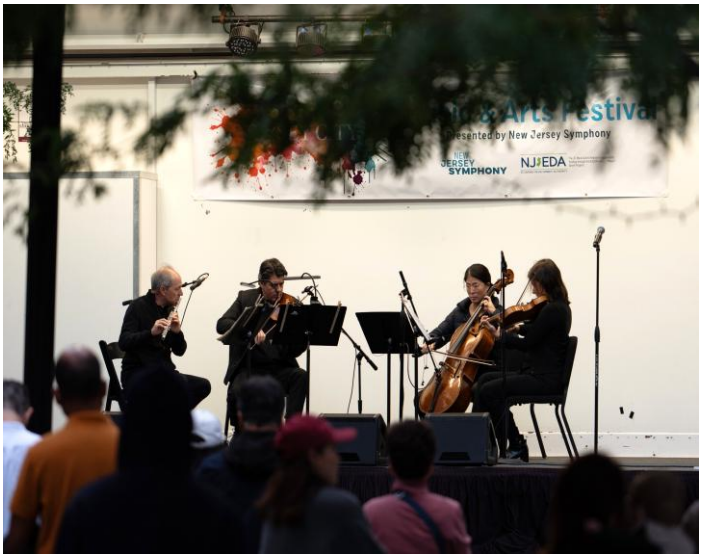
NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY

XIAN ZHANG MUSIC DIRECTOR

Community Partners Monthly Highlights

October 2026

In October, musicians served more than **3,000** community members of all ages, through **19** events across **6** New Jersey counties.



Jersey City Music & Arts Festival

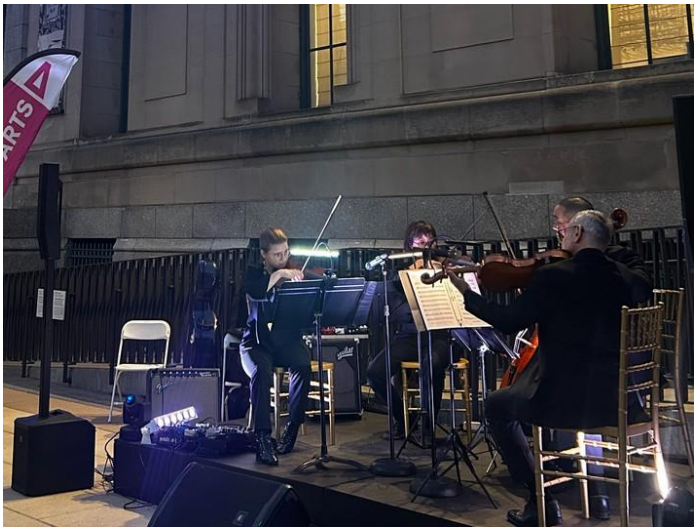
From September 24–October 3, New Jersey Symphony presented the Jersey Music & Arts Festival at Provost Square Plaza, featuring eight days of free music, dance, family activities, and wellness events. Highlights included chamber music performances, Instrument Discovery Zones, salsa dancing, and a collaboration with Nimbus Dance. This Festival was supported by funding through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority's A.R.T. – Phase II Grant Program.

NJ EDA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Cooper University Hospital

On October 7, John Connelly, Chris Terhune, and Noah Chen visited Cooper University Hospital in Camden for a Music & Wellness performance sponsored by Johnson & Johnson. The trio shared string quartet selections in the hospital's MD Anderson Cancer Center, and then in the main hospital lobby for patients, families, and staff, offering a moment of relaxation and connection through music.





Newark Arts Festival

On October 8, Helen Vassiliou, Youngsun Kim, David Blinn, and Noah Chen performed the Viral Virtuosos program as guests entered the Newark Arts Council Ball at Newark Museum of Art, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Newark Arts Festival.

On October 10, Anderson Romero led an Instrument Discovery Zone as part of NAF Kids at Newark Vocational High School, giving children and families the opportunity to explore musical instruments. Both events were sponsored by the TD Charitable Foundation.

The Montclair Foundation

On October 17, New Jersey Symphony musicians Ming Yang, Youngsun Kim, David Blinn, and Philo Lee performed a string quartet program featuring works by Haydn, Amy Beach, and Beethoven as part of the Montclair Foundation's Cultural Arts Series at Van Vleck House & Gardens. During intermission, students from Montclair State University's Cali Pathways Program performed a jazz duo.





Newark Board of Education Professional Development

On October 21, Naomi Youngstein, Mark Timmerman, and Anderson Romero led professional development workshops for Newark Public School music teachers at Roberto Clemente Elementary School. Organized annually by NJPAC, the professional development day included sessions on instrumental techniques, instrument care, ensemble playing, and student practice, encouraging collaboration and idea-sharing between teachers and professional musicians.

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