

Community Partners Monthly Highlights

September 2025

In September, musicians served more than **2,000** community members of all ages, through **12** events across **7** New Jersey counties.



Greenwood Gardens

On September 5, Helen Vassiliou, Thierry de Lucas Neves, Christine Terhune, and Hyewon Kim performed the *Ladies First* program at Greenwood Gardens in Short Hills. The program featured works by pioneering women composers, including Maddalena Casulana's *Madrigal VI*, "Morte! Che vôi? Te chiamo" and Clara Schumann's "Warum wisst du andre frage," Op. 12, No.3. Surrounded by stunning gardens, attendees enjoyed wine, cheese, and even a leisurely walk before the concert began.

Undead Arts Stoop Concert

On September 12, New Jersey Symphony collaborated with Undead Arts to present "A Zombie Opera Pop Up Concert" for "Jersey City Fridays", a free, city-wide arts initiative.

The performance featured violinist Thierry de Lucas Neves, tenor Jeremy Brauner, and soprano Brenna Markey. The crowd filled the sidewalk and overflowed onto the street, with passing cars slowing to catch the music. Thierry's performance of *Czardas* by Vittorio Monti was the highlight of the night, inspiring both children and adults to dance along.





Montclair Foundation

On September 13, Eric Wyrick, Brett Deubner, and Jonathan Spitz opened the Montclair Foundation's inaugural Concert Series at the Van Vleck House. They performed Franz Schubert's String Trio in B-flat major, D. 581, Gideon Klein's String Trio, Ludwig van Beethoven's String Trio in G Major, Op. 9, No. 1, closing with a moving arrangement of Camille Saen-Saens' "The Swan." Montclair State University Cali School of Music students Justeen Valere and Niles Scott—alumni of the Cali Pathways program and the New Jersey Symphony Youth Orchestra—opened the program with a performance of Rossini's Duet for Cello and Bass.

KidsFest

On September 20, New Jersey Symphony partnered with the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association for KidsFest, which is part of Newark PorchFest. Frank Foerster, Héctor Falcón, and Sarah Seiver performed *The Troll and the Dinosaur*, accompanied by narrator Crystal Gaynor. Families and children in attendance were excited by the lively music and storytelling, brought to life with colorful props. The program concluded with a lively can-can that invited all to join in the fun!



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Bayshore Medical Center

On September 25, Youngsun Kim, Ann Kossakowski, Martin Andersen, and Sarah Seiver performed in the lobby of Bayshore Medical Center in Holmdel for patients, staff, and healthcare professionals. Their performance created a welcoming atmosphere, providing a calm and relaxing pause amid the hospital's busy environment.

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