Dear Friends,

At Tune Up Philly—as well as throughout the entire Philadelphia Youth Orchestra organization—we take pride in ensuring that the universal gift and language of music is available to all. Founded in 1939, Philadelphia Youth Orchestra’s rock-solid, sustained history is grounded in the capability to reach into our diverse communities, ensuring that music touches and shapes the lives of young students. One of our primary goals is to prepare our students to be successful, contributing members of their communities maximizing potential wherever we find it. We welcome and appreciate your generosity and support of our mission.

With much gratitude,
Louis Scaglione,
President and Music Director
Philadelphia Youth Orchestra

Tune Up Philly is a groundbreaking engagement program developed and delivered by the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra that focuses on creating and inspiring true community evolution through both the power of music and purposeful connection.

Influenced by the teachings of the international El Sistema Movement, Tune Up Philly provides children in under-resourced communities with invaluable opportunities to learn and perform a differentiated orchestral music curriculum while simultaneously engaging life-skills that will ultimately make a true difference in their lives.
How
Tune Up Philly
Orchestrates Success

• Focus on creating and inspiring real community evolution, with instruction offered within many of Philadelphia's under-resourced communities

• Students develop character, fortitude, and confidence that promote positive role models among Philadelphia’s youth

• Intensive musical programming incubates the student and fills critical out-of-school time gaps

• Each year students use the skills learned in orchestra to matriculate to competitive academic and performing arts environments

“Music really helped me get into a great music high school, and I don’t know what I would do without it. Mr. Paul is the greatest mentor I ever had.”
— Toni C., French horn, TUP student attending String Theory HS.

“Music makes me feel like I can do anything.”
— Sean A., trumpet, TUP student attending People for People Charter School.
“Tune Up Philly is a testament that children of all communities thrive in our model Orchestra as they develop character, responsibility, and the tools to define their futures.”

—Paul Smith, Director, Tune Up Philly

• Opportunities for students to gain the skills needed to succeed in the competitive high-school application process, into their college years and throughout a lifetime of employment outside of music performance
• A forum of connecting and advancing students with additional learning and performance opportunities throughout the Philadelphia area
• Assistance, coaching, and audition preparation when applying for peer musical organizations
• The opportunity to work under Director Paul Smith, who since 2011, has worked to develop Tune Up Philly into the successful program that it is today
• Engaging faculty of talented, committed, and socially conscious musical mentors
• Exposure to positive peer models of excellence in the performing arts
• Opportunities for students without arts access to actively participate in Philadelphia’s cultural institutions through frequent performances at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts; a community arts partnership with Temple University; impactful collaborations with The Barnes Foundations, Free Library of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Orchestra, Philadelphia Phillies, and The Philly Pops

“I guess all the practicing finally paid off.”

—Marcus T., clarinet, TUP student after performing side-by-side with The Philadelphia Orchestra.
Tune Up Philly Sponsors

We thank the following foundations and corporations for their support:

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The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra is designated an Educational Improvement Organization (EIO) and OSTC Scholarship Organization under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit program. Please contact the PYO office to learn how your company can contribute through the EIO and/or OSTC tax credit programs.

Get Involved

To learn how your school or community organization can partner with Tune Up Philly to create and inspire community evolution through the power of music learning, please contact the PYO office at 215 545 0502.

Support

The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra organization relies on the generous support of individual donors, corporations, and foundations to continue to fulfill its important mission. The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Please support our students with a tax-deductible contribution: pyos.org/support.

Philadelphia Youth Orchestra
P.O. Box 41810
Philadelphia, PA 19101-1810
Office: 215 545 0502
Email: info@pyos.org
www.pyos.org

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