



Celebrating 60
BYSO

Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras

Federico Cortese, Music Director



BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS
2018 IMPACT REPORT

60TH

BYSO'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY SUCCESS



This year has been a significant milestone for BYSO as we look back on our extraordinary growth and celebrated history. At its founding in 1958, BYSO was a single orchestra of 80 young players. Today, it is one of the country's most highly regarded youth orchestra programs, an organization at the vanguard of music education that serves over 600 students in each year.

We have had much to celebrate throughout this anniversary season. We are proud of our sold out performance of Bizet's *Carmen*, marking BYSO's eleventh annual full-length opera production. We successfully launched a significant expansion to our Intensive Community Program (ICP) to include winds, brass and percussion. In March, BYSO welcomed guests to Boston's Museum of Fine Arts for our 8th Annual Gala, honoring community leaders including Boston's Mayor Walsh, and this event raised nearly \$350,000 for BYSO. As we continue to give back to the community by making classical music accessible to a diverse array of audiences, we completed our 9th season of an ongoing partnership with Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) through the Family Concert Series at Symphony Hall. Our 60th season concluded with an important cultural exchange between BYSO and youth choirs from Leipzig, Germany, who joined us for our 60th anniversary concert in April. BYSO musicians then traveled to Leipzig in June to perform at Bachfest, the world's foremost annual festival focusing on the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and his contemporaries. Performances were held at the Leipzig market square and the prestigious Gewandhaus concert hall.

Thank you to all the young musicians for their outstanding work and the gift of music they bring to the community. In addition, we congratulate the students in all of our orchestras on their accomplishments and thank our dedicated families, our artistic and administrative staff, and the BYSO Board and Council members for your continued support of Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras.



OUR MISSION

Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras' (BYSO) mission is to encourage artistic excellence in a nurturing environment by providing the highest quality orchestral training and performance opportunities to qualified musicians, grades K-12, while making its programs accessible to underrepresented youth through financial aid and outreach.

EXCELLENCE: BYSO believes high-quality music experiences have a long-lasting impact on young musicians and audience members. Quality is at the heart of BYSO's programs, supported by the finest musicians in the area who serve as our coaches and conductors.

ACCESS: BYSO makes quality music experiences available to all young people, regardless of social or economic disadvantage. Our Intensive Community Program (ICP) offers rigorous string and winds training to Boston's underserved communities, preparing students for competitive auditions into BYSO orchestras. BYSO provides use of an instrument, weekly lessons and support for participation in the orchestras from the time a student joins the program (age 5 or 6) until they graduate high school. The program serves 80–90 students annually.

INSPIRATION: Alongside training young musicians, we are dedicated to cultivating young audiences. Each year, BYSO presents more than 20 performances in some of Boston's finest venues including Symphony Hall and Sanders Theatre at Harvard University. Through our free ticketing programs and community concerts, BYSO welcomes thousands of young community members annually. BYSO's partnership with Boston Symphony Orchestra, BYSO/BSO: Partnering for the Future, sees children as young as 3 years old enjoy the magic of classical music.



ROGER

AGE 18, VIOLA

Roger first joined BYSO in 2009 as a fourth grader where he learned to play the viola as part of BYSO's Intensive Community Program.

"There's a certain sense of pride you get when you realize you've played pieces like the *Rite of Spring*, *Daphnis et Chloe*, and *Bartok Concerto for Orchestra* at Symphony Hall, rehearsed and performed four full operas with world famous opera singers, and toured internationally. These opportunities are not normal, and I'm so grateful that I was lucky enough to experience them at BYSO."



Roger graduated from high school and BYSO in June and is attending Harvard University starting in the Fall 2018, where he plans to continue studying music and playing the viola. "After being here for ten years, I've learned that BYSO is more than practicing and rehearsing music — it's a community."



ROGER

"IT'S A COMMUNITY"





MAI

AGE 17, FLUTE



Mai has been part of the BYSO since she was 11 years old. The 2018/2019 season will be her seventh year as a member of BYSO.

"Now that I'm older, I can see how important the legacy is that BYSO has. Although I'm happy that I get to be a part of it, I'm even happier to know that in the future someone else can have the same experience and those same opportunities."



As Mai enters her senior year in BYSO, she remembers her first concert at Symphony Hall. "I experienced for the first time feeling like I was a part of something much bigger than myself, and learned what it was like to be part of such an amazing ensemble. I truly feel that I grew up here."

MAI

"I GREW UP HERE"



NEARAH

AGE 11, BASSOON

Nearah is a first-year wind student in the Intensive Community Program (ICP). Last season ICP launched a significant expansion to the program to include winds, brass and percussion for the first time. Although Nearah took music lessons prior to starting at BYSO, she wanted to join because she “wanted to learn something new.” She chose to play the bassoon because of the challenge, and “loves how low it can go!”

One of the greatest struggles Nearah had to overcome was learning to improve her music reading skills.

“I used to just memorize all my music because I wasn’t that good at reading it, but now I’m a lot better. I can read better in school, too – I am dyslexic but practicing reading music has helped me practice reading for school. When I’m thinking, I hum, too, which helps me focus. I know now that I can face challenges, which I learned from being part of BYSO.”

NEARAH

“I CAN FACE CHALLENGES”



60 YEARS OF BYSO



On **JANUARY 28, 2018**, BYSO presented a sold out performance of Bizet's *Carmen*, marking BYSO's eleventh annual full-length opera production – a unique initiative that gives our students the opportunity to play with internationally acclaimed artists while learning about a great art form that few students have the chance to play.



On **MARCH 10, 2018**, we welcomed nearly 300 guests to Boston's Museum of Fine Arts for our 8th Annual Gala celebrating BYSO's 60 years of impact. During the evening we honored distinguished alumni, supporters, and community leaders including Boston's Mayor Martin J. Walsh. The event raised nearly \$350,000 to support BYSO's students and families.



BYSO celebrated our 60th anniversary with a concert at Symphony Hall on **APRIL 29, 2018**, featuring visiting youth choirs from Leipzig, Germany. The performance included a special archival exhibit, commemorating our partnership work with the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) as well as our deep roots in the city of Boston and the world of classical music.



In **JUNE 2018**, we continued our cultural exchange as 58 of our students traveled to Leipzig, Germany and performed at Bachfest, the world's foremost annual festival focusing on the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and his contemporaries. Performances were held at the Leipzig market square and the prestigious Gewandhaus concert hall as well as the Altenburg Castle. A reviewer in attendance wrote that "what BYSO and Federico Cortese accomplish should cause even some professional musical ensembles in this country to blush." (*Leipziger Volkszeitung*)

CELEBRATE

BUDGET

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018

REVENUES

	FY18
Tuition and Fees	\$1,389,917
Ticket Sales	\$144,852
Program Book Advertising	\$12,531
Merchandise Sales and Other Earned Revenue	\$14,998
Earned Interest and Contribution from Endowment	\$71,154
Foundation Support	\$477,650
Government Support	\$69,915
Corporate Support and Sponsorships	\$72,600
Individual Support	\$380,513
Special Event	\$320,185
Donated Goods and Services	\$173,504
Tour Income	\$237,605
TOTAL	\$3,365,424

EXPENSES

Concert Production	\$234,226
Orchestra Operations	\$874,315
Intensive Community Program (direct cost only)	\$349,151
Camp	\$257,559
Financial Aid	\$142,956
Administrative Salaries and Benefits	\$741,846
Other Administrative	\$270,178
Tour	\$237,785
Marketing	\$113,186
Fundraising (includes special event costs)	\$141,001
TOTAL	\$3,362,203
Net	\$3,221

2017-2018 TEAM

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***indicates new member for FY19.



BYSO staff and students with Mayor Marty Walsh at the 2018 Gala on March 10.

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