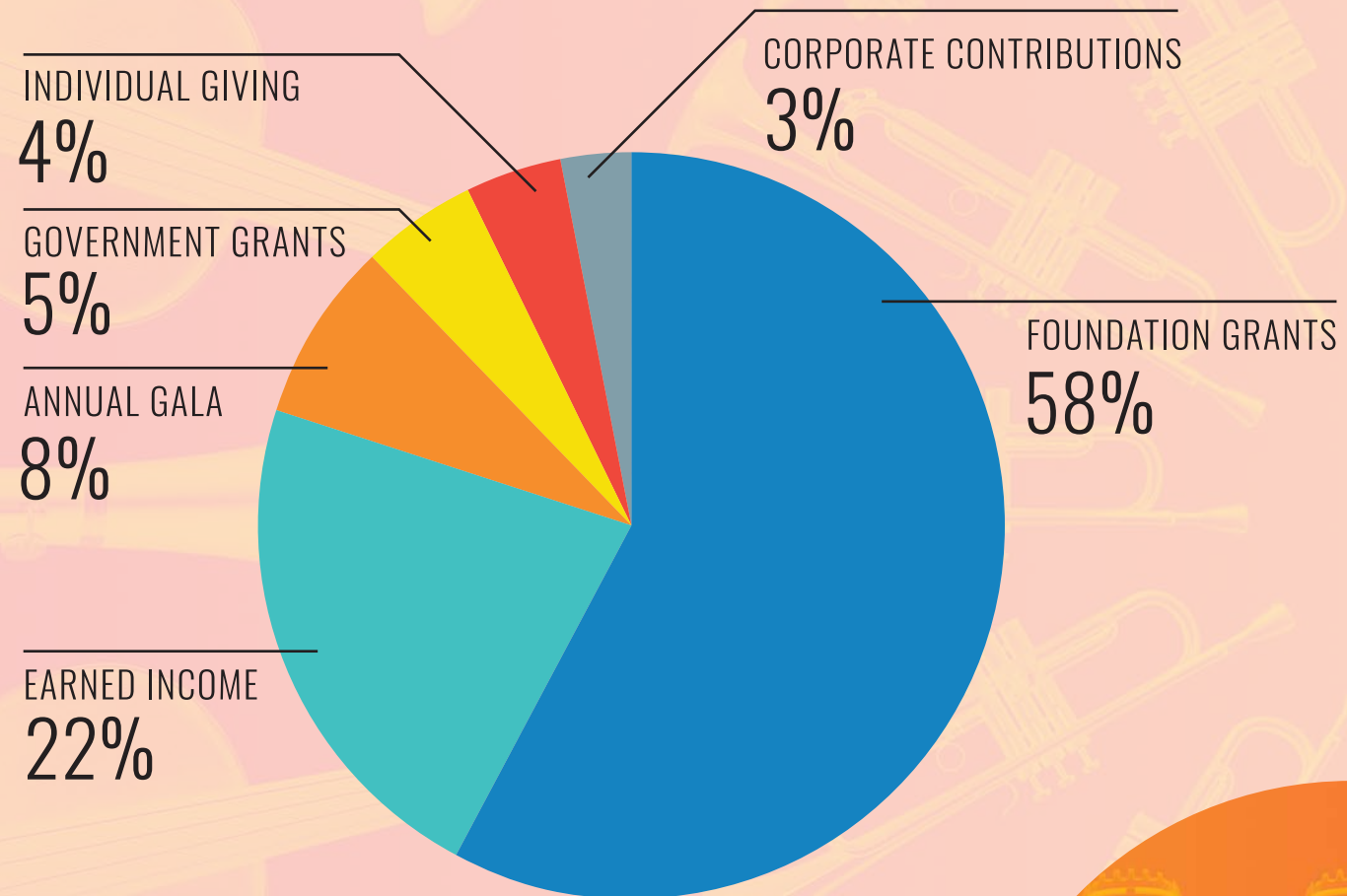
HARMONY PROGRAM GALA 2024

The Harmony Program held a joyful and musical 2024 gala celebration at the Tribeca Rooftop on May 6th. Harmony Program Board member and CBS News National Correspondent and Anchor, **Adriana Diaz**, hosted the event. The evening's artistic honorees, nine-time Grammy-winning bassist, **Christian McBride**, and Founder of Jazz House Kids, **Melissa Walker**, shared collaborative performances and Q&A with our young musicians. Our corporate honoree was Cheryl Guerin, Executive Vice President, Global Brand Strategy & Innovation of Mastercard.

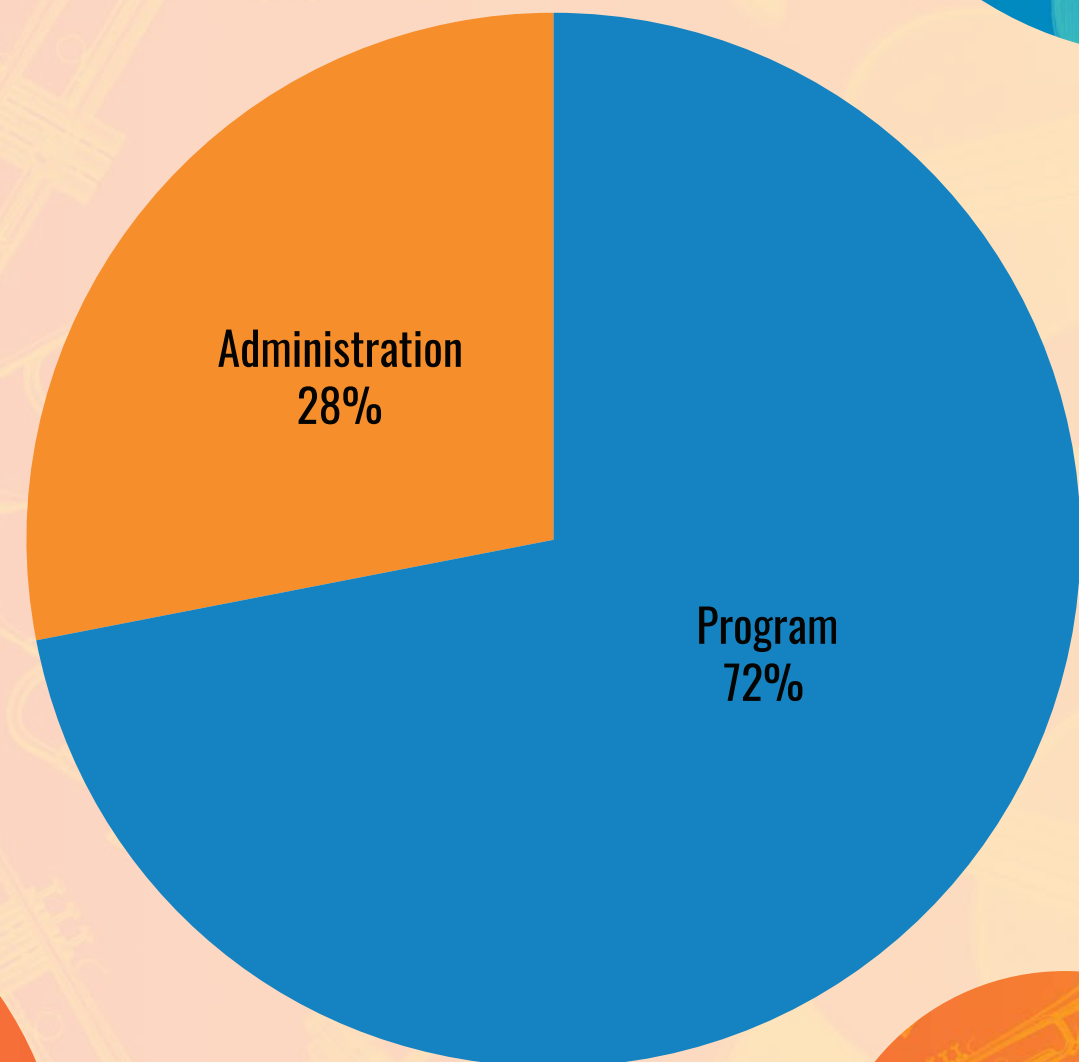


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Revenue (\$4,386,498)



Expenses (\$2,793,150)



OUR SUPPORTERS

The Harmony Program extends its deep appreciation to all of our supporters. Their generosity is vital to our ability to serve students and families with high-quality programming.

*This list reflects donations of \$1,000 or more made between July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

ACT

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Leah Pope
Linda Farber Post & Kalmon D. Post
Lawrence and Illana Raia
Laurel Rossi
David Roter
Jennifer & Joe Saba
Steven Schall & Alyce Russo
Peter Segal
Whitnee Shulman
Aaron Siegel
Rick Song
Kerry Trainor
Glyn Vincent and Stacy Goodman
Brooke Weinberg
Erin Williams and Mark Todrys
Lizette Williams
Sophia Woodhouse
Martin Yudichak

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National Endowment for the Arts
New York City Council Member Amanda Farias
New York City Council Member James F. Gennaro
New York City Council Member Christopher Marte
New York City Council Member Julie Menin
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
New York State Council on the Arts



SUPPORT THE HARMONY PROGRAM

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

Donate online at:
harmonyprogram.org/donate

If you would like more information about supporting the Harmony Program through instrument donations, volunteering, in-kind gifts, planned giving, recurring gifts, corporate sponsorship, matching gifts, or gifts of stocks and securities, please contact us:

donate@harmonyprogram.org

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