

keynote

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Keynote is the official eNewsletter of Tune Up Philly, a program of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Organization.

2013-2014 Winter Concert A Success



Tune Up Philly students from the People for People Charter School and the Salvation Army Kroc Center gather to inspire and grow.

Letter from Paul Smith, Associate Director:

A New Year Brings New Collaborations and Expanded Enrollment

Alongside our dedicated partners from the People for People Charter School and The Salvation Army Kroc Center Tune Up Philly sites, we celebrated the achievements of some 140 students who collaborated in our Winter Concert. Some of our performers are now in their third year of programming, whilst others have a mere few months' experience. The tireless dedication of our faculty was evidenced as students performed at our last concert. Our orchestra embraces an inclusive programming model designed to increase awareness and participation in the hearts and imaginations of our youth. We cherish our ability to adapt our repertoire to challenge everyone with exploring newfound talents and engaging in social structures unique to a community orchestra. This performance effort was not without a robust approach to expanding our outreach programming: effectively, we have extended the total number of programming hours per full week to 72 hours weekly – that represents 3 full days of music outreach throughout the city!

In January, Tune Up Philly expanded program services to 120 new students through our newest partnerships—all which share our common goal of utilizing arts access as a means for unifying, empowering, and engaging the youth of Philadelphia.

This spring and together with all our new partners (St. James School, Mariana Bracetti Academy Charter School, Taller Puertorriqueño, Mastery Charter at Thomas Elementary, and EducationWorks), we will prepare for our 4th Annual Festival Concert. Held in May each year, this event celebrates all participants of Tune Up Philly programming, extending the open-arms programming model to 240 students.

Until then, Tune Up Philly students are preparing to perform alongside the University of Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Brad Smith and held at the Irvine Auditorium on February 22nd at 8 p.m. Soon after, Tune Up Philly will perform at the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra's 74th Annual Gala in support of all performance ensembles including Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra, Bravo Brass, and PRYSM. The Gala will take place on March 21st, 2014 at the grand Union League of Philadelphia. To learn how you can participate in or become sponsors of these annual events, contact Maria Newman, Director of Development at 215 545 0502 or mlnewman@pyos.org.

74th Anniversary Gala Performance



Philadelphia Youth Orchestra 73rd Anniversary Gala in the Kimmel Center's Perelman Theater.

On March 21st, Tune Up Philly students prepare to share the stage in an evening celebrating the PYO organization's 74 years of dedicated service to Philadelphia and the Tri-State region. As part of the older ensembles' service and internship programs, Tune Up Philly students regularly receive mentorship from those enrolled in PYO's other program divisions. Nearly 100 Tune Up Philly students attended the November 2013 Philadelphia Youth Orchestra performance at The Kimmel Center's Verizon Hall and experienced the expertly polished performances of the music of Beethoven, Mussorgsky, and Ravel. As has become a long-standing tradition, the inimitable artists of the Studio Incamminati will be present with plein-air painting during the reception and an auction of these and many works whose sales proceeds benefit the PYO organization's programming and generous tuition remission program. Limited seating is available for this event. Please contact Maria Newman, Director of Development at mlnewman@pyos.org or call 215 545 0502 to receive an invitation and reserve your place.

To be held at the newly restored Lincoln Hall of the Union League of Philadelphia, regular attendees of the PYO Gala return each year to witness and support the development of our area's youth into talented and accomplished citizens, while promoting the importance of our organization's contributions to Philadelphia's artistic legacy.

Day of Service at Tune Up Philly



PYO Member Geana Snart with Tune Up Philly Cellist, Aurie Roberts.

As most area schools closed in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday, PYO members Daniel Liu, (Age 16, Violin) and Geana Snart, (Age 17, Violoncello) performed for Tune Up Philly students enrolled at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in commemoration of this day of service.

Daniel shared a selection from Bach's Partita No. 1 for Solo Violin, illustrating the many technical challenges that a violinist faces and encouraged students to listen critically. Geana performed selections from Haydn's Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major and spoke about her time as a student of PRYSM Director and Conductor and member of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Gloria De Pasquale. Geana spoke about the structure music can provide to home-schooled students, many of which attend the Kroc Center's programming. Dan and Geana entertained many questions and engaged the young TUP students: the duo explained their shaking hands as "vibrato", performed two-three notes at a time on their string instruments through "double and triple stopping", and shared selections from their upcoming performance at Verizon Hall February 16th at 3 pm to feature the works of Rachmaninoff, Barber, and Vaughn Williams. For ticket information on this and any other PYO concert event, please [check our website](#).

D'Addario Helps Bring Music to Afterschool Programs



The D'Addario Foundation recently awarded Tune Up Philly a grant for the second year in a row, and an in-kind donation to help bring music to 60 students in North Philadelphia through after-school programming at Taller Puertorriqueño and EducationWorks sites.

Also supporting our Eastern North expansion is Philadelphia LISC--a local program of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, (LISC), a national non-profit development organization dedicated to transforming distressed neighborhoods into healthy, sustainable communities of choice and opportunity. Philadelphia LISC works with Community Development Organizations (CDOs), to provide the tools and programs needed to initiate positive change and transform neighborhoods into healthy, vibrant communities.

This project is the second collaboration with Philadelphia LISC and Asociación Puertorriqueños en Marcha (APM). Our project aspires to share visceral rhythmic components in group settings and develop a musical dialogue between after-care givers and their students. Many class-leaders who have had little or no musical experience will be invited to lead through the curriculum of a "bucket band" to provide communal music settings as a sustainable resource in their communities. Tune Up faculty member, Seth Hanes leads the instruction and performances for this outreach initiative which will present a special concert in the Spring. Tune Up Philly will perform alongside bucket band participants to amplify the success of these new musical explorations. Afterwards, select performers will be invited to sit in with the Tune Up Philly orchestra in their 4th Annual Festival Concert.

Through the support of the D'Addario Foundation and Philadelphia LISC/APM we hope to create a reoccurring, sustainable model for providing elementary musical across Philadelphia with a main focus on the underserved.

Scoring Success



Creating a path for young children to access the benefits and inspiration of an orchestra takes careful preparation. A typical orchestral work or arrangement that is labelled as "easy" may be ideal for the instrumentalist with 3-5 years of rigorous study. At Tune Up Philly we begin the process after only 2 months of instruction through providing differentiated parts for the specific needs of each student. While these needs focus on their technical ability, they also reinforce their orchestral experience. [A central tenet to El Sistema's mission (and film of the same name) is "Tocar y Luchar" (translation: To Play and To Fight).] In order for our students to develop a penchant for robust practicing and the discipline to challenge themselves, they must first experience an accessible group ensemble that celebrates their achievements. Many of our returning students utilize this differentiated repertoire as they assist our Faculty in introducing new students to the program. When students outgrow these parts, they are expected to revise their goals in order to refine their skill and advance their study.

These invaluable lessons foster the attention and care required to tackle some of the more demanding pieces by Schumann, Bartok, Beethoven, and Brahms. The practice of regular scores and parts specifically for students on a regular basis is an inspiring revival of how Western Classical Music's institutions and practices grew. These are tightly interwoven into the tradition that the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra carries on to this day.

Upcoming Concerts

Tune Up Philly
Saturday, March 15, 2014
3:00 p.m.

Free Library of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA.

[More information >](#)

Tune Up Philly
Friday, March 21, 2014
6:30 p.m.

PYO GALA DINNER & CONCERT
The Union League of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA.

[More information >](#)

Tune Up Philly
Saturday, May 10, 2014
3:00 p.m.

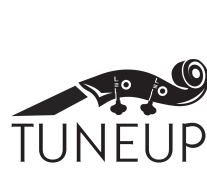
The Salvation Army Kroc Center
Philadelphia, PA.

[More information >](#)

Complete performance schedules for Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra, Bravo Brass, PRYSM and Tune Up Philly may be viewed at www.pyos.org.



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