



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra

Address:
11065 5th Ave NE, Suite A
Seattle, WA 98125

Contact:
(206) 362-2300
<https://www.syso.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Founded in 1942, Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra (SYSO) is the largest youth orchestra training program in the United States. The organization serves over 1,893 diverse students each year with five orchestras, two summer festival programs, and extensive partnerships with local public schools. By awarding over \$200,000 in financial aid annually, SYSO ensures that every talented student can participate in our programs, regardless of financial resources.

Date of Award:	Level:
2018 Q4	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Disclaimer: This report may be a summary of content provided by the recipient, not always complete quoted material.



Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra

August 27, 2019

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
Marilyn Sheldon, Director
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

Dear Ms. Sheldon,

From all of us at Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, we are grateful for Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions' generous [REDACTED] in support of the SYSO in the Schools education programs. Through this gift, SYSO provided deep, long-term arts experiences for over 760 public school students during the 2018-19 school year. We are thrilled to submit this final report (Q3 2018 14.2) with you to share the impact of your ongoing support to SYSO and the SYSO in the Schools programs.

SYSO IN THE SCHOOLS OVERVIEW

As Seattle's income gap grows, we see an increasing disparity in music learning opportunities for students in the Seattle Public School district. While some schools have the fundraising capacity to support in-school music programs, many schools find themselves without the funds or resources to provide their students with the same programs or opportunities.

SYSO works to fill this gap through the SYSO in the Schools programs, which provide our instrumental instruction expertise and services to schools at free and/or subsidized rates. This supports SYSO's deep belief that all young people should have access to quality instrumental music instruction—regardless of experience, zip code, and background. In the 2019 school year, **SYSO in the Schools provided professional instrumental music instruction to 769 students at 28 schools through its two programs: Musical Pathways Project and the Endangered Instruments Program.**

Musical Pathways Project (MPP) is our free, in-school music program that addresses the needs of inequitably funded schools. In 2019, we served 115 students and 3 teachers from Aki Kurose Middle school, Cleveland STEM, and Rainier Beach High School. After school, we also supported 32 students and 4 teachers from ten different elementary schools through the Cadenza Afterschool Orchestra program.

Endangered Instruments Program (EIP) is our subsidized, in-school music program that addresses students' limited access to less-commonly-played instruments or "endangered instruments" like the oboe, French horn, and viola. EIP served 582 students from 21 middle and four public high schools from the Puget Sound area.



COMMUNITY SERVED

SYSO in the Schools supports the larger community's goals to make Seattle schools more equitable for all students. Many of the schools we supported in FY19 (particularly the MPP schools) were located within Seattle's Southeast and Southwest regions that represent some of Seattle's lowest income neighborhoods. Within MPP,

www.syso.org



68% of students qualified for the Free and Reduced Meal Program (FRMP). As for EIP, SYSO served 28% youth who qualified for FRMP. In FY20, SYSO will continue exploring innovative and effective ways to ensure that our services are creating equitable access to music enjoyment and learning. We are grateful for the support from funders like the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions that allow us to increase access to quality music instruction for inequitably funded public schools, while helping schools develop a sustainable, strong music program that will last for years to come.

SITS EVALUATION & OUTCOMES

After the school year, SYSO worked with an outside consulting firm to conduct a thorough evaluation of SITS by gathering and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data from constructive interviews, observations, focus groups, and pre- and post-program surveys from students, music teachers, and family members. The results of this evaluation are as follows:

Student Feedback: Overall Experience

- In EIP, 90% of students rated **their experience as excellent or good.**
- All students in Musical Pathways Project agree that with **practice, they can improve.**
- Over 90% of MPP and EIP students **would like to work with their coach again.**
- 65% of MPP youth reported that their favorite thing about working with a coach is **the support and encouragement they receive.**

Student Feedback: Musical Competencies

- 93% of EIP students agree that the **coach increased their confidence in their ability to play an instrument.**
- 88% of EIP students and 84% of MPP students claimed that working with their **coach inspired them to learn more challenging music.**
- 84% of EIP students said their coaches **increased their interest in making music.**
- 87% of MPP students say coaches helped them understand how their **instrument fits within the rest of the orchestra or band.**

Student Feedback: Growth Mindset & Sense of Belonging

- 100% of MPP students feel like they **belong to a community of musicians.**
- 90% of EIP students and 85% of MPP students feel that because of SITS, they can take proper care of their instrument and have **developed a sense of personal responsibility.**
- 70% of SITS students agree that they learned how to **set goals and work towards achieving them.**
- 98% of MPP students and 95% of EIP students agree that coaches **encouraged them to keep trying** even when they made a mistake.

"[The best thing about working with a coach is] the different techniques taught to play. Teaching rhythms and dynamic control. Overall teaching me how to better perform on my instrument." —MPP Student

"I got good advice about my playing and would have been a different person without coaching." —EIP Student

"I liked how good their advice was and how nice they were. Even when you made a mistake" —MPP Student

"[My coach] spiked my interest to keep pursuing music and not be as lazy with my instrument." —EIP Student



Public School Teacher Feedback

- Teachers also agreed that SYSO’s music coaches “**positively impacted the students’ growth mindsets, ability to focus and accomplish goals, collaboration skills, and future potential.**”
- 100% of surveyed public school teachers reported **overall satisfaction** with EIP.
- 90% of coaches agree that by the end of the year, EIP students **take responsibility for their actions and are committed to playing** an endangered instrument.

“EIP coaches increase the equity of our music program because we are able to provide all students an opportunity to learn endangered instruments. Without in-class coaching, students hoping to learn these instruments would need to take private lessons outside of school. That requirement would create an opportunity gap within the music program based on socioeconomic status.”—Public School Music Teacher

“I love MPP and the resources that the program provides out students and the knowledge that is provided to the teachers.” —Public School Music Teacher.

Family & Parent Feedback

- 100% of EIP families surveyed reported that their **child’s overall experience was satisfying.**
- Families shared that the SYSO coach lessons and encouragement **motivated the students and increased their confidence.**

“My daughter switched from baritone horn to the French horn because of EIP coaches. She discovered a natural talent for the horn that she didn’t know she had!” —EIP Parent

SYSO ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

SYSO is also thrilled to announce that after a nine-month international search, the SYSO Music Director search committee unanimously recommended **Juan Felipe Molano to be SYSO’s next Music Director.** Mr. Molano brings twenty years of teaching and performing experience to SYSO. His career includes conducting positions with top professional and youth orchestras throughout Europe, the United States, Asia, South and Central America. Since 2014, he has served as Conductor of Youth Orchestra Los Angeles, a program of the Los Angeles Philharmonic that puts the transformative power of music-making into the hands of young people who would not otherwise have access to it. We are ecstatic to have such a passionate, and talented artist and consummate educator join our team as we re-envision and shape SYSO’s 2019-20 season and future.



CONCLUSION

Once again, thank you and the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for your essential support for the SYSO in the Schools programs. It would not be possible to offer these free and affordable programs to students, teachers, and schools without supporters like you. We hope to continue this valuable partnership with you as we continue to make music instruction accessible for all students across the Puget Sound region. If you would have any questions or wish to visit us at SYSO, please contact me at Kathleen.allen@syso.org or 206-362-2300.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Allen, Executive Director