

Midori Friends
Making Music Building Futures

THE UNDENIABLE POWER OF MUSIC EDUCATION

2022-2023 School Programs

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

Midori & Friends is committed to fostering creative spaces where children cultivate courageous self-expression, embrace the joy of learning, and develop a spirit of service. With your support, the organization has invested in over 300,000 New York City students by providing tuition-free music education programs. Students engage in hands-on instruction with professional musicians, discover a breadth of musical genres and cultures, and develop their creative self-expression and artistic curiosities. As it ignites positive social change in the rising generations of students and their families, our dynamic music education programs enrich our city and the individual lives that make it great. Your generosity empowers our students and city to thrive.

Reflecting on the 2021-2022 school year, we were proud to collaborate with 66 school and community partners to serve 18,957 Pre-K through 12th grade students. Your donation continues to impact the artistic and academic lives of New York City's young people, fostering the next generation of confident and culturally responsible leaders.

Midori & Friends looks forward to sharing our upcoming 2022-23 events calendar, featuring performances by Play to Learn students, live global music concerts with Celebrate! Music ensembles, and arts education advocacy campaigns by NEXTGen Teen Musicians. We are also excited to host the 30th Anniversary Gala on February 15, 2023 at the historic Essex House, an evening celebrating the diverse coalition of stakeholders that have made it possible for Midori & Friends to provide transformative music education for underserved communities.

Thank you for standing with us and helping us keep music education alive in New York City.

With much appreciation,



Larisa Gelman
Executive Director

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All programs available for grades Pre-K to 12 in-school and after-school.

Please contact Garrett Obrycki, Director of Education for more information at gobrycki@midoriandfriends.org.

Midori & Friends is a DOE contracted vendor.

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About Midori & Friends

Midori & Friends provides transformative tuition-free music education, access to live performances, and leadership development for youth from underserved communities.

For 30 years, Midori & Friends has invested in over 300,000 students in NYC by providing tuition-free music education programs. We serve local communities by providing programs that develop self-confidence, creativity, and ambition in our young people. As it ignites positive social change in the rising generations of students and their families, our dynamic music education programs enrich our city and the individual lives that make it great. We believe that by acting to realize the principles of equity, inclusion, and a strong, diverse population, we help to create an environment of goodwill upon which our city depends if its citizens are to flourish.

Midori & Friends makes the music of today and builds the futures of tomorrow.

30 Years of Building Futures

1992
Founding Year

300,000
Students Served

1,500
Multicultural Performances

\$34.4 million
Invested in student programs

Play to Learn!

Honed over three decades of implementation in public schools, Play to Learn provides instrumental and vocal instruction for students in and out of school time. Midori & Friends Teaching Artists work with students to instill courageous self-expression, the joy of learning, and a spirit of service through high-quality music education programs. Students showcase their artistic growth in a culminating performance, which amplifies youth voices, their creativity, and the transformative power of the arts to ignite positive social change.

Play to Learn follows the New York State Learning Standards for the Arts and Blueprint for Teaching & Learning in Music: to Create, Perform, Respond, and Connect.

Instruments Offered:

Brass	Voice	Harp	Violin
Ukulele	Guitar	Woodwinds	Bucket Drumming



"Our test scores are quite high in ELA and math and I believe much of this is due to the excitement children feel when coming to school. Our arts programs motivate our students; they love coming to school. Celebrating our academic success is a celebration of a well-rounded student. The correlation between music and high test scores is no coincidence."

Sibylle Ajwani, Principal, P.S. 229Q



Celebrate! Music

Midori & Friends' *Celebrate! Music* program invites young learners to become global citizens in an active exploration of music around the world. By learning about the richness of cultural traditions, works of art, and musical customs around the globe, in class and through live performances, students cultivate a global perspective that nurtures empathy and understanding.

Celebrate! Music brings engaging performing ensembles and corresponding workshops into New York City public schools. Students experience live artist performances and interactive workshops with Teaching Artists, over the course of a celebratory three-session residency. Midori & Friends provides professional development for classroom teachers to help facilitate curriculum connections in the classroom and school community.



Workshops

Students participate in a cultural curriculum of three artist-led workshops for an immersive experience in global traditions and music making, inspiring self-expression, social connection, and creativity. In collaboration with school partners, students will participate in highly interactive musical activities and demonstrations from world-class artists, introducing students to the history, culture, and traditions of each ensemble.

Concerts

Performances are 45-60 Minutes, presented in an interactive and engaging format. Artists will lead audience members in call and response activities, instrument demonstrations, and conclude with a Q&A session.

Celebrate! Music Ensembles



ARKAI
Contemporary Strings

The award-winning string duo Arkai fuses classical virtuosity with the electricity of a rock band and encourages students to defy genres and explore new musical possibilities.

Celebrate! Music Ensembles



PROJECT Trio
Classical/Jazz

This innovative ensemble performs genre-defying chamber music and specializes in inspiring students of all ages to enjoy and create music.



Elena Moon Park
East Asian Folk

Elena Moon Park encourages audiences of all ages to move, sing, and share their stories while learning games, songs, and dances from China, Korea, Japan, and Tibet.

Kaoru Watanabe Taiko Center
Taiko Drumming/Japan

The Kaoru Watanabe Taiko Center takes audiences on a journey through contemporary and traditional Japanese music complimented by workshops.



Yasser Tejeda
Dominican Fusion

Combining traditional African-rooted Dominican folk music with jazz, rock and Caribbean rhythm, Yasser Tejeda & Palotr  inspire students to dance, sing, and celebrate their roots.

Villalobos Brothers
Contemporary Mexican

Explore the geography, culture and musical styles - a dynamic blend of Spanish, African, and indigenous roots - of Veracruz, Mexico.



Zeshan B
Soul

Combining traditional African-rooted Dominican folk music with jazz, rock and Caribbean rhythm, Yasser Tejeda & Palotr  inspire students to dance, sing, and celebrate their roots.

La Manga
Caribbean Percussion

This all-women percussion and vocal group takes students on a journey through the music of Colombia, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela.



NEXTGen NEXTGen Teen Musician

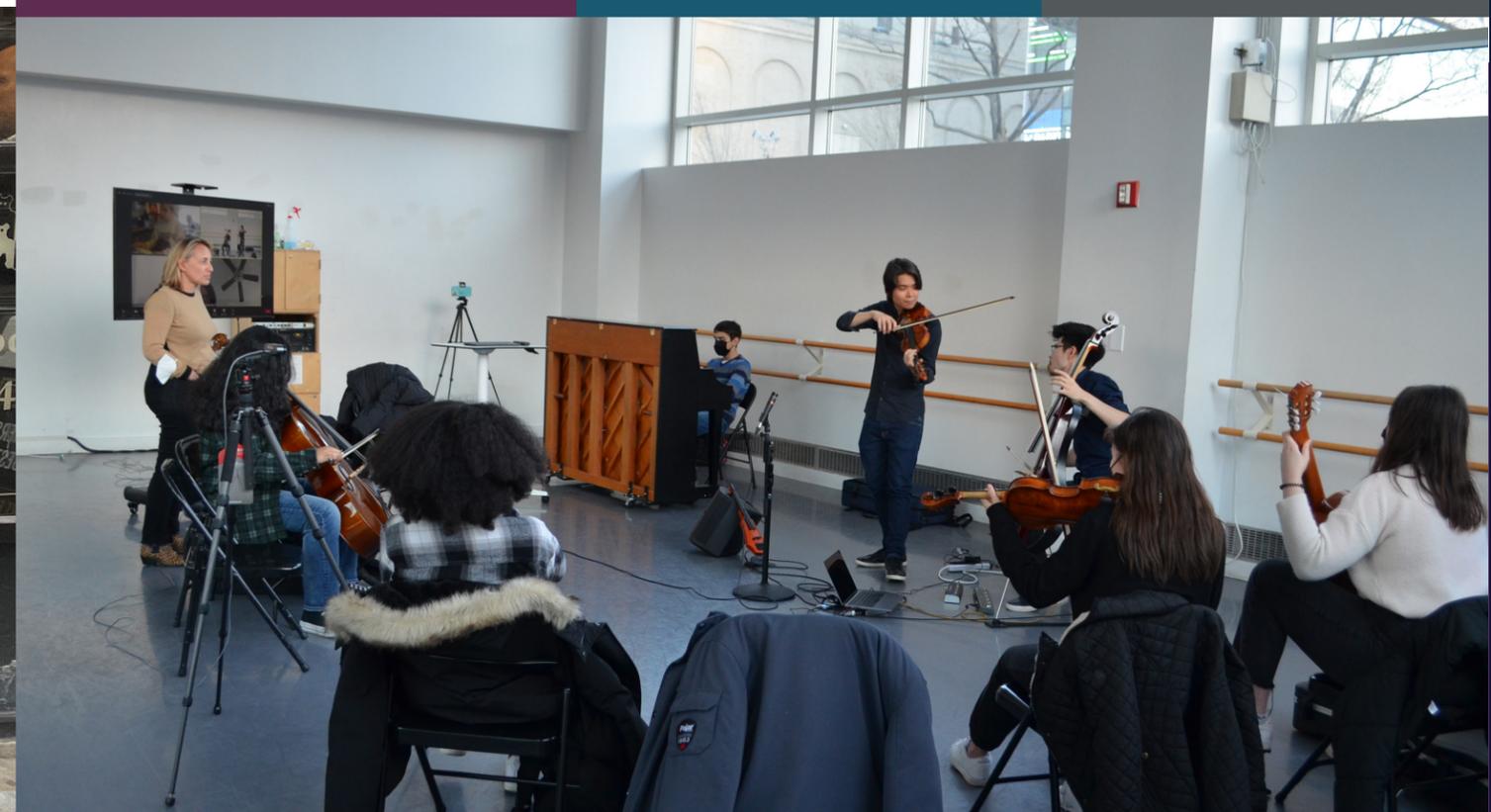
NEXTGen Musician, a youth voices leadership and advocacy program, launched in 2022 for New York City public school teens. Scholarships are provided for students to explore career pathways through workshops, private lessons, masterclasses, performances, work-study opportunities, and career labs with critical thinkers in diverse fields of study and extraordinary artists, including world-renowned virtuoso violinist, Midori! Teens sharpen their advocacy skills through storytelling, public speaking, and persuasive writing. The program culminates with a community presentation of their collaborative arts advocacy campaign featuring the next generation of music leaders.

Applications opening September 2022.



"Thanks to the NEXTGen program at Midori & Friends, I was able to develop my personal artistry and explore new means of expression with a group of accepting, like-minded peers."

Penelope Shvarts, NEXTGen Teen Musician, guitar



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the Arts

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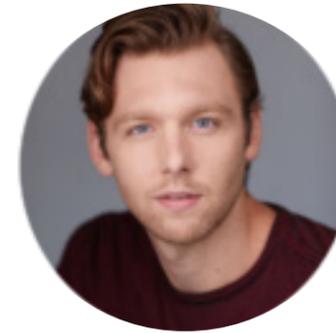


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Midori Friends

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“Serving the vision of Midori to educate and transform the lives of children in underserved communities is a labor of love and gives time meaning.”
Alan Fischer, Chair Emeritus

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