

Forward

2022 SPRING IMPACT REPORT



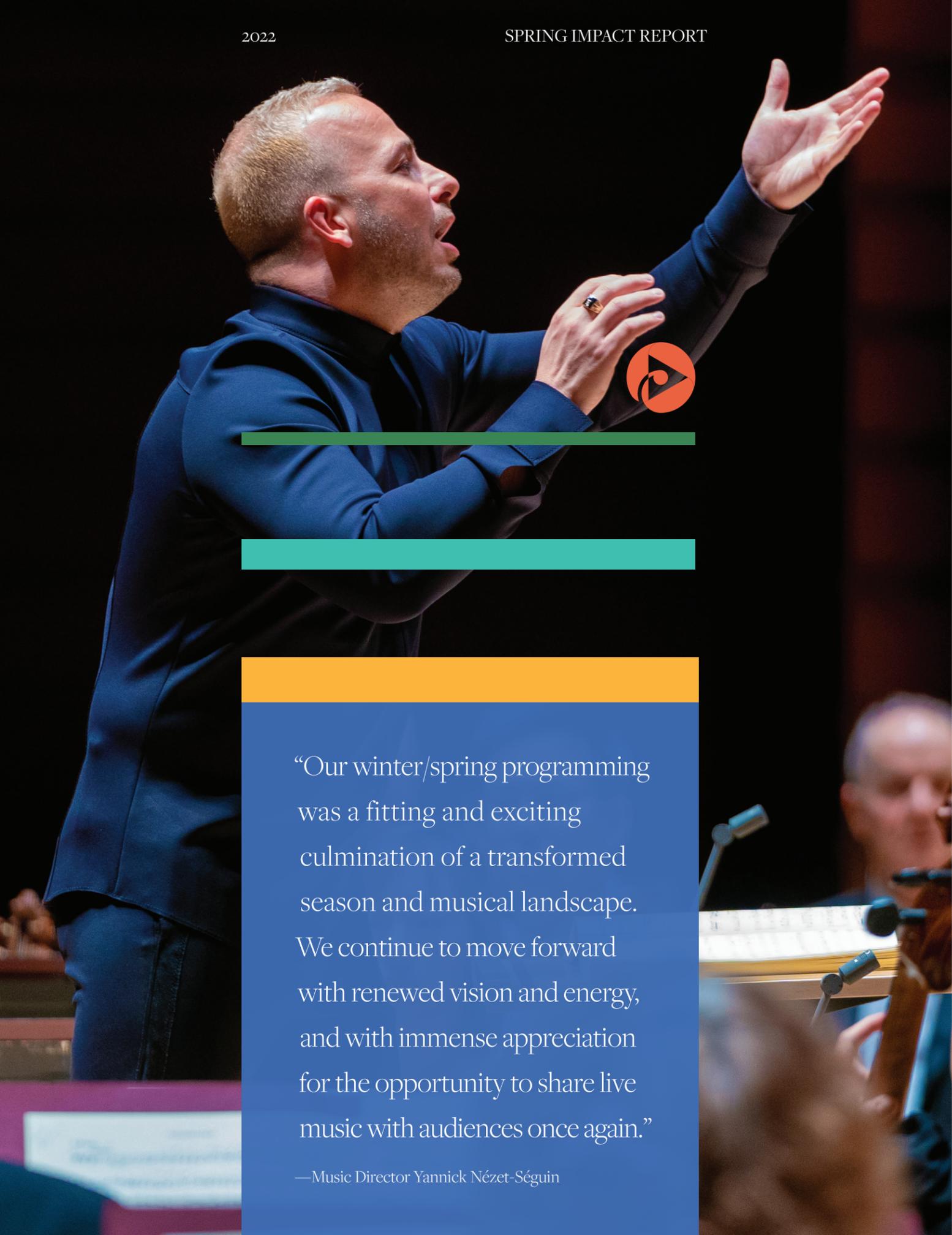
Your ORCHESTRA.

Your IMPACT.

Our GRATITUDE.

The
Philadelphia
Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Music Director



“Our winter/spring programming was a fitting and exciting culmination of a transformed season and musical landscape. We continue to move forward with renewed vision and energy, and with immense appreciation for the opportunity to share live music with audiences once again.”

—Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin

Your Orchestra, Your Impact, Our Gratitude

The 2021–22 season marked the joyful reunion of audiences and The Philadelphia Orchestra in Verizon Hall. After months of separation—and the many twists and turns of the pandemic—it was a thrill to come back together last fall to experience the energy of live music. The Orchestra also continued to expand our digital offerings, reaching more audiences than ever before throughout the Philadelphia region, across the country, and around the world with Digital Stage concerts; Our City, Your Orchestra performances; educational programs; and much more.

We are deeply grateful to the members of our donor family for your steadfast support during these transformative times. Thanks to you, The Philadelphia Orchestra made a vibrant comeback to live performances—safely, joyfully, and successfully—speaking not only to our current moment, but also to a powerful musical future. We thank you for your generosity, your flexibility, and your understanding as we have navigated this memorable season. Working together, we have accomplished great things. Read on to learn more about some of the highlights of our winter-spring 2022 season and the impact of your generosity on the Orchestra’s work onstage, online, and throughout our community.

Thank you!



SPOTLIGHT ON THE WINTER/SPRING 2022 SEASON

Fiddler on the Roof

When the Orchestra announced performances of *Fiddler on the Roof* during the 2021–22 season, we had no idea how significant the timing would be. As it turned out, early March was an unexpectedly poignant moment to present this story of a Ukrainian Jewish community facing life as refugees. This production was created in partnership with the University of Michigan, with a multi-racial, inter-generational cast of Broadway professionals and talented students.

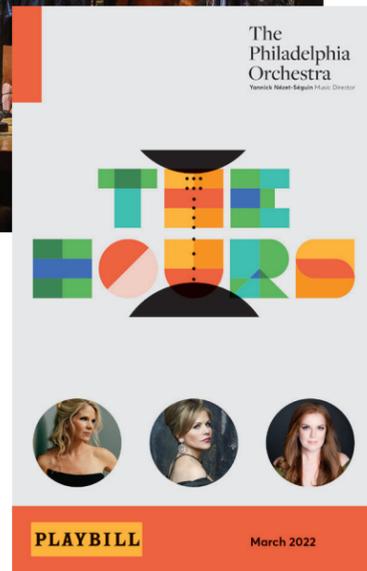
Legendary composer John Williams created orchestrations for the filmed version of *Fiddler on the Roof*, and the complete music was presented live for the first time in this co-production. These powerfully relevant performances of *Fiddler on the Roof* were dedicated to the people of Ukraine.



The
Philadelphia
Orchestra
Volunteer Committees

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

April was Volunteer Appreciation Month—the perfect time to celebrate the contributions of our Philadelphia Orchestra Volunteers. On April 1, we honored the volunteers at a special reception with members of the Orchestra in attendance. Matías Tarnopolsky, President and CEO of The Philadelphia Orchestra and Kimmel Center, Inc., offered words of thanks for the longstanding dedication and support of the Volunteer Committees, who do so much to ensure the success of special events and fundraising opportunities for the Orchestra. Thank you for working so tirelessly to help us fulfill our mission and bring art to our communities.



The Hours

Over its 122-year history, The Philadelphia Orchestra has boasted an impressive list of world premieres. This legacy includes major symphonic works, concertos, oratorios, and ballets by the likes of Igor Stravinsky, Jean Sibelius, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Aaron Copland, Jennifer Higdon, Wynton Marsalis, Gabriela Lena Frank ... and many more. In two performances on March 18 and 20, 2022, the Orchestra gave the world premiere of a complete opera for the very first time.

Kevin Puts's *The Hours*, based on Michael Cunningham's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, chronicles a day in the life of three women from three different eras whose interwoven narratives are connected to Virginia Woolf's novel *Mrs. Dalloway*. The opera is a co-commission between The Philadelphia Orchestra and the Metropolitan Opera. The performances in Verizon Hall marked the world premiere of the concert version of the work; the Met will premiere a fully staged version in its upcoming season.

A world-renowned cast of more than a dozen singers—headlined by Renée Fleming, Kelli O'Hara, and Jennifer Johnson Cano, with the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir—joined Yannick and the musicians of the Orchestra to create a masterful performance.

Lead support for *The Hours* was given by Constance and Michael Cone. Additional support was given by Naomi and Stephen Breman, Robert and Julie Jensen Bryan, Christos Coutifaris and Deborah Driscoll, Joyce Creamer, Linda and David Glickstein, Joseph and Bette Hirsch, and Sandy and David Marshall.

The Orchestra gratefully acknowledges the generosity of these donors, and we thank them for being a vital part of our ongoing commitment to featuring diverse voices and powerful stories told through music.

The Orchestra Returns to Touring

The Philadelphia Orchestra's Midwest Tour in March—our first multi-city journey since 2019—featured performances in Iowa City, IA; Stillwater, OK; and Ann Arbor, MI, under the batons of Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Principal Guest Conductor Nathalie Stutzmann.

It was wonderful to reconnect with old friends and new audiences in the Midwest during this long-awaited return to touring.

We traveled with a tour party of 113 and performed 4 concerts over 5 days for over 5,700 people in 3 cities, battling 2 snow storms, taking 460 COVID tests (with 0 positive cases!), and holding 13 master classes and 1 panel discussion.



Constellations

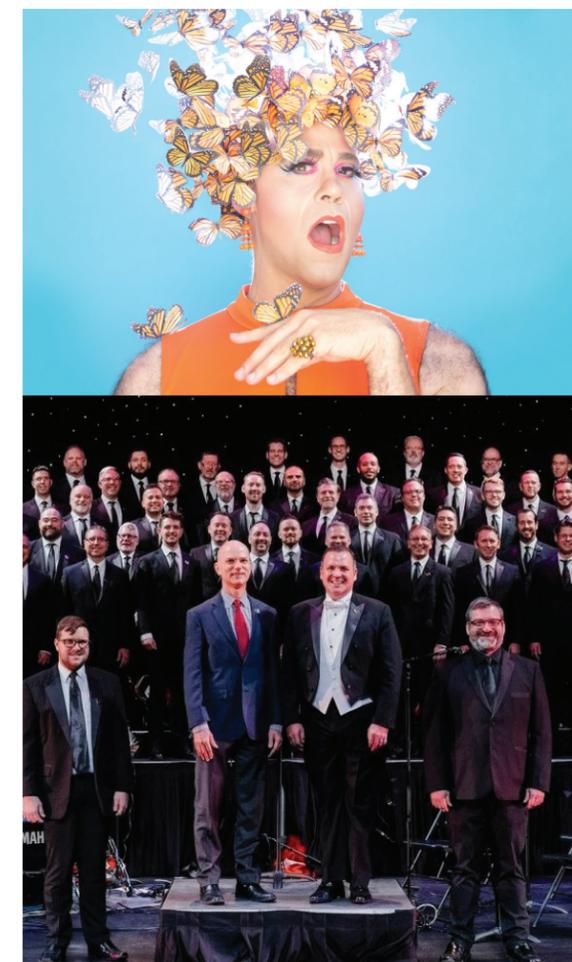
On April 19, we welcomed the legendary John Williams back to the Verizon Hall stage in a sold-out performance featuring violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter and the Orchestra. The concert featured Williams's Violin Concerto No. 2 (written especially for Mutter), as well as selections from some of his most beloved film scores. The evening was a fitting occasion for Constellations, a festive celebration benefiting the Academy of Music and The Philadelphia Orchestra. We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our Constellations event benefactors and their dedication to the Academy of Music and our Orchestra. We also extend our deep appreciation to the artists, Orchestra and Kimmel Cultural Campus staff, and Constellations Committee volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents to ensure a stellar celebration.

The Orchestra Celebrates Pride

The Philadelphia Orchestra presented its first-ever Pride Concert on June 2 in Verizon Hall. Led by Yannick, this free community concert featured Leonard Bernstein's Overture to *Candide*, Jennifer Higdon's *Fanfare Ritmico*, selections from Barber's Suite from *Souvenirs*, and the Act I Waltz from Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. The Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus joined the Orchestra, and celebrated Canadian violinist Blake Pouliot made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut. Philadelphia drag queen Martha Graham Cracker made a special appearance in this joyful musical celebration of resilience, perseverance, and love.

Virtual School Concert Experience

This spring, The Philadelphia Orchestra released a digital version of our School Concert Experience, accessible from homes and classrooms anywhere in the world. The video presentation, led by Principal Tuba Carol Jantsch (Lyn and George M. Ross Chair), took students in grades 3–5 on a musical tour across the globe with some help from additional members of the Orchestra. Schools in 8 countries and 23 states—including 338 schools across Pennsylvania—registered for this free program. We look forward to welcoming students back to Verizon Hall next season with a new curriculum and a fun, engaging School Concert program!





The Orchestra Names Two Endowed Musician Chairs

This spring, The Philadelphia Orchestra announced a \$3 million endowment gift made by Ralph and Beth Johnston Muller to name the Principal Guest Conductor Chair, currently held by Nathalie Stutzmann. The gift was inspired by Stutzmann's charismatic musicianship and her contributions to the Orchestra thus far in her tenure, and further signifies the importance of the principal guest conductor to the artistic vision of the Orchestra.

Elaine Woo Camarda and A. Morris Williams, Jr., have also made a generous endowment gift of \$3 million to the Orchestra to name the Assistant Principal Cello Chair held by Yumi Kendall. This gift celebrates the long friendship between Kendall, the donors, and their family, which dates back to Yumi's earliest years with the Orchestra.



We are deeply grateful to the Mullers and to Camarda and Williams for these extraordinary and inspiring commitments, for their steadfast support of our Orchestra, and for their advocacy for the arts in Philadelphia.

DONOR EVENTS

The generous support of our donors makes all that we do possible. From concerts to music education to community outreach, *you* help keep the music playing. The pandemic may have closed our doors for a time, but the music continued on the Digital Stage, in virtual classrooms, and elsewhere online. Last fall, the Orchestra welcomed audiences back with a renewed sense of purpose and commitment to our community, showing how the arts can help us better understand one another and our world amidst profound social change. Thanks to your support, we are harnessing the power of the arts to achieve the goals of inclusion, diversity, equity, and access strategies (IDEAS), and joining with those whose voices reflect those ideals.

With the Orchestra's vibrant return to Verizon Hall, one of the highlights of this season has been the return of in-person donor events at the Kimmel Center alongside our digital offerings. We are grateful for your generosity to The Philadelphia Orchestra and look forward to seeing you soon!



Open Rehearsals Are Back!

This season saw the return of Open Rehearsals, one of the most popular member benefits for donors at the \$100 level and above. It was a joy to reunite with members of our donor family to experience these behind-the-scenes views of the Orchestra working with a range of conductors and guest soloists.

As a special treat, the February 11 and March 24 Open Rehearsals were presented in partnership with the Orchestra's Education and Community department. We were delighted to welcome over 600 students and educators to Verizon Hall to experience the legendary Philadelphia Sound firsthand as part of the Orchestra's HEAR Initiative. Spanning four categories—Health, Education, Access, and Research—HEAR is a portfolio of programs that promotes wellness, champions music education, eliminates barriers to accessing the Orchestra, and maximizes impact through research throughout the Philadelphia region. We look forward to more special events with new generations of Orchestra fans next season.

The Philadelphia Orchestra Wins a GRAMMY®

On April 3, Yannick Nézet-Séguin and The Philadelphia Orchestra made history by winning their first-ever GRAMMY Award, in the "Best Orchestral Performance" category, for the Deutsche Grammophon recording *Florence Price Symphonies Nos. 1 & 3*. This is a truly extraordinary moment since it celebrates the work of Price, the first Black woman composer to have a symphonic work premiered by a major American orchestra. Guided by Yannick's vision, the Orchestra has been performing Price's works in recent seasons, and we look forward to continuing this exploration in the future, including taking her First Symphony on the Orchestra's tour of Europe in August/September 2022. Plans are also underway to release another album of Price's compositions during the 2022–23 season.

To celebrate our GRAMMY win, the Orchestra rebroadcast a December 2021 Digital Stage performance of Price's Symphony No. 3. This encore presentation was made available to viewers for free in May. If you missed that Digital Stage encore, not to worry! You'll have the chance to enjoy it live when Yannick and the Orchestra perform it in Verizon Hall in October 2022. You can also hear performances of Price's First and Second Violin Concertos with Yannick, soloist Randall Goosby, and the Orchestra in Verizon Hall in October—plus a special Family Concert in March 2023 to present her music to listeners of all ages.

If you enjoy the convenience of online concerts and the "up close and personal" views of the Orchestra on the Digital Stage, stay tuned for the return of the Digital Stage in our 2022–23 season.



“Though we can’t erase the prejudices of the past, we can work together to build a more equitable future for classical music—one in which all voices are heard, where everyone sees themselves on our stages, and where artists like Florence do not fade into obscurity. It is our hope that Florence Price becomes a staple in the classical music canon and that recordings of her works will be GRAMMY contenders—and winners—for many years to come.”

—Yannick Nézet-Séguin



SUMMER WITH THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra Returns for Residencies at the Bravo! Vail Festival, the Mann Center, and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center

This summer, the Orchestra will travel to the beautiful Rocky Mountains of Colorado for our 15th season at the **Bravo! Vail Music Festival** July 8–16.

This year's residency will feature Principal Guest Conductor Nathalie Stutzmann (Ralph and Beth Johnston Muller Chair) and her predecessor in this role, Stéphane Denève, leading the Orchestra in two weekends of concert programs.

The Philadelphia Orchestra's longstanding partnership with the **Mann Center for the Performing Arts** continues with three performances, including the popular Tchaikovsky Spectacular featuring Assistant Conductor Erina Yashima—and an epic display of fireworks—on July 21.

The Orchestra will also return to the **Saratoga Performing Arts Center** (SPAC) in New York. This year's residency runs from July 27–August 13 and marks 56 years of partnership. This summer's lineup includes concerts featuring Yannick and guest artists such as Joshua Bell, Angel Blue, Lara Downes, Randall Goosby, Ledisi, Yo-Yo Ma, and more. The Orchestra will also present a Sound All Around program for children and families led by the Orchestra's storyteller, narrator, and host, Charlotte Blake Alston; as well as a PlayIN music education program for young cellists.

All City Orchestra Summer Academy

The Orchestra will return for a fourth summer as lead artistic partner with the Mann Center for the Performing Arts, the School District of Philadelphia, and Project 440, of the All City Orchestra Summer Academy (ACOSA). Students in grades 6–12 gain high-quality orchestra

training experience through master classes with Philadelphia Orchestra musicians, chamber music rehearsals and performance opportunities, composition lessons, and electives from ACOSA partner organizations.

Global Music Center

The Global Music Center will return during the week of June 27 for its second one-week intensive online music education course for students in China. This music-education program provides high school and conservatory students with premium instrument instruction, real-life performance preparation, career guidance, and a curriculum that bridges cultural differences through music education via live online instruction.

You have received this Philadelphia Orchestra Impact Report because of your generous philanthropic support. If you would like to change your contact preferences, please notify us at **215.893.3151** or **development@philorch.org**.

Photos: Jessica Griffin, Jeff Fusco, Pete Checchia, Peter Smith, Margo Reed, Kate Raines/Plate 3, Jordan August Photography

