



MAKE MUSIC NOLA ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

WWW.MAKEMUSICNOLA.ORG
(504) 266 6091

LETTERS FROM MMN'S BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The 2019/2020 school year was an interesting one, but it was still a great one for our programs. During the Fall of 2019, enrollment in MMN's string programs doubled. We were able to include two new schools into our family, Ben Franklin Elementary and Paul Habans Charter. During that time, our students performed fifteen concerts at venues including the St. Louis Cathedral, live on WWL Eyewitness News, and the new Louisiana Children's Museums' Grand Opening. Before the COVID-19 shutdown, our students were invited to perform at French Quarter Fest and the Tulane Book Festival's Family Day. Even during the school shut down and move to virtual programs, the MMN staff shifted quickly to teaching Zoom lessons, creating virtual instructional videos, and building out our curriculum content. Our team produced a virtual end of year recital, program tour, and video recording of an original composition by our students. We were even able to host three virtual workshops during the month of June. In the midst of a pandemic, the murder of George Floyd, and global uprisings, our students and staff chose to focus on using music as a vehicle for self expression - reaffirming our mission as a social change program. I could not be more proud of the Make Music NOLA teachers, staff, students, and their commitment to making music. I'm looking forward to Fall 2020 and whatever new adventures it may bring!

Sincerely, Laura Patterson, Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This past year may not have been ideal, it brought with it new challenges and obstacles. However, with those challenges came the opportunity for creative new work and a chance for Make Music NOLA to provide services and instruction in new and innovative ways. Throughout the school shut down Make Music NOLA was able to stay together as a community, even though we were apart. The organization was able to continue paying our teachers and staff to provide high quality music education through the end of the school year and continue summer programs virtually. As an organization, we were able to deepen our commitment to social justice and further examine our mission and values as we move forward with our strategic planning this coming year. As we move forward into the next school year and more unknowns, we are excited to embrace whatever challenges may come our way.

Sincerely, Fred Neal Jr., Board Chair



MISSION

Make Music NOLA is an intensive music-for-social change program. The mission of Make Music NOLA (MMN) is to promote academic achievement, cultivate artistic expression, and promote the healthy growth and development of children in New Orleans through culturally relevant music instruction and performance.

VISION

- Training competent, engaged musicians
- Creating access through performance opportunities
- Forming a strong, supportive community
- Building up the confidence and musical ability of our students so that they
- Students can be competitive applicants to local and national programs
- Inspiring all students to achieve their greatest potential



HISTORY

Make Music NOLA began in September 2011 under the name "Youth Orchestra of the Lower 9th Ward" with only 5 students. Since then, the program has expanded to eight locations, including 4 school-based programs and 4 after-school community centers. This past fall, MMN's string programs doubled in size to reach 180 students. Our program is proudly settled in at the Bell Artspace Campus in the heart of the Treme. MMN successfully completed our second year of Saturday programs, expanding to three music theory classes.

STUDENT AWARDS

DECEMBER 2019

BLACHLY AWARD FOR MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

Named after Make Music NOLA's Founder, Conductor James Blachly

GEORDAN RODGERS

Violinist, 3 years in Make Music NOLA

Teachers: Tucker Fuller, Matt Rhody

Other Interesting Facts: Loves reading and baseball. Is ALWAYS focused!

OLIVIA MSEMAJI

Violinist, 3 years in Make Music NOLA

Teachers: Tucker Fuller, Matt Rhody, David Thom

Other interesting facts: Also sings, plays guitar, and piano

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THOMAS AWARD FOR MUSICAL PROGRESS

Named after Make Music NOLA's First Lead Violin Teacher, Trenton Thomas

GENESIS BALDWIN

Violinist 2 years in Make Music NOLA

Teachers: David Thom, Tucker Fuller

Other Interesting Facts: Also plays guitar



MAKE MUSIC NOLA STAFF



Laura Patterson - Executive Director

Georgia Rhody - Manager of Operations and Development

Mo Burroughs - Outreach and Communications Associate, Public Allies
Americorp Member

Givonna Joseph - K-4 General Music at Elan Academy

Sarah Ristaino - K-4 General Music at Elan Academy

Matt Rhody - Violin teacher - Ben Franklin Elementary School, Advanced
Violin at Bell Artspace Campus, Fiddle Class and Orchestra

Tucker Fuller - Violin Teacher -NORDC Rosenwald Center, Broadmoor Arts
and Wellness Center, Music Theory 2, Saturday Beginning Violin,
Professional Development Coach

Sam Kohler - Violin Teacher - Lafayette Academy and Habans Charter
School, Bass and Cello Teacher at Bell Artspace Campus, Saturday
Teacher at NORDC Rosenwald

Sultana Isham - NORDC/Gernon Brown Center, Music Theory 1

David Thom - Violin/Viola Teacher at Bell ArtSpace Campus, Chamber
Ensemble, Orchestra

Ben Jacobi - Cello teacher at Lafayette Academy, Beginning Violin
teacher at Elan Academy



BOARD MEMBERS

Fred Neal

Jillian DeLosReyes

Tyler Trew

Kathleen Whalen

Blake Haney

Nicholas Gremellion

Ava Hernandez

MAKE MUSIC NOLA

2019-2020 PROGRAM SITES:

After School String Classes:

Bell Artspace Campus - Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Violin, Bass and Cello Class, Orchestra, Fiddle Class, Music Theory One and Two, Chamber Ensemble

NORDC Gernon Brown Center - Beginning Violin

Broadmoor Arts and Wellness Center - Intermediate Violin

NORDC Rosenwald - Advanced Violin



School Based String Classes:

Lafayette Academy

Paul Habans Charter

Ben Franklin Elementary

Elan Academy

In-School K-4 General Music Classes:

Elan Academy

PERFORMANCES, WORKSHOPS, & MASTERCLASSES



Community Concerts:

Louisiana Children's Museum, Grand Opening

Ogden Museum's Family Day

Mid-City Library Reading Night - Original Creative Composition

to Accompany a reading of DJ Kool Herc and the Creation of Kool

Christmas New Orleans Style with Opera Creole at Saint Louis Cathedral

WWL Eyewitness News with T-Ray the Violinist



Workshops:

Free Agents Brass Band

King School (Stamford, CT)

T-Ray the Violinist

Crescent City Chamber Ensemble

STATISTICS 19-20

by the numbers

180

STUDENTS IN
STRING
CLASSES

9

GUEST ARTIST
VISITS

225+

STUDENTS SERVED
IN K-4 GENERAL MUSIC
CLASSES

4 SCHOOL PARTNERS

1600+

HOURS OF STRING
CLASSES

200+

HOURS OF K-4
GENERAL MUSIC
INSTRUCTION

3

WEEK-LONG
SUMMER
WORKSHOPS

4 COMMUNITY CENTER PARTNERS

46

PRIVATE LESSON
STUDENTS
DURING COVID-19
SHUTDOWN

17

STUDENT
PERFORMANCES,
INCLUDING 2
VIRTUAL

150+

VIDEO LESSON
ASSIGNMENTS
COMPLETED DURING
COVID-19

FINANCIALS 2019-2020

Income:

Contributions	122,499
Program Service Revenue	65,431
Other Revenue	2,076
TOTAL:	190,006

Expenses:

Program Services	146,734
Management and General	39,878
Fund Raising	8,142
TOTAL:	194,754

Net Assets: 49,422

In-kind Support: 25,000



MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!



FOUNDATIONS

El Sistema USA, Presto Grant through Paul Angell Foundation
Bloomberg Philanthropy
Oscar J. Tolmas Charitable Trust
Brees Dream Foundation
Ella Fitzgerald Foundation
D'Addario Foundation
Louisiana Division of the Arts
Newport Folk Festivals Foundation - At the Request of Randy Newman
Holt Family Foundation
Drew's Tunes
Mary Freeman Wisdom Foundation
Ella West Freeman Foundation
RosaMary Foundation
The Good People Fund
The Moring Charitable Trust
Arts Council of New Orleans - Community Arts Grant and Decentralized
Arts Funding
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Threadhead Cultural Foundation
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Luther and Zita Templeman Foundation
The New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation
Hash House Harriers, Red Dress Run Grant Program



CORPORATE SPONSORS

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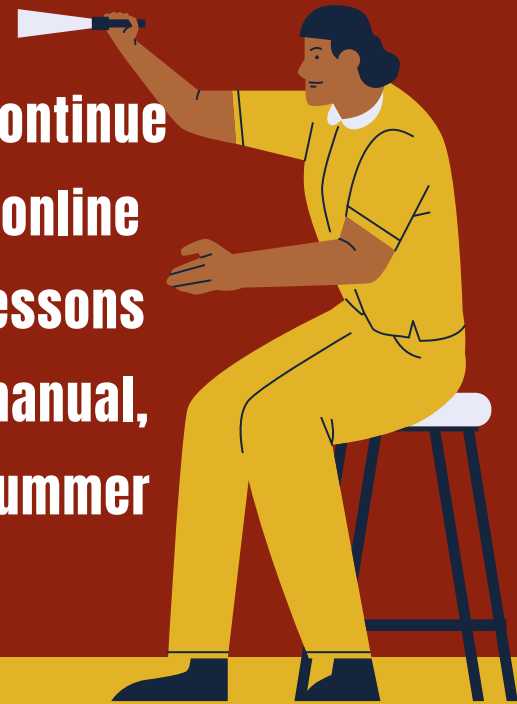


INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Allison Tassin
James Blachly
Diane and Andy Plauche
Nicholas Gremillion

MAKE MUSIC NOLA'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

Even though Make Music NOLA was not able to continue classes in person, our staff put together eight online video lessons a week, taught over 46 private lessons weekly through Zoom, compiled a curriculum manual, put on a virtual recital, and held three virtual summer workshops.



What's Next?

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Make Music NOLA was awarded a strategic planning grant from Bloomberg Philanthropy. The committee is very excited to be working with Michael Kaiser, formerly the Executive Director of Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre and the Kennedy Center. Additional support provided by dancer, arts administrator, and organizer, JR "Nexus" Russ.

Our story is, and will continue to be, one of great resilience. We will continue to work to provide opportunities and empower children within our community. We will continue to stand and support local organizations fighting for justice. We will continue to employ and support local musicians and work towards long term change in solidarity with our community.

