



Instrumental in changing lives

MILWAUKEE YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



ANNUAL REPORT

2013 - 14



Above: The Senior Symphony performs at MYSO's spring Fanfare and Finale in Uihlein Hall of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Photo: Emily Lukasek

Message from Patrick Rath, Chair, Board of Directors

Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra's (MYSO) 2013-14 season marked the organization's 58th year of providing life-changing music training opportunities, through intensive, participatory education that fosters critical thinking skills, creativity and collaboration.

Any achievement by an organization is due to many, and that is especially true this past year as board and staff members came together to address short-term needs that would be the foundation for future success. This commitment of time and the resulting recommendations from our active board committees led to specific strategies to address student experience, formalize touring expectations and develop fundraising plans. In particular, I wish to recognize Les Weil who hosted three sessions to improve

our fundraising effectiveness and better align our efforts for the greatest impact. Through their dedication and commitment throughout this process, the board and staff deepened their partnership to ensure the short and long term future for MYSO.

One of the most exciting milestones of this season was our celebration of the Community Partnership Programs' tenth anniversary. Launched in 2003 to help the organization better serve previously under-represented and under-served students, these programs have literally changed the lives of hundreds of young musicians, engendering wide-ranging growth in areas of personal, cognitive and musical skills. What makes these programs so innovative is their direct approach to addressing



and removing barriers to music education via financial, social and familial support.

The introduction and continued expansion of these programs has greatly extended the diversity of our offerings, membership and audiences. Today, the organization's 26 ensembles include full symphony orchestras, string ensembles, a wind ensemble, flute choirs, jazz studies and steel pan bands—broadening the ways in which the

organization engages and impacts our community.

We know, through both qualitative data and quantitative research, that the benefits obtained through music study at MYSO are life-long. This past season, we expanded our outcomes-based evaluation of personal, cognitive and musical growth to alumni, with participants' involvement ranging from 1960-2013. The study's results, detailed further within, affirm that the gains made at MYSO last a lifetime, impacting all measured areas of life-skills, improving educational performance and expanding musical commitment. As a 1989 alumnus, I can personally attest to the continued influence of MYSO involvement—a primary reason I continue to support and give back to the organization.

The 2013-14 season completed my term as Board Chair; it has been an honor to serve in that role for the last two years. As I continue supporting the organization, I look forward to collaborating with our Board, staff, partners and the community to expand MYSO's impact on young lives. Together our work continues to be instrumental in changing lives.

Cordially,



Patrick Rath
Chair, MYSO Board of Directors,
2012-2014
Vice President,
Foundation Development
Aurora Health Care Foundation



Above: Flute Chorale musicians perform at Fanfare and Finale in the Anello Atrium of the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.
Photo: Emily Lukasek

Message from Linda Edelstein, Executive Director

It is with great honor I share with you the report of our 2013-14 season. In every aspect of our organization, we demonstrated growth and commitment to, and from, our community this season. From more than 75 student performances to performing for the National Governors Association, from an engaged and dedicated Board of Directors committed to the organization's short and long term strategic success to an artistic and administrative team that offers devotion to the advancement of organizational and artistic excellence, I am privileged to partner with each of them to create opportunities for thousands of children to engage in the numerous benefits of music education.

There is much good news to share—including the tenth anniversary of our nationally and regionally award-winning Community Partnership

Programs, as well as the expanding commitment from our region. Greater awareness of MYSO's work is occurring due to media attention from all major local television networks, print and online sources this year. Our community continues to invest in MYSO at record levels with contributed revenue growing 22% this past season. Every sector of our region—from corporations, foundations and individuals—dedicates financial resources to ensure all students interested in music education have access to participate in our life-changing programs. Thanks to this support, MYSO is thriving and meeting its mission every day.

More than 18,000 people benefitted from our work this past season, including 1,000 student participants representing 215 schools, 60 cities and 14 counties throughout southeastern Wisconsin and



northern Illinois. Please join me in attending a rehearsal or concert to experience the joy and enthusiasm evident in our musicians' work. I share the board and staff's pride of accomplishment as we reflect on a remarkable 2013-14 season and look forward to advancing our mission through our highly successful programs.

Cordially,



Linda J. Edelstein
Executive Director

2013-14 Season Highlights

*At right, below:
Guests enjoy a
festive evening
celebrating
the CPP 10th
anniversary
.Photos: Michelle
Hoffman*



Community Partnership Programs Celebrate 10th Anniversary

On May 9, 2014, MYSO hosted a free open house celebrating the tenth anniversary of its innovative Community Partnership Programs at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center. The event also served as an opportunity to thank the thousands of donors and volunteers who have supported these successful programs over the last decade.

The evening featured engaging, hands-on participatory activities that highlight these programs, as well as performances by program participants and graduates.

MYSO's Community Partnership Programs (CPPs) were launched in 2003 to bring the well-documented benefits of music study to previously underserved students from diverse backgrounds. The CPPs now boast a growing array of ensemble options, providing direct, high-intensity, high-impact music training for more than 300 young people each year.

Since the inception of the CPPs, minority enrollment in MYSO has grown from less than 6% to 29% and City/

Milwaukee Public Schools student enrollment has nearly tripled, growing from fewer than 100 to nearly 300 students in 2013-14. When reviewing all MYSO ensembles, CPP growth is even more remarkable, climbing from 2% of total members in 2003-04 to 32% today. Recent cutbacks in public school music programs further highlight the importance of this growth.



Community Partnership Programs Honored on National and Local Level

Finalist: 2014 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards

The Community Partnership Programs were named a finalist for the 2014 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards as one of 50 outstanding nationwide finalists (one of only three from the state of Wisconsin and from a pool of 360 applicants). This highly competitive award recognizes MYSO's expansive reach to previously underserved students through the growing Community Partnership Programs.

Recipient: Milwaukee Business Journal 2014 Eureka Award

MYSO was named a recipient of a *Milwaukee Business Journal* 2014 Eureka Award in the Performing Arts for its work in the *Progressions* program, a high-impact, intensive

string training program for early elementary students. Beginning in 2013, the Eureka Awards were created to recognize creativity, innovation and progress in business, the arts, education, health care and other areas.



2013-14 Community Partnership Program Musicians

CPPs' tremendous growth since 2003!



- 400% increase in number of programs
- 1,250% increase in overall enrollment
- 418% increase in minority enrollment
- 1,166% increase in *Progressions* graduates in higher level ensembles
- 73% increase in students impacted by Neighborhood and Community Concert Series

More Season Highlights

MYSO Member Named to National Youth Orchestra

The National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America, sponsored by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, convened for its second season in summer 2014. Senior Symphony Co-Principal cellist (2012-14) Kartik Papatla was selected to participate in this elite ensemble for the second year. Again the only musician from Wisconsin chosen for the orchestra, Kartik was named Assistant Principal Cellist. The orchestra embarked on a U.S. tour to Tanglewood in Lenox, Massachusetts, An Appalachian Summer Festival in Boone, North Carolina, the Grant Park Music Festival in Chicago, Illinois, the Grand Tetons Festival in Jackson, Wyoming, the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, California, and Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, California. The 120 young musicians, ages 16-19, arguably the best young orchestral musicians in the U.S., were chosen from more than 2,000 applicants.



Above: Board President Patrick Rath presents the Collaborative Spirit Award to representatives of The Burke Foundation, (l-r) Deanna Singh, Mary Burke and Kathy Burke Seiberlich. Photo: Emily Lukasek



Above: National Youth Orchestra Assistant Principal Cellist and recent MYSO graduate Kartik Papatla on the stage of Carnegie Hall with conductor David Robertson and violinist Gil Shaham.

MYSO Presents First Collaborative Spirit Award

We are delighted to announce that the first Collaborative Spirit Award was presented to The Burke Foundation at our 2012-13 annual meeting held November 19, 2013. The award was unanimously approved by the MYSO Board of Directors and was accepted by Kathy Burke Seiberlich, a member of the Board of Directors of The Burke Foundation.

The award is conferred upon an individual, foundation, nonprofit, corporation or community leader who has demonstrated vision backed by action that illustrates extraordinary leadership, service and commitment to create impactful collaborative partnerships with MYSO. These alliances result in stronger MYSO programming and/or community offerings.

From the beginning, The Burke Foundation recognized that the Community Partnership Programs were worthy of their investment. The Foundation has been with MYSO since MYAC's beginning, providing a multi-million dollar grant to launch the programs and hundreds of thousands of dollars since to ensure their ongoing success.

The Burke Foundation meets this criteria in every way. Without their support, it would have been difficult, if not impossible, for MYSO to launch its Community Partnership Programs and to witness their success and growth over the past ten years.

Clearly, MYSO and its programs are stronger for this collaborative partnership. The life-changing programs MYSO offers would not have been possible without their generous and ongoing support.

MYSO Performs with Indie Band I'm Not A Pilot

MYSO's Rockit orchestra, comprised of more than 70 members from Senior Symphony and Philharmonia and conducted by Carter Simmons, performed with Milwaukee top-ranked indie rock band *I'm Not A Pilot* in April, at the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center.

I'm Not A Pilot (INAP) was voted Best Rock Band 2010, 2011 and 2013 in Milwaukee's Shepherd Express Weekly and Best Rock Band 2010 at WYMS 88.9 FM Radio Milwaukee's Independent Music Awards.

"We selected MYSO for this concert because we know that the students' energy and skill will bring another level of excitement to the stage," says Peter Thomas, the band's electric cellist and cellist with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

MYSO was delighted to participate in this exciting collaboration!



Scan the QR code to watch a video of the performance with *I'm Not A Pilot*.

Financial Aid Awarded

Thanks to generous community support, MYSO was able to award more than \$210,000 in financial aid for music study and instruments to students with demonstrated need in 2013-14.

Concert Performances

More than 70 performances were presented in 2013-14, half of which were free to the community, reaching more than 18,000 audience members.

MYSO's Neighborhood and Community Concert Series served 25 schools, most of which are City of Milwaukee-based. The concerts are particularly valuable because they offer a forum for educational and performance opportunities and provide access to music education to 5,000 area children.

Summer Programs 2014

MYSO's Calypso Steel Band, the New Orleans Stompers and the Guitar Ensemble performed at a multitude of events and venues in summer 2014, including KidZ Days and Live @ Peck Pavilion, both at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Summerfest, Caroline's Jazz Club and Bayshore's Chalk Art Festival.

Multiple weeks of summer programming were offered including these ensembles and the Summer Wind Ensemble.



Above: *I'm Not A Pilot* rehearses at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center with conductor Carter Simmons and the MYSO Rockit Orchestra. Photo: Ryan Pergola



Above: *I'm Not A Pilot* member Peter Thomas, conductor Carter Simmons and the MYSO Rockit Orchestra in performance at the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center. Photo: Alex Clarke

MYSO featured a number of its Community Partnership Program students in 2013-14 to mark their tenth anniversary.



Alex Medina

After studying jazz at MYSO, Alex led the development of the first music program at his high school, Carmen School of Science and Technology. He is now a first generation college student, attending UW-Milwaukee.



Edna Gonzalez

Edna was the first *Progressions* graduate to graduate from MYSO and is the first in her family to pursue a four year college degree.



Frida Albiter

Frida was the first MYSO Scholar from our Waukesha program to successfully audition into String Orchestra.

MYSO Undertakes Long Term Impact Study

To validate and quantify its work toward its mission, as well as assess and ultimately improve its programs, MYSO produced, piloted and successfully implemented an extensive outcome-based evaluation effort in 2013. This process assesses the programmatic impact on personal, cognitive and musical skill development in participants. After the first season of implementation, Mary Reinders, principal of Reinders Research, states in the study's final report, "MYSO exposure enriches the lives of many students in a way that allows for the immediate use of their newly acquired skills. MYSO's trademark takeaways, commonly identified by all groups, are leadership, teamwork and self-expression—all of which translate into participants becoming positive examples for their friends, family and community at large."

Over the course of the 2013-14 season, MYSO evaluated a statistically valid sample of alumni, with participation dating back to 1960 and as recently as 2013. Ms. Reinders' summary results highlight that there was a nearly unanimous response that MYSO had a strong influence on advancing alumni's musical commitment.

Furthermore:

- 89% of alumni reported MYSO strongly influenced their future musical commitment.
- 42% still support an arts organization.
- Alumni report that MYSO influenced all measured areas of personal development at rates of 83-95%.
- 91% percent also stated that their MYSO experience influenced their educational performance.

This study offered gratifying evidence of the organization's success towards its mission and long-term impact on participants.

At right: A student at the summer Calypso Camp, introducing steel pan skills to City of Milwaukee and MPS students. Photo: Michelle Hoffman



Performance at National Governors Association Conference

Invited personally by Wisconsin's First Lady Tonette Walker, an orchestra of MYSO musicians conducted by Carter Simmons, performed for an evening reception as part of the culminating events of the 2013 National Governors Association's summer conference in Milwaukee. Held at the Rotary Amphitheater at Discovery World on Saturday, August 3, 2013, MYSO was honored to perform for the nation's governors and their families.

The patriotic performance was set to fireworks, and the crowd was on their feet by the end, enthusiastically demanding an encore.

Scan the QR code to watch a video of MYSO musicians performing at the National Governors Association.



Above: Musicians and conductor Carter Simmons pose with Governor and Mrs. Walker. Photo: Emily Lukasek

Board of Directors, 2013-14

CHAIR: Patrick Rath	DIRECTORS: Christine Beuchert Myra Edwards	William Mortimore Jamshed Patel John Pienkos
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TREASURER: Craig Peotter	Bradley Mahoney Paul Mathews	

Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, Inc.
Statements of Financial Position
 June 30, 2014 and 2013



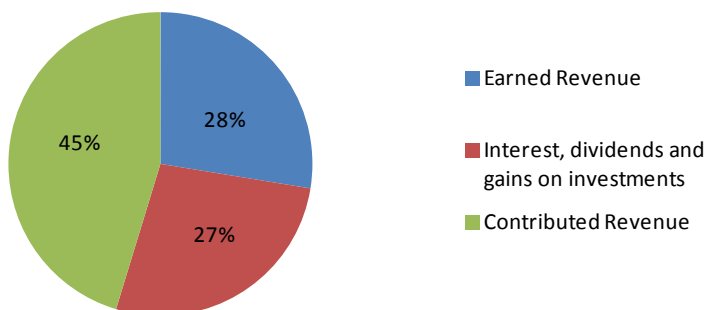
Above: MYSO Progressions members prior to their concert on May 28, 2014. Photo: Emily Lukasek

The notes to financial statements, included in the full audit report, are an integral part of these statements.

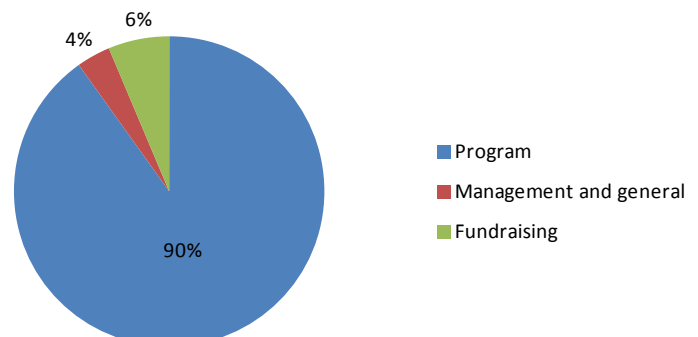
The financial statements were audited by an independent public accounting firm. For the full audit report, please contact MYSO Finance and Human Resource Director Kim Jankowiak at 414-267-2950.

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 78,917	\$ 82,108
Investments, at fair value	6,096,220	5,555,804
Accounts receivable	9,450	3,531
Grants receivable	24,964	15,094
Pledges receivable - current portion	212,395	272,103
Accrued interest receivable	15,733	15,653
Due from MYAC - current portion	8,647	12,970
Prepaid expenses	35,697	17,031
Total current assets	6,482,023	5,974,294
Other Assets		
Due from MYAC	\$ 21,087	\$ 25,764
Pledges receivable (net of present value discount of \$4,817 and \$19,825 in 2014 and 2013 respectively)	186,600	405,900
Total other assets	207,687	431,664
Property, Plant and Equipment:		
Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation of \$28,125 and \$44,498 in 2014 and 2013 respectively)	\$ 107,962	\$ 84,979
Total property, plant and equipment	107,962	84,979
Total assets	\$ 6,797,672	\$ 6,490,937
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 19,200	\$ 13,098
Deferred revenue	158,686	89,620
Accrued salaries	3,708	26,234
Total liabilities	181,594	128,952
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets:		
Undesignated	\$ 485,605	\$ 480,762
Board designated	1,544,755	1,536,329
Total unrestricted net assets	2,030,360	2,017,091
Temporarily restricted net assets	4,240,582	3,999,758
Permanently restricted net assets	345,136	345,136
Total net assets	6,616,078	6,361,985
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 6,797,672	\$ 6,490,937

FY 2013-14 Income \$2,121,812



FY 2013-14 Expense \$1,867,719



Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, Inc.
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Unrestricted Undesignated Net Assets	Unrestricted Designated Net Assets	Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	Permanently Restricted Net Assets	
SUPPORT, REVENUES AND GAINS:					TOTAL
United Performing Arts Fund, Inc. contributions	\$ 438,102	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 438,102
Registration fees	479,768	---	5,050	---	484,818
Concert and event income	68,104	---	2,238	---	70,342
Contracted service fees	20,600	---	---	---	20,600
Donations	334,140	100	63,265	---	397,505
Interest and dividend income	11,452	46,081	85,853	---	143,386
Gains on investments	4,920	44,397	382,811	---	432,128
Playathon	125,465	---	---	---	125,465
Other	9,466	---	---	---	9,466
Net Assets released from restrictions:					
Satisfaction of donor restrictions	298,393	---	(298,393)	---	---
Total support, revenues and gains	1,790,410	90,578	240,824	---	2,121,812
EXPENSES:					
Program services	\$ 1,601,245	\$ 82,152	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 1,683,397
Management and general	65,881	---	---	---	65,881
Fundraising	118,441	---	---	---	118,441
Total expenses	1,785,567	82,152	---	---	1,867,719
Change in Net assets	4,843	8,426	240,824	---	254,697
Net assets, beginning of year	480,762	1,536,329	3,999,758	345,136	6,361,985
Net assets, end of year	\$ 485,605	\$ 1,544,755	\$ 4,240,582	\$ 345,136	\$ 6,616,078

Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, Inc.
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2013

	Unrestricted Undesignated Net Assets	Unrestricted Designated Net Assets	Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	Permanently Restricted Net Assets	
SUPPORT, REVENUES AND GAINS:					TOTAL
United Performing Arts Fund, Inc. contributions	\$ 353,539	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 353,539
Registration fees	433,196	---	---	---	433,196
Concert and event income	60,442	10,890	1,994	---	73,326
Contracted service fees	7,500	---	---	---	7,500
Tour fees	---	397,774	---	---	397,774
Donations	292,215	200	771,437	---	1,063,852
Interest and dividend income	15,757	41,331	65,657	---	122,745
Gains on investments	6,127	153	203,640	---	209,920
Playathon	115,632	---	---	---	115,632
Other	8,882	949	---	---	9,831
Net Assets released from restrictions:					
Satisfaction of donor restrictions	368,196	(45,670)	(332,526)	---	---
Total support, revenues and gains	1,661,486	405,627	720,202	---	2,787,315
EXPENSES:					
Program services	\$ 1,472,352	\$ 630,189	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 2,102,541
Management and general	66,746	---	---	---	66,746
Fundraising	114,703	---	---	---	114,703
Total expenses	1,653,801	630,189	---	---	2,283,990
Change in Net assets	7,685	(224,562)	720,202	---	503,325
Net assets, beginning of year	473,077	1,760,891	3,279,556	345,136	5,858,660
Net assets, end of year	\$ 480,762	\$ 1,536,329	\$ 3,999,758	\$ 345,136	\$ 6,361,985

Our Generous Donors

We are tremendously grateful for these important gifts which allow our organization to serve an ever-increasing number of young people. Our success in changing lives through music depends heavily on the exceptional generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations and state, county and city government. This recognizes gifts of \$100 or more that were received in the 2014 fiscal year. Our apologies for any omissions or errors. We encourage you to call MYSO Development and Marketing Director Emily Lukasek, at 414-267-2952, with questions or corrections—or to learn how to make a much-appreciated gift to MYSO.

Energico “energetic, strong”

\$400,000+
United Performing Arts Fund



Appassionato “passionate” \$100,000-\$399,999

The Burke Foundation

Maestoso

“majestic” \$20,000-\$99,999

Alfred and Isabel Bader
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Hal Leonard Corporation
Helen Bader Foundation
Herzfeld Foundation
Milwaukee Public Schools pARTnership for the Arts
Northwestern Mutual Foundation
Bert L. & Patricia S. Steigleder Charitable Trust

Con Fuoco

“with fire” \$10,000-\$19,999

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Olshan Outreach at Bayshore Town Center
Ralph Evinrude Foundation, Inc.
Wisconsin Arts Board, with funds from the State of WI and the NEA



Andy and Carlene Ziegler

Vivace

“lively” \$5,000-\$9,999

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Milwaukee Arts Board and Wisconsin Arts Board, with funds from the State of WI
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We Energies Foundation
William Wernecke Jr. and Susan Graham Wernecke

Animato

“animated” \$2,500-\$4,999

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Camille A. Lonstorf Trust
David and Colleen Clark
Sue and Curt Culver
David & Julia Uihlein Charitable Foundation
Mike Fischer and Elaine Griffin
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The Gardner Foundation
Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Dyar Fund (other funds)
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The Linley Family
Madeleine and David Lubar, in honor of Xavier Davis
MGIC Investment Corporation
Craig and Mary Robyn Peotter
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Michael and Judy Van Handel
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Cantabile

“lyrical” \$1,000-\$2,499

Anthony Petullo Foundation
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Janet and Shelby Keith Dixon
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Service Club of Milwaukee
Carter and Pamela Simmons
Kent and Marna Tess-Mattner
Wesley Van Linda and Margie Mika
Les Weil and Jodi Peck

Con Espressione

“with expression” \$500-\$999

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Drs. Justin Smith and Christine Liu
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Drs. Tim and Anna Trotter
Glenn and Kathy Turco
James and Carol Wiensch

Grazioso

“gracious” \$250-\$499

1 on 1 Designs, LLC
Accurate Basement Repair
Allen Edmonds Corporation
Allergy Research and Care, S.C.
Mr. Paul Baerwald



Above: Progressions musicians preparing for their spring concert. Photo: Emily Lukasek



Above: String Orchestra members perform in May's Ensemble Enchantment.
Photo Michelle Hoffman

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Penny Becker
Bon Ton Stores Foundation
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Amabile "friendly" \$100-\$249

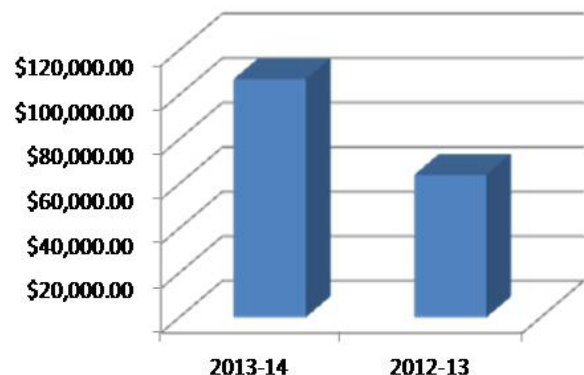
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Annual Campaign Growth

Thanks to community-wide support, the total dollars raised increased by 67%.





Above: String Orchestra members perform in May's Ensemble Enchantment.
Photo: Michelle Hoffman

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fran's fund

Fran's Fund is Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra's non-endowment scholarship fund, established to support the growing needs of MYSO's critically important Community Partnership Programs (CPPs), an ambitious array of urban outreach initiatives designed to diversify MYSO's membership music, and audiences. The primary mission of the Fund, named after MYSO's long-standing Executive Director (1988-2012), Fran Richman, is to provide much-needed scholarship support for the increasing numbers of students and graduates of the CPPs who have financial need. The Fran's Fund campaign was launched in 2008 with a \$2 million goal, to help serve these children for years to come. Thanks to community-wide support for this vital effort, the campaign culminated in 2012, exceeding its goal. In honor of the countless young people whose lives will be enhanced by this Fund, we are pleased and proud to recognize supporters of \$500 and more in categories which represent the myriad life skills nurtured through MYSO's wide-ranging music opportunities.

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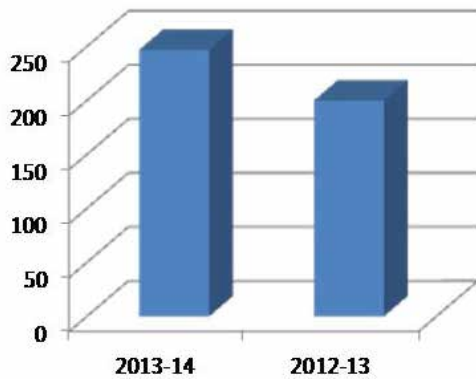
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*Below: Prelude Orchestra members perform at
Fanfare and Finale in the Anello Atrium of the
Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.
Photo: Emily Lukasek*





Above: Senior Symphony Brass Choir members perform at 2014's Fanfare and Finale. Photo: Emily Lukasek

Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra (MYSO) is one of the most successful and respected youth orchestra programs in the nation, regularly recognized regionally, nationally and internationally for its artistic excellence. With 1,000 young musicians ages 8-18 from as many as 14 counties, 60 communities and more than 200 schools throughout southeastern Wisconsin and northern Illinois participating in MYSO's many music training programs, it has become one of the largest organizations of its kind in the United States.

Instrumental in changing lives since 1956, MYSO's programs foster critical thinking skills, creativity and collaboration through more than 25 ensemble options, ranging from symphony and string orchestras, to jazz and steel pan bands, all providing high quality musical experiences to students at various skill levels.

MYSO is a proud founding member of



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