

# NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

XIAN ZHANG MUSIC DIRECTOR

## Community Partners Monthly Highlights

# May

*In May, musicians served more than **2,000** community members of all ages, through **36** events across **10** New Jersey counties.*



## National Nurses Week

In celebration of National Nurses Week, Music and Wellness events were held at Jersey City Medical Center, Saint Peter's Hospital, and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. These performances brought smiles to nurses, doctors, staff, and patients, honoring the dedication and compassion of nurses. David Southorn, Adriana Rosin, Darryl Kubian, Ann Kossakowski, John Connelly, Sasha Neglia, Youngsun Kim, Chris Terhune, Henry Kao, Ted Ackerman, Mike Stewart, Hyewon Kim, Philo Lee, and Angelique Montes shared the restorative power of live music throughout the hospitals. These events were generously funded by Johnson & Johnson.

## Preschool Program

This month, Greg LaRosa, Mark Timmerman, Juan Martinez, and Bart Feller visited Newark School of the Arts, Luis Muñoz Marín School, and George Washington Carver Elementary School for a series of engaging and interactive performances for 3–5 year olds. Students enjoyed classic sing-along favorites like *If You're Happy and You Know It*, *Baby Shark*, and *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*. The musicians also led fun demonstrations of the bassoon, saxophone, cajón, flute, and clarinet, introducing students to the unique sounds and personalities of each instrument. These visits were generously funded by the PNC Foundation.





## Blair Academy

On May 9, Xin Zhao, Angelique Montes, Thierry de Lucas Neves, and Martin Anderson performed alongside the talented symphony orchestra at Blair Academy in Blairstown, NJ. The musicians also led a masterclass with students from the chamber orchestra. The Academy looks forward to welcoming more visiting musicians next season.

## Forest Hill Community Association

On May 10, Adriana Rosin, Youngsun Kim, Mike Stewart, and Hyewon Kim brought the *Musical Changemakers* program to Third Presbyterian Church in Newark, NJ. Following a reception, patrons were treated to a powerful performance that celebrated the transformative power of music and community. This opportunity was made possible through the generous support of the TD Charitable Foundation.



## National Alliance for Audition Support

From May 27–30, Alex Bickard traveled to Miami, FL to serve as a mentor for the National Alliance for Audition Support (NAAS). This initiative, led by the Sphinx Organization in partnership with the New World Symphony and the League of American Orchestras, supports Black and Latino musicians by providing mentoring, audition preparation, and audition previews. Along with musicians from Cincinnati Symphony, San Diego Symphony, and the U.S. Navy Band, Alex supported participants in developing their performance and audition skills through focused preparation and guidance.



As always, thank you for your support of the Community Partners program. Stay tuned for the next edition of Monthly Highlights!