



BELLEVUE YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



IMPACT REPORT 2022-23



OUR MISSION

To enhance the lives of student musicians by providing dynamic musical experiences, fostering collaboration, confidence, and personal responsibility through the pursuit of artistic excellence.

VALUES & BELIEFS

Learning to make music brings life-long joy.

Playing in an orchestra builds critical life skills.

Musicians of all cultures, ethnicities, experiences, and financial means are welcome.

Artistic excellence is attainable at any age.

Financial sustainability is key to BYSO's success.

BYSO enhances the quality of life in our community.

BYSO is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 1964 to provide extracurricular opportunities for young orchestra musicians.

BYSO relies on financial philanthropic support to fulfill its mission.



2022-23 YEAR IN REVIEW

EXPANSION. In a word, this was what defined Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra's 2022-23 Season. Nearly all aspects of our organization expanded: enrollment, concert attendance, admission-free community concerts given, scholarships awarded, donations received, volunteer contributions, student growth, staff members, and more! This season of rapid growth has positioned BYSO advantageously as we look to the future of the organization and how we will continue to magnify our reach and set our gaze towards the next horizon.

leadership were our students from our 2022-23 Season. This year our academic year enrollment boomed to pre-pandemic enrollment levels and our average enrollment increased by 26% over last season. Our summer camps expanded their enrollment too, with an 8% increase. All told, 671 individual students were enrolled in our programs this year. We can't fully articulate how thrilling this boom in enrollment has been. We are proud that so many young musicians are getting to experience BYSO, and that we continue to meet 100% of all requested tuition assistance.



Our season theme of "Favorites & Farewells" was an apt title for long-time Music Director and Youth Symphony Conductor Dr. Teresa Metzger Howe's final season with BYSO. It was announced at the beginning of our 2022-23 Season that she would retire from her long-held position and a season filled with conductor favorites and famous musical goodbyes was the perfect way to encapsulate the bittersweet feelings associated with saying farewell to our artistic leader of 17 years. Our nine ensembles played impressively throughout the entire season, culminating in an emotion-filled Spring Concert Series in which our students, staff, families, and community members had an opportunity to express their gratitude to Dr. Metzger Howe. Her impact on our organization cannot be overstated and she has touched thousands of young musicians lives through her work as BYSO's esteemed Music Director.

The most recent beneficiaries of her

In our 2022-23 season we awarded over \$27,000 in scholarships, representing a 79% increase over our previous season.

Our students were not the only lives impacted through our music making. We expanded our admission-free community outreach concerts this season, reviving our annual Holiday Flute Tour and updating the BYSO tradition of the Garden Party to be a dedicated community concert featuring solo, duet, and chamber ensemble performances. These events, in tandem with our return as the live orchestra for the Bellevue Family 4th of July Fireworks Celebration, brought the magic of live music in performance to over 50,000 people in our community.

Much is owed to the generosity of our 300 volunteers (a 140% increase from last season), who collectively contributed over 700 hours of their time. Their gift of time and talent made every rehearsal, retreat, concert, camp,



audition, and folded sweatshirt possible. Prominent among these volunteers are the members of our Board of Directors, who provided strategic leadership and oversight to the entire organization and increased their own membership by 30% this past season!

As a nonprofit, BYSO is reliant on the generosity of our donors and funders to help make up the 30% of our costs that are not covered by tuition. Our contributed revenue this season grew by 43%. This was a result of people investing in our programming and believing in BYSO's mission. We owe our thanks to these generous supporters for adding donations to their tuition payments, for submitting match requests to their employers, for attending and participating in our Spring Gala and Online Auction, for sponsoring our programming, and for believing that music is something that should be enjoyed by all!

This year of expansion has had a profound

impact on BYSO. After sustaining substantial losses in our 2021-22 season, our surplus at the end of our 2022-23 Season has eliminated that shortfall and allowed us to further invest in our programming and face the future ready to establish new goals for the organization and have our music resonate more powerfully than ever before.

We enthusiastically face the future with a new artistic leader at the helm. In May, our Board of Directors named Matthew Salvaggio as the next Music Director of Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra. He officially assumed leadership in August and successfully oversaw the auditions of over 750 students interested in joining BYSO. He brings with him incredible ideas for how our organization can continue to expand while remaining steadfast in our commitment to the whole child.

Thank you for an incredible season. Our expansion is not done yet. And with your continued support, we know that we will be able to achieve remarkable things and elevate BYSO to new levels of greatness.

Sincerely,

Kevin Vortmann
Executive Director



MEET OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

I am deeply honored to be the next Music Director of Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra, following the incredible tenure of Dr. Teresa Metzger Howe. BYSO has a rich 58-year history that has included impressive growth following the pandemic, and I am excited to usher this musical organization into its next chapter.

I come to BYSO with years of experience leading orchestras and concert bands at many levels, including youth, community, university, and professional ensembles. I'm also the Music Director of the Cleveland Repertory Orchestra, an ensemble I started during the pandemic to explore the entire breadth of the orchestral repertoire with an emphasis on new and historically excluded voices.

I grew up in rural Northeastern Ohio, just east of Cleveland. There was always a lot of music around the house (my dad was always whistling if there wasn't anything on the radio), but neither of my parents are musicians. My early musical start was mostly by accident – I was peer-pressured into joining band – but the music itch stuck, and my parents were incredibly supportive and encouraged me to work hard. (Apparently the conducting itch struck early too - there are even home videos from when I was in fifth grade where I am using my flute's cleaning rod as a makeshift baton to conduct my friends in singing Christmas carols.) In my own personal development, and in working with young students both in

large orchestras and my private teaching studio, I believe more than ever that a strong support system is critical for student success, in music and beyond.

BYSO is a place that both cultivates and celebrates artistic excellence, while embracing the "whole child," where our students are encouraged not only to develop their musical talents, but also given space to explore other interests and opportunities as well. BYSO students don't just come together to perform at an artistically advanced level, they also forge friendships that last a lifetime. When I discovered the position opening at

BYSO, learned about its mission, and got to meet and work with the students, I knew that we shared similar values for musical education and student development. The core of my orchestral leadership philosophy revolves around the idea that youth orchestras are a great template for a successful community: they teach empathy, patience, teamwork, self-confidence, focus, discipline, and leadership – skills that will serve students regardless of their intended profession.



I am thrilled to begin leading our musicians both on and off-stage for my inaugural concert season in 2023-24. Our season theme is "‘...we were strangers once, too’ – exploring the diversification of American classical music." The quote comes from a speech President Obama gave in 2014 when he declared that the United States

MEET OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

will always be a nation of immigrants, and the music programmed this season will reflect the diverse voices contributing to classical music in the United States. Within this theme, the conductors of our ensembles will have a broad umbrella of great music they can share with their students that celebrate diverse composers. The Youth Symphony's season will open with the Fanfare on Amazing Grace by African American composer Adolphus Hailstork and the Third Symphony of Johannes Brahms. Throughout the season, we will also feature music by Aaron Copland, Amy Beach, and PNW native Nan Avant.

Every bright future is built on a bright foundation, and I am so incredibly proud of the role BYSO plays in shaping musical experiences for our students. It is in that spirit that we share our successes of the 2022-23 concert season in this Annual Report. As a valued member and contributor to our community, please know that it is only through your support of and belief in our mission that we are able to mentor the next generation of artists.

Please take a moment to read through our Annual Report so that you may better understand the remarkable impact that your generosity has had.

With gratitude,



Matthew Salvaggio
Music Director



OUR RESULTS

Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra served 671 students in our 2022-2023 Season.

Located in the ethnically and economically diverse city of Bellevue, Washington, BYSO welcomes student musicians of all ethnic backgrounds, religions, physical capabilities, and financial circumstances from across the Eastside, Seattle metro, and surrounding communities to participate in our array of orchestra programs and instrumental ensembles.



750

Students auditioned in August for our 2023-24 Season. A 22% increase!



\$93,920

In support donated by individuals, families, and corporate sponsors.



45

Professional Musicians were engaged by BYSO to work with our students.



\$133,379

Total amount of funding received through public and private grants.



544

Individual students served during our academic year



14

Businesses provided matching funds of

\$20,440



325

Volunteers contributed over 700 hours of their time to BYSO.



50,000+

Audience members experienced BYSO through our free community performances, including Bellevue's Family 4th of July Fireworks



150

Individual students served during our Summer camps

2022-23 Financial Activities

Revenue

Contributions and Grants	\$247,739
In-Kind Contributions	\$33,765
Auction and Raffle	\$12,614
Tuition	\$671,174
Investment Income	\$(997)
Other Income	\$76,301
Total Revenue	\$1,040,596

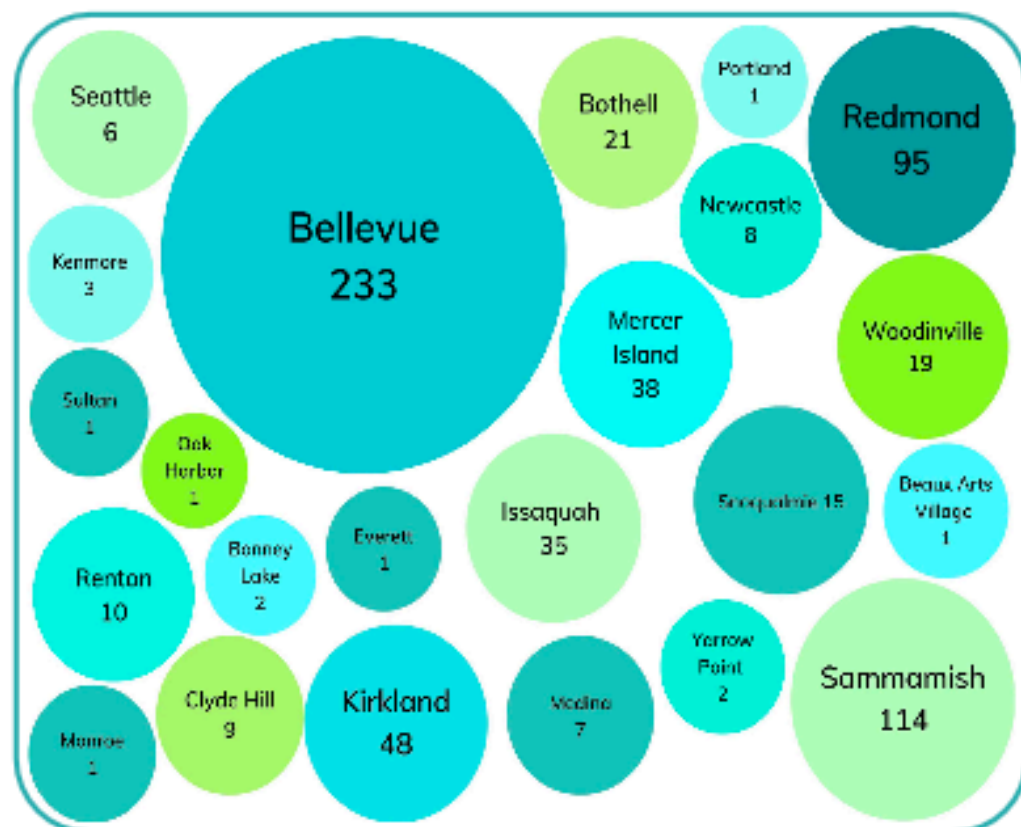
Expense

Personnel	\$565,629
In-Kind Expenses	\$33,765
Space Rental	\$152,055
Program Support	\$123,447
Scholarships	\$27,009
Fundraiser Expenses	\$10,314
Professional & Contactor Services	\$38,552
Total Expense	\$950,771

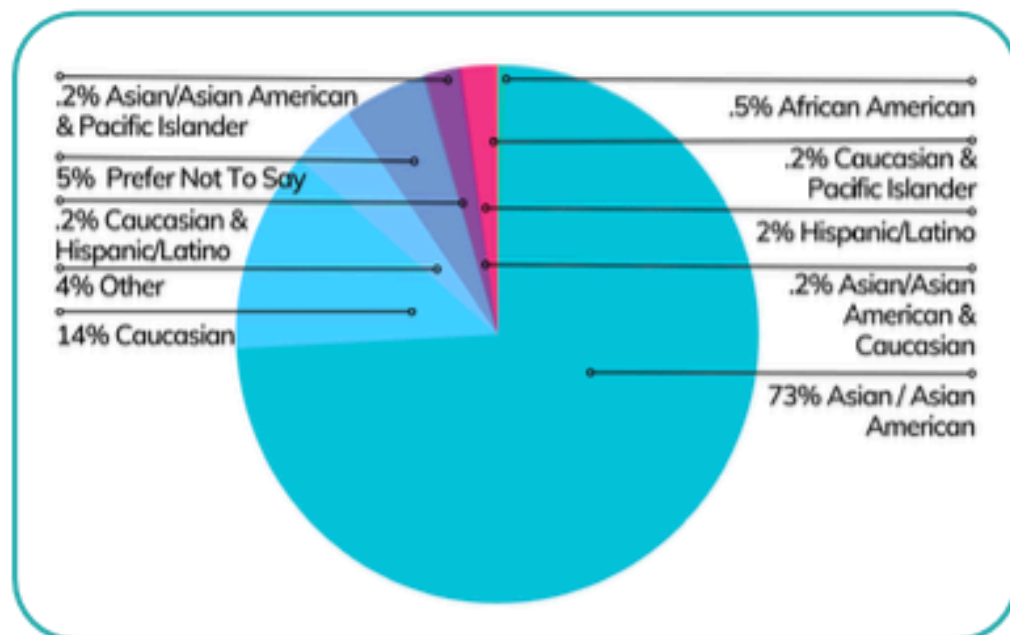


OUR RESULTS

BYSO Enrollment by Communities Served



Ethnicity of Students



2022-23 DONORS

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IN HONOR & MEMORY OF

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John Hanson, vigorous
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Bellevue Youth
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Seattle Theatre Group
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2022-23 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2022-23 Board of Directors

Joined Board / End of Term

Co-President

Asako Yoshimura 2017 2023

Co-President

Khek Teh 2017 2023

Vice President (President Elect)

Ae Wongkaew 2021 2023

Treasurer

Katherine Kearny 2016 2023

Secretary

Phoebe Huang 2022 2023

Directors

Vicki Duncombe 2022 2023

Hetal Hiren 2022 2024

Sun Lee 2022 2023

Kristi Jo Lynn 2015 2023

Valeri Makam 2023 2025

Justin Pae 2023 2025

Nancy Shen 2022 2023

Jennifer Torr 2004 2023

Bennet Wang 2007 2023



Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra is
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization,
Federal Tax ID #91-1630589

12310 NE 8th St. #201, Bellevue, WA 98005
(425) 467-5604 | www.bysso.org | info@bysso.org



Sept. 19, 2022

Sept. 26, 2022

Nov. 20-21, 2022

Dec. 3, 2022

Dec. 4, 2022

Dec. 5, 2022

March 19-20, 2023

April 1, 2023

May 6, 2023

May 21-22, 2023

May 27, 2023

May 30, 2023

July 4, 2023

July 10-14, 2023

July 17-28, 2023

August 1, 2023

August 14-19, 2023

Annual Parent's Meeting

1st Rehearsal of Academic Season

Fall Concert Series

Bastyr University Chapel

Overture: Cadet String Orchestra

Flute Choir & Flute Orchestra

Showcase: Percussion Ensemble

Debut String Orchestra & Philharmonia

Masterworks: Youth Symphony

Highlight: Premiere Orchestra & Sinfonia

Concerto Competition

Holiday Flute Tour

Aegis Senior Living of Mercer Island

Crossroads Mall

Bellevue Botanical Garden

Mid-Season Auditions

Winter Concert Series

Meydenbauer Center Theatre

Overture: Percussion Ensemble, Debut

String Orchestra & Premiere Orchestra

Showcase: Flute Choir, Flute Orchestra

Philharmonia

Masterworks: Youth Symphony

Highlight: Cadet String Orchestra & Sinfonia

Music Director Candidates Work

Sessions with Youth Symphony

Bastyr University Chapel

Spring Gala & Online Auction

Resonance at Soma Towers

Spring Concerts

Meydenbauer Center Theatre

Overture: Debut String Orchestra

& Premiere Orchestra

Showcase: Cadet String Orchestra

& Philharmonia

Masterworks: Youth Orchestra

Highlight: Flute Choir, Flute Orchestra,

Sinfonia & Percussion Ensemble

BYSO Garden Party Community Concert

Bellevue Botanical Garden

New Music Director Announced

Bellevue 4th of July Performances

Bellevue Downtown Park

Summer Strings Camp

Summer Symphony Camp

Summer Music Institute

2023-24 Academic Season Auditions