2019 ANNUAL REPORT
Friends,

Last year feels like a distant memory. The profound changes and upheaval to our lives, routines, and traditions these past months have challenged every one of us. With it, the disruption also brings the opportunity and responsibility to reflect, re-imagine, and re-engage our world to the benefit of all. One thing has not changed during this time: music education possesses a unique power to transform kids’ lives for the better; and all kids deserve access to the power of music in their lives.

As we all navigate these times, Youth Music Project remains committed as ever to ensure that all kids – regardless of their family’s socio-economic background – have consistent opportunities to explore their creativity; to learn, stretch, and grow through the simple, joyful, and therapeutic act of learning and playing music. We are dedicated to being positive community stewards, striving always to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organization at all levels as we work to share and spread the power of music with all kids and families. We are devoted, as always, to bringing a spirit of improvisation, flexibility, and adaptability – skills every musician should have in their tool belt – to meet and rise to the challenges that face us as we create the songs of tomorrow.

Thank YOU for helping to make 2019 one of our most successful years and for joining us to keep the music strong for all kids in 2020 and beyond.

In gratitude and in music,

Travis Magrane
Executive Director

“There are very few rooms that we walk into in the Portland area that are as diverse as the recital hall on the days that we come to watch her perform.”

—Parent of YMP Student
I know 15 different ways to find success. One way or another we’re gonna find a way to have a musical success in our jam time.”
—YMP Instructor

**OUR MISSION**

To provide outstanding rock, pop, and country music education for youth by offering tuition assistance, instrument rentals, and exceptional, state-of-the-art performance opportunities.

**OUR VISION**

Children’s lives are transformed through the power of music.

**OUR VALUES**

- To offer excellence in teaching and mentoring
- To create a safe and supportive space for the shared appreciation of music and musicianship
- To remove barriers to entry and provide a high degree of respect, tolerance, empathy and compassion
- To be a high-performing team of staff members, instructors, and volunteers

**WHAT WE OFFER**

- Private Lessons
- Group Classes
- Early Childhood Classes
- Family Classes
- Rock Bands
- Open Mic Night
- Field Trips
- Instrument Rentals
- Workshops
- Summer Camps
- Tuition Assistance

**INSTRUMENTS WE TEACH**

- Guitar
- Bass
- Drums
- Piano
- Voice
- Violin
- Ukulele

**DELIVERING ON OUR MISSION**
In 2019, a team of YMP staff and board members completed an intensive 8-month process focused on defining and measuring programmatic impacts. The work culminated in the underscoring of four primary program objectives, and the redevelopment of parent survey and feedback processes designed to measure intended impact vs. actual impacts reported by families. The overarching goal is to prove and improve positive impacts and outcomes for our families.

**Program Objectives**

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<th>Impact We Strive To Make</th>
<th>How We Measure Impact</th>
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<td><strong>Youth Have A Lifelong Appreciation Of And Engagement With Music</strong>&lt;br&gt; Youth’s experiences are shaped through positive instruction and exposure to a variety of music genres resulting in an appreciation for all music and the arts.</td>
<td>• Skill level on their instrument&lt;br&gt; • Appreciation for music</td>
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<td><strong>Youth Engage In And Develop A Sense Of Belonging In Community</strong>&lt;br&gt; Youth feel accepted and valued and have regular opportunities to practice and strengthen collaboration and communication skills.</td>
<td>• Comfort level with interpersonal relationships&lt;br&gt; • Comfort level with participation in group projects&lt;br&gt; • Collaboration</td>
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<td><strong>Youth Develop A Greater Confidence And A Positive Sense Of Identity</strong>&lt;br&gt; Youth feel free to be who they truly are, and are given opportunities to progress and succeed.</td>
<td>• Confidence&lt;br&gt; • Awareness of their own strengths&lt;br&gt; • Willingness to try new things&lt;br&gt; • Willingness to stretch their comfort zone</td>
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<td><strong>Youth Cultivate Growth Mindset And Perseverance</strong>&lt;br&gt; Youth believe that ability is developed through practice and persistence and embrace obstacles and mistakes as part of the learning process.</td>
<td>• Awareness of their areas for growth&lt;br&gt; • Excitement to learn and grow&lt;br&gt; • Resilience when making mistakes&lt;br&gt; • Awareness that progress is a direct result of effort</td>
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Every quarter, YMP surveys families a series of questions about what has changed for their child as a result of participation in our programs. Eighty to ninety percent of parents who responded reported growth in these areas.
Creating Community

Music is a kind of magic and medicine all rolled into one – it captivates the body, illuminates the mind, inspires the spirit, moves, heals, and brings us together in ways nothing else can. YMP harnesses the power of music to embrace, honor, and strengthen diversity within our community through positive youth development.

“She magically got paired with her soul mate of a teacher. They figured out together that instead of learning the piano by playing someone else’s music they write their own. And it is perfect for her.”

—Parent of YMP Student
FINANCIALS

We believe all kids should have access to music education, regardless of family income. Tuition assistance is available for up to 100% if eligibility is determined by federal financial income guidelines or placement in foster care. In 2019, $302,501 in tuition assistance was awarded to 514 students.

"I could see him being a rock star. I know he feels like one when he’s here."
—Parent of YMP Student
WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

In April, we celebrated yet another wildly successful benefit auction, “With a Little Help From Our Friends.” Student performances knocked the socks off over 200 guests and Dave Dahl, co-founder of Dave’s Killer Bread, gave a heartfelt and inspiring keynote, followed by an original song about the power of music. This annual event raised more than $200,000 for our tuition assistance fund and we couldn’t have done it without the support of our amazing community of friends. Thank you!

PRACTICE-A-THON

Youth Music Project held it’s 3rd annual practice competition at the end of fall term. Students track their practice minutes, gather pledges, and can win some awesome prizes like ukuleles and karaoke machines in both the top practice minutes and top earner categories! Thirty-eight students participated their hearts out, practicing a whopping total of 9,920 minutes and raising $1,783 to support our programs!

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS

Youth Music Project students performed on the court before the Blazers vs. Suns game on March 10! A portion of each ticket we sold was donated back to support Youth Music Project! This was the second year YMP has participated, another wonderful performance opportunity for our students!

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

We had the support of 75 volunteers in 2019, more than ever before! These amazing community members helped us put on our annual benefit, and by welcoming and assisting the over 5,000 audience members that attend our end of term concerts each quarter at Youth Music Project. Thank you, volunteers!

“I really like music and it makes me feel nice and cozy inside. Like when I have hot chocolate.”

—YMP Student
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

DANIEL MONAHAN

Daniel started taking guitar lessons at YMP at the age of 15. His talent and love of music is leading him to attend the University of Oregon in the fall of 2020, and he was invited to become a music major in their Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies Program! Way to go Daniel!

"The Youth Music Project gave me the opportunity to explore my love for music in a welcoming and supportive community full of talented and dedicated musicians. Thanks to their open mics and seasonal concerts every musician has a safe place to perform and experience the stage."

—Daniel Monahan

FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT

THE CHILES FOUNDATION

In 2019 we are shining a spotlight on the Chiles Foundation to celebrate their three-year, $75,000 grant in support of YMP’s tuition assistance fund. This local foundation’s primary focus is to assist and support educational and medical advancements and their generous gift has us singing from the rooftops!

Grant awards from foundations are crucial in helping us to fulfill our mission. When a foundation awards a multi-year grant, it speaks to their commitment to our work and the youth we serve.

Thank you, Chiles Foundation, for helping us to fulfill our mission, we are grateful for your support!

"I’m thrilled for him in this accomplishment, and I’m excited to see what the future holds for him. Congrats, Daniel!"

—Evan Mustard, Daniel’s YMP instructor
INTERN PROGRAM

One of the most important ingredients to Youth Music Project’s success is our Intern Program. We employ high school-age students each year to assist music instructors in group classes and summer camps, and to assist in running programmatic events such as quarterly student concerts, open mic nights, and more. As part of their employment they also receive coaching to develop and cultivate work and life skills so that their experience here intentionally supports and connects to their future goals.

Outside of the classrooms, the Interns work together on an annual Capstone project that pushes them to collaborate with each other, make community connections, and follow through on details culminating in an event or project that serves the community. In 2019, Interns hosted an event in Youth Music Project’s Meteor Lounge called “A Night in the 90s.” The event was to raise awareness and promote teen mental health through music and was packed with 1990’s live music and guest speakers who shared personal stories and resources.

Another perk of being a Youth Music Project Intern is the invitation to join the Intern Band. The Intern Band is an opportunity for each band member to really hone their musicianship through playing with each other, developing setlists for performances, and learning how to captivate the stage. Our Intern Band plays at gigs in the community all year long. In the summer you can find them at the West Linn Street Dance and the West Linn Summer Market in Downtown Willamette. In 2019 they also performed at the Multi-City Equity Summit in Lake Oswego, in store at Music Millennium, and as part of the Prelude Performance series at the Oregon Symphony.

“If it were not for Youth Music Project, I can’t imagine how he would have had the courage and the know how to take the stage like he did!”

—Parent of YMP student

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

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$10,000 AND ABOVE

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5+ years | 2+ years

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“Everyone we have talked to is really impressed with how you are teaching the kids to perform — fluid on multiple instruments, and ready to bring it with stage presence.”

—Parent of YMP student
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SEE A MISTAKE? LET US KNOW!

We do our best to keep this list up to date and accurate. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Years of Support: $ 5+ years | $ 2+ years

“You guys really deserve praise and thanks and congratulations for having done such good work with him.”

—Parent of YMP student
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"When they come into that lesson it is like a musical spaceship and we’re not gonna be in the world of stress and whatever’s goin’ on in your life. We’re just gonna jam."

—YMP Instructor