

NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

XIAN ZHANG MUSIC DIRECTOR

Community Partners Monthly Highlights

June 2026

In June, musicians served more than **1,300** community members of all ages, through **20** events across **9** New Jersey counties.



Center for Modern Aging

On June 10, Derek Fenstermacher, Levi Boylan, Andrea Menousek, Mike Baker, and Olivia Pidi performed the Patriotic Favorites program at Stone Hill Church of Princeton, presented in partnership with the Center for Modern Aging. The audience was highly engaged throughout the performance, enthusiastically participating in the post-concert Q&A and sharing thoughtful questions with the musicians. Several attendees stayed afterward to continue conversations with the musicians, reflecting the strong connection fostered by the event. This performance was generously sponsored by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Steeplechase Cancer Center

On June 11, Youngsun Kim, Fatima Aaziza, Mike Stewart, and Philo Lee brought live music to patients, staff, and healthcare workers at the Steeplechase Cancer Center in Somerville in recognition of National Cancer Survivorship Week. Their performance was warmly received, with patients, visitors, and staff taking time to listen and enjoy the music. The live music provided a welcoming and uplifting experience for those in attendance. This Music & Wellness visit was generously supported by Johnson & Johnson.





Clifton Arts Center

On June 12, Brennan Sweet, Thierry de Lucas Neves, Brett Deubner, and Hyewon Kim performed at the Clifton Arts Center as part of a celebration for America's 250th anniversary. The program was paired with artwork by local visual artists, creating a unique experience that brought together music and visual art. Audience members enjoyed the opportunity to experience live chamber music while viewing the featured works on display.

Cape May Music Festival

On June 18, Darryl Kubian, Ming Yang, David Blinn, and Philo Lee performed at the Cape May Music Festival. The program featured works by Haydn, Mendelssohn, Amy Beach, and Beethoven, which received a standing ovation from the audience! The performance was warmly received, and attendees expressed their appreciation for the musicians and the opportunity to experience live chamber music as part of the festival.



Garret Wall Park

On June 20, Tiago Linck, Andrea Menousek, Zach Neikens, Felipe Britto, and Angela Gosse performed at Garret Wall Park as part of Warren County's celebration of America's 250th anniversary. More than 150 audience members gathered in the park to enjoy a program featuring beloved patriotic selections, including "The Star-Spangled Banner," as well as jazz favorites. This performance in Warren County was integral in fulfilling the Symphony's mission to reach all 21 counties of New Jersey in a given year!

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