

Community Partners Monthly Highlights

July 2026

In July, musicians served more than **1,500** community members of all ages, through **15** events across **6** New Jersey counties.



Sandy Hook Foundation

On July 3, Tiago Linck, Katie Jordan, Zach Neikens, James DeLaGarza, and Sam George performed a program of patriotic favorites for guests of the Sandy Hook Foundation at Gateway National Recreation Area. The music accompanied a cocktail reception at Fort Hancock, where guests gathered to enjoy views of the tall ships during Sail4th250, in celebration of America's 250th anniversary.

Newark Public Library

This month we kicked off our partnership with Newark Public Library's summer reading program. Sarah Seiver, Zach Marzulli, and Jesus Saenz visited different library branches in Newark to share a musical story time program that aligns with the summer reading theme, "Unearth A Story". Each visit combined music with dinosaur-themed stories and interactive songs and activities that help children explore the meaning of this year's theme. The story time concluded with children digging through a bucket of blocks to unearth a dinosaur of their own to take home!





Palisades Medical Center

On July 8, Youngsun Kim, Francine Storck, Christine Terhune, and Hyewon Kim brought live music to staff and visitors at the Palisades Medical Center in North Bergen. This Music & Wellness program was well received, with one staff member sharing, “Thank you for coming today. You gave me a brief time of happiness and peace.” This performance was made possible through the generous support of Hackensack Meridian Health.

American Dream Mall

On July 16, Greg LaRosa and Jesus Saenz performed Global Grooves at “The Garden State Creates” event at American Dream Mall in East Rutherford. Presented by The Bridge Art Gallery’s Bridge Visionaries series, the event brought together leaders from the arts, education, and cultural sectors to explore the intersections of art, innovation, and impact. This special program featured a medley of music from Spain and Argentina, tying the event’s focus on global arts to the excitement surrounding the FIFA final. The event also included a fireside chat on the power of institutional collaboration with Terry D. Loftis, President and CEO of New Jersey Symphony, and Samuel Pott, Artistic Director of Nimbus Dance.



Rowan University

On July 22, Jim Tsao, Jesus Saenz, Frank Foerster, and Philo Lee performed as part of New Jersey Symphony’s Rowan University debut at Pflieger Concert Hall. Presented as part of the Marie Rader Presenting Series, the program, “To My Nation,” featured chamber music in celebration of America’s 250th anniversary. The musicians performed works by Felix Mendelssohn, Antonín Dvořák, Florence Price, and Jessie Montgomery, with Rowan University faculty members and alumni joining them for the Dvořák and Mendelssohn.

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