NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

XIAN ZHANG MUSIC DIRECTOR

Community Partners Monthly Highlights

June 2025

In June, musicians served more than **800** community members of all ages, through **23** events across **11** New Jersey counties.



Cape May Music Festival

On June 1, Bart Feller, Michelle Farah, Juan Martinez, Andrea Menousek, and Bob Wagner performed at the Cape May Music Festival in Cape May. The festival featured a variety of ensembles, from quintets to quartets and duos, captivating the audience throughout the concert. The musicians shared brief anecdotes and insights about the music, including interactive moments that invited the audience to listen for distinctive sounds, creating an engaging and enjoyable concert experience.

Preschool Program

This month, Mark Timmerman, Kathleen Nester, and Jonathan Storck visited preschoolers at UVSO's "Ivy Hill" and "1033" locations in Newark, which concluded this year's preschool series. The students enjoyed getting up close and personal with the instruments, discovering how they make sound, and enjoying live tunes. A highlight was when Mark blew a deep, low note on the bassoon and let the students feel the vibrations near their ears, sparking laughter and excitement.



Made possible by generous support from the PNC Foundation.



Peace Care St. Joseph's

On June 11, Thierry de Lucas Neves and Hyewon Kim performed at Peace Care St. Joseph's, a nursing provider serving senior residents in the Jersey City community. The performance, which featured a mix of classical and pop music, took place under a gazebo in their newly renovated healing garden. Residents were able to chat and listen throughout the evening, while familiar tunes sparked smiles, creating a memorable atmosphere of shared joy and connection.

Grandview Terrace

On June 12, Angela Gosse, John Dent, Andrea Menousek, Levi Boylan, and Derek Fenstermacher performed a lively outdoor brass quintet concert at Grandview Terrace, a senior living community beside the Bergen Arches in Jersey City. The quintet's blend of American jazz, ragtime, and patriotic tunes filled the air, bringing joy to all. In addition, attendees heard updates on the Bergen Arches Master Plan and other local transportation initiatives, bringing together community and music in a memorable event.



Presented in partnership with ArtsEd Newark and Newark City Parks Foundation.

Make Music Day

On June 21, Vernon Post and Sasha Neglia brought the joy of music to Lincoln Park in Newark, in celebration of Make Music Day, a global event that invites people of all ages and experience to come together and make music in public spaces. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about the musicians' backgrounds and even explore and experiment with string and brass instruments, which made for an engaging and hands-on musical experience.

As always, thank you for your support of the Community Partners program.

Stay tuned for the next edition of Monthly Highlights!