



COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

THE BEAT GOES ON

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friend,

Community Music School's 23rd year of providing music education to underserved youth has been a year of great success amid great challenge. I would like to thank you for your partnership and take a moment to share some of our most important accomplishments:



- We received a tremendous outpouring of support for a special campaign that raised \$100,000 to provide **music lessons to over 110 students** throughout Wake County who would not otherwise have access to music education.
- Our 19-member professional faculty provided **over 1,100 hours of private and group instruction** to students ages 6 to 18 for \$1 per lesson in a variety of genres, including orchestral instruments, piano, percussion, guitar, musical theater and music production.
- All our private lesson students participated in at least one of **23 performances** offered throughout the community.
- 100 percent of CMS seniors **graduated from high school** in 2017.

Our students continue to be transformed by the opportunities they receive at Community Music School:

- In December 2016, three of our students were selected to perform on stage at Meymandi Hall as **featured soloists with Pink Martini** and the N.C. Symphony.
- One student **received a scholarship** for and attended the prestigious Brevard Music Center summer program for piano performance.
- In May, 17 students in our **inaugural musical theater class performed** *Once On This Island Jr.* to standing ovations.

Your ongoing support has provided these incredible opportunities for our students and is also allowing us to re-envision and develop a strategic plan for the future of Community Music School. We are counting on you today to continue your support and to spread the word about the life-changing experiences we provide.

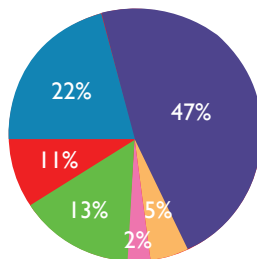
Warm regards,

Carol Holland

President, CMS Board of Directors

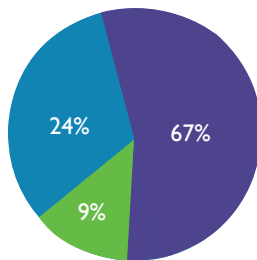
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

SOURCES



| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Contributions | \$132,097 | 47% |
| Grants | 62,480 | 22% |
| In Kind | 36,207 | 13% |
| Government | 29,858 | 11% |
| Corporations | 15,235 | 5% |
| Program Fees & Other | 4,563 | 2% |
| Total Sources | \$280,440 | 100% |

USES



| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Program Services | \$142,448 | 67% |
| Fundraising | 51,267 | 24% |
| Management & General | 18,821 | 9% |
| Total Uses | \$212,536 | 100% |

PROGRAM OUTCOMES



Flute student Kyrese performs with Pink Martini and the N.C. Symphony in December. *Photo courtesy of N.C. Symphony.*

Pink Martini shares the stage with CMS students

Three CMS students were invited to audition and performed live with Pink Martini and the N.C. Symphony in their holiday concerts at Meymandi Hall, giving thousands of audience members their first impression of Community Music School. Pink Martini also graciously contributed proceeds from some of its merchandise sales to the school.

CMS teachers take Science of Sound into Wake County elementary schools

As part of United Arts' Artists in the Schools program, CMS faculty developed a school assembly performance that correlates directly with the second-grade science curriculum. *Now Hear This: The Science of Sound* teaches students how sound works and demonstrates how music comes from real instruments and those made from ordinary household items. Elementary schools have been enthusiastic about this creative new program.

New musical theater class stages successful debut

In partnership with Right on Cue Kids Theater, CMS wrapped up its pilot year of a new musical theater class in May with two performances of *Once On This Island Jr.* Students, families and CMS friends joined in standing ovations for the efforts of all involved.

**ACHIEVEMENTS MADE POSSIBLE BY YOU,
OUR DONORS, VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS**

**\$ | per
lesson**
cost to CMS students

66,870
minutes of classroom instruction

49,685
minutes of practice time

23 concerts and community performances

33% increase in student applications for 2017-18 school year

HONORS STUDENTS



A record 16 individual students were selected for the 2017 Honors Recital through our competitive nomination and audition process. Top row (l to r): Stephan, Zara, Adrian, Lanif, Manuel, Caryl, Michael. Front row (l to r): India, Zane, Jacob, Ian, Kyrese, Eddie, Arturo, Angie, Ryan.

STUDENT PERFORMANCES



CMS volunteer Jack DeBruyn, parent Marie, and her children Caryl, Stephan and Philemon pose for a picture after the kids performed at Jack's church, longtime CMS supporter White Memorial Presbyterian.



Jazz Ensemble students perform with members of local jazz band Peter Lamb and the Wolves at a benefit dinner for CMS organized by Irregardless Cafe and Chef Arthur Gordon.

STUDENT PROFILE

Many students come to CMS as children and continue in the program all the way through high school. One recent graduate is saxophone student Vinson, who attended CMS for seven years. "Community Music School has helped me to be more confident and grounded in my musical skills," said Vinson. "Music has opened up many opportunities in my life, and I wouldn't have gained the leadership, technical and creative skills that I have without the guidance of CMS."



While in high school at Enloe, Vinson was the drum major of the marching band. He auditioned and was selected last December to perform as a featured soloist with Pink Martini and the N.C. Symphony. Now he is a freshman in the joint B.S. in Engineering - Mechatronics program with UNC-Asheville and NC State, studying a complex blend of mechanical, electrical and computer engineering, focused on the precision control of mechanical and machine systems. "Community Music School has impacted my life for the better, and I wouldn't be where I am without them."

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DONOR SPOTLIGHT

In May, James Beard Award-winning chef and restaurateur Ashley Christensen hosted a benefit for CMS at her newest establishment, Death and Taxes. New CMS friends gathered to relish the fabulous food and appreciate the impressive talents of the CMS Jazz Ensemble (pictured with Ashley, at right). Thanks to Ashley's generosity and hospitality, over \$21,000 was donated to our program.

According to Ashley, *"Music and the arts are such an essential part of building a thriving community, and all children deserve the opportunity to learn and connect through music. I'm so grateful to have an organization here in Raleigh that creates these experiences for so many kids that otherwise wouldn't have access to it."*



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- **Quail Ridge Books** found a creative way to support CMS, by pledging a nickel for every customer who declined (or brought their own) shopping bags. To date, this has resulted in more than \$1500 in donations and significantly fewer bags in landfills.
- **CT Weekends** in Cameron Village held multiple fundraisers for CMS during the holiday shopping season, donated funds raised at their annual fashion show, and tirelessly promoted the work of CMS to the broader community.
- **Irregardless Cafe and Chef Arthur Gordon** held a dinner benefit in January featuring Americana band 15-501, members of Peter Lamb and the Wolves, and CMS student musicians, who brought the house down.
- **The Glenwood South Neighborhood Collaborative** coordinated a very successful neighborhood drop-in hosted by the Hampton Inn Raleigh Downtown to benefit CMS on March 14th. Local restaurants and businesses donated food and raffle items, and students provided the musical entertainment.
- **The Raleigh Flute Choir** held a benefit concert at White Memorial Presbyterian Church.
- **Oakwood Waits** hosted a Christmas Concert of CMS students, teachers and friends, *Cocoa and Carols*.
- **The Pour House, Boxcar Bar + Arcade** and **Harry's Guitars** all made special efforts to support CMS during the year.
- **Kings** hosted our *Squirrel City Live* benefit concert in October, featuring music from Caitlin Cary and The Small Ponds, Ariel Pocock, Brett Harris, Joe O'Connell (Elephant Micah) and the CMS Jazz Ensemble.



Harp student Roxana performs at the March neighborhood drop-in fundraiser hosted by the Glenwood South Neighborhood Collaborative.

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS:

\$5000+

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Yep Roc Records

Donations of instruments and music books/sheet music are vital to the educational programs at CMS. We thank the many individuals, organizations and retailers who contributed to our instrument inventory and music library in 2016-2017.

CMS apologizes for any inadvertent errors or omissions in this roster. Please notify us of any corrections.

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618 Tucker Street
Raleigh, NC 27603



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THE BEAT GOES ON

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