



The Harmony Program

2012



Mission



At the Harmony Program, we believe that music should be an integral part of every child's education and that great expectations lead to even greater achievement. We believe that by training young musicians and building youth orchestras in underserved neighborhoods, we not only shape the lives of our children but also engage and inspire their parents and their broader communities.



The Harmony Program provides daily after-school music lessons to children from economically disadvantaged communities.

Harmony's unique model taps the city's college- and graduate-level music students as teachers, training them to develop the talents of young people who would not ordinarily be exposed to music education.

Guiding Principles



Harmony Program Priorities:

Daily Instruction: Students receive daily instruction, including small group lessons, general music classes, and ensemble/orchestra rehearsals.

Emphasis on Ensembles: Early immersion in an orchestral community helps students develop important life skills, including cooperation, commitment, self-expression, and respect.

Musical Diversity: The curriculum seeks to engage and excite students through their exposure to classical repertoire as well as other genres of music.

Drawing from Venezuela's world-famous model of music education, “**El Sistema**,” the Harmony Program fosters a supportive community for program participants and families, emphasizes the influence of music-making on social development, encourages learning through ensemble performance, and requires of all involved a high degree of commitment to daily music study.

Students

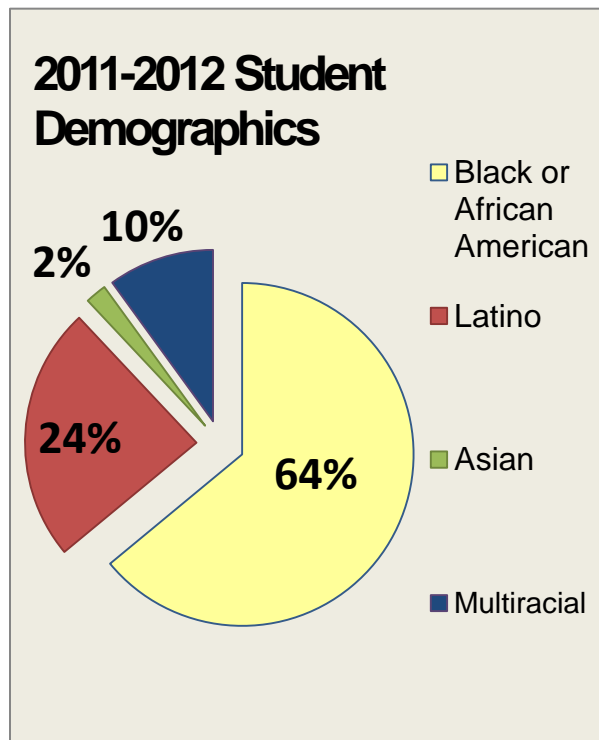


Children enrolled in the Harmony Program are elementary and middle school students without access to instrumental music instruction.

Interested students complete applications and are asked to write a brief essay describing their interest in music.

Participating children receive daily music lessons, musical instruments, books, supplies, and cultural activities, entirely free of charge.

An estimated 77% of students at Harmony Program partner sites are eligible for the Federal Free Lunch Program.

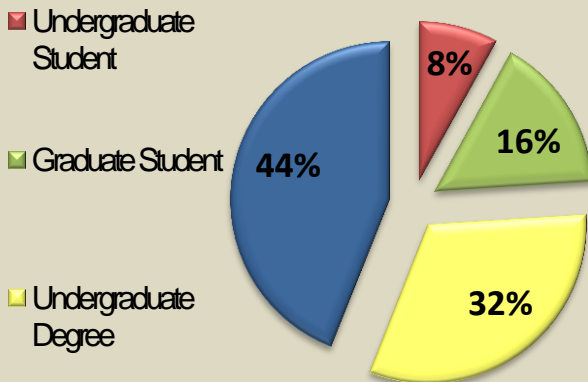


Teachers



The Harmony Program recruits college students and recent alumni from music programs and trains them to teach instrumental music in nearby public schools and community centers.

Current Education Status of Harmony Program Teachers



*95% of Harmony Program teachers completed their most recent degree in the past three years .

Benefits of Teaching with the Harmony Program:

*Up to 300 hours of paid teaching experience each year

*Ongoing professional development

*Network of musicians and educators

Our diverse and talented group of teachers hail from a variety of schools, including Columbia, Yale, Princeton, Juilliard, and the Manhattan School of Music, among others.

Results

85%

(or better)

Harmony Program
daily attendance rate

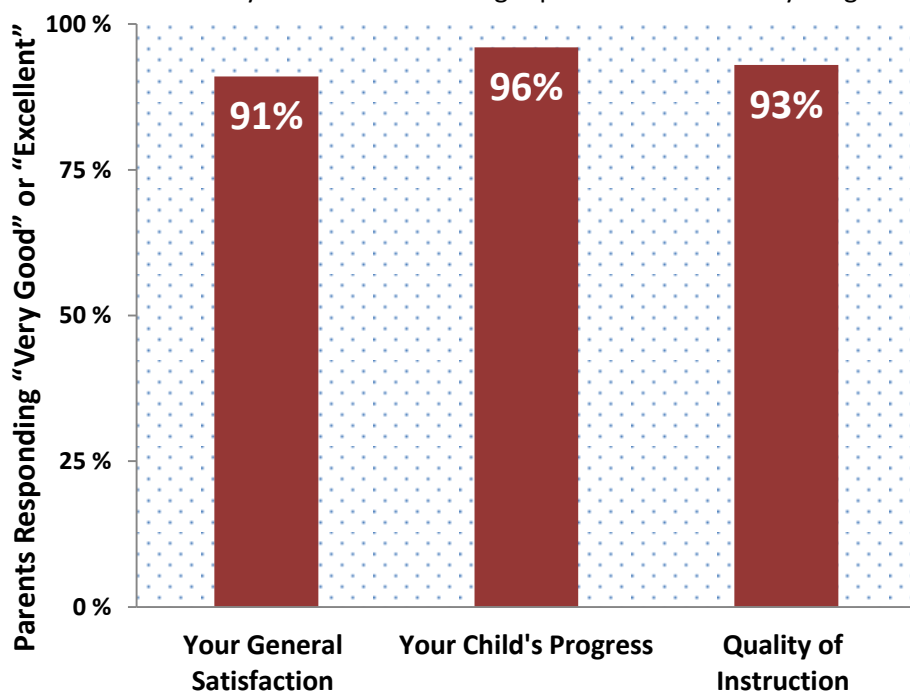


Since its inception, the Harmony Program has seen annual attendance rates for daily after-school music lessons at or above 85 percent.

In annual surveys of participating parents, the Harmony Program receives unanimously high ratings with respect to the quality of its teaching, the progress of its students, and overall satisfaction with the program.

2011- 2012 Parent Feedback

How would you rate the following aspects of the Harmony Program?





The Harmony Program continues to raise awareness of its mission and model through local and national media coverage.

The Harmony Program's Recent Press:

 **PBS NEWSHOUR** **WQXR** ::

DAILY NEWS  **CBS**
NYDAILYNEWS.COM

EYEWITNESS NEWS  **Los Angeles Times** 

AP **Associated Press** **NEW YORK POST**

The New York Times **WALL STREET JOURNAL**
 **Brooklyn Daily Eagle** **Institutional Investor**

Recent highlights include profiles of teachers and students, reports on concerts and events, and features on the Harmony Program's ongoing efforts to expand access to music education.

Funding

Selected Program Sponsors:

The Bernstein Family Foundation

The Brooklyn Community Foundation

The CKEW Foundation

The City University of New York

The Harnisch Foundation

NYC Council Member Jumaane Williams

NYC Department of Cultural Affairs

Goldman Sachs

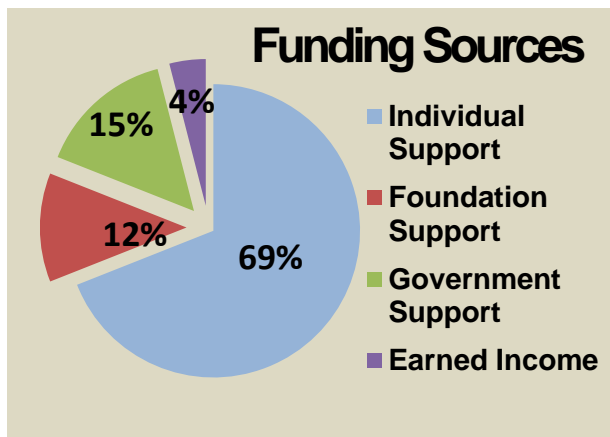
Robbins – de Beaumont Foundation

Akin Gump, LLP

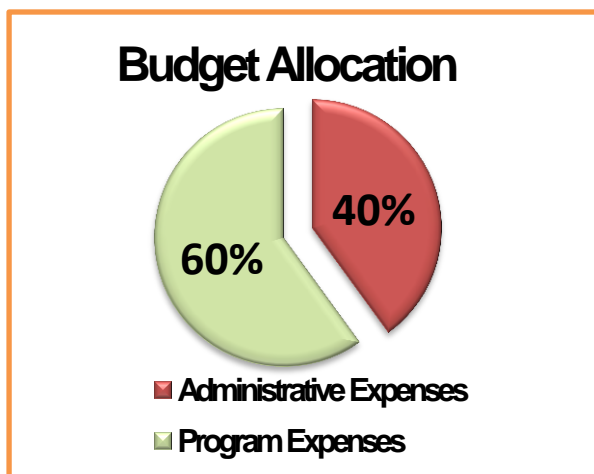
R.G. Niederhoffer Capital Management

NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

New York State Council on the Arts



Plácido Domingo at the 2012 Annual Harmony Program Gala Waltz



Funding for the Harmony Program ranges from large institutional and government grants to small gifts from individual donors.

Support for the Harmony Program continues to grow. From FY11 to FY12, contributed income increased by over 45%.*

"Sometimes it's hard not to smile. When I finish school and I come into Harmony, when I play that first note it makes me smile. And sometimes I try to hide that smile, but I just can't because it's amazing."

-Julian, violin student, Brooklyn

"I love music, but I did not have the opportunity to take music lessons when I was young. Having that door open for my son is a miracle and a blessing."

- Harmony Program parent



"The Harmony Program truly values and understands the importance of the teaching artist. In my opinion it is the best thing a college student or graduate could do to build their skills and their resume."

- Oliver Barrett, trombone teacher, Harlem

"I have seen changes in terms of behavior, in terms of attendance in school, which has improved – just their mannerisms, their tone, and how they carry themselves."

- Odelphia Pierre, Principal, PS 129

The Harmony Program is an efficient and highly replicable model of intensive music instruction.

With proven experience serving elementary and middle school students in public schools and community centers, the program is well poised and eager to bring music education into the lives of more of the City's children.