

tutti

adjective [too-tee; *Italian* toot-tee]

1. all; all the voices or instruments together

Together Again: Annual Report 2022



soundscapes

Changing lives through music

Reflections on the Year

A message from Soundscapes Board Chairperson Patrick McDermott



Dear Friends of Soundscapes,

No moment from the 2021-22 year better captured the joy of performing together than watching 120 students from all three Soundscapes programs perform “Ode to Joy” at our April concert at the Ferguson Center for the Arts. The performance was a part of Christopher Newport University’s Virginia Community Music Festival, and it was a true milestone for the students, their families, their teachers and the community. As I’ve said many times, the lessons learned along the way to performing in a music ensemble are the lessons that will transform these young people into the community leaders of the near future.

As we reflect back on this year, Tutti, a musical term that means “with all voices or instruments performing together” best describes the year. Being together again in person at programs, performances and events was an extraordinary feeling!

A second highlight for me was the re-launch of the full Peninsula Youth Orchestra under Soundscapes management in fall of 2021. The youth orchestra has enjoyed performing at The American Theatre. In June, Hampton Arts announced PYO would be a new resident company at The American Theatre as part of its Lighthouse Series of local performing artists. This is truly a wonderful opportunity for PYO and a benefit to the larger community.

In spring, Soundscapes gave its first Citizen Artist Award. This honor was given to Lance Fox, a student who exemplifies the values of Soundscapes and displays what it means to be a citizen artist throughout life. This student has been with the program since 2009, and continues to perform as part of the PYO.

These are just a few of the highlights from the year. Because of your continued support, we were able to have these experiences, grow our programs, and share the gift of music with the community. I’m proud to share the other highlights of the year with you through the 2021-22 annual report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick B. McDermott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick B. McDermott
Soundscapes Board Chairperson

About Us

Our Mission

To invest in our communities by providing immersive, engaging music-making and ensemble performance opportunities for young people to strengthen social, emotional, creative, and critical thinking skills.

Our Method

Soundscapes is an El Sistema-inspired, nonprofit, youth development organization in Southeastern Virginia that uses music instruction and ensemble performance to develop life skills in students.

Our Students

Soundscapes is designed to support young people who face barriers to their success due to situations outside their control like systematic racism, poverty, and speaking English as a second language. Over 80% of the students at Soundscapes are from families considered economically disadvantaged.

Our Programs

- The **daily after-school programs** take place for two hours every day during the school year at Carver Elementary and Greenwood Elementary Schools in Newport News. These programs are free to all participants.
- The **Peninsula Youth Orchestra** is open to intermediate and advanced student musicians across the area up to age 25, and meets once per week. PYO is offered on a sliding scale to make it affordable for all.
- The week-long **summer camps** give students from all of our programs opportunities to keep the fun and learning going while school is not in session.

Want to Learn More?

Visit us online at soundscapes.org/about



The Re-Launch of PYO

The Peninsula Youth Orchestra became a program of Soundscapes in 2020 and funding from Impact 100 Greater Peninsula has helped us rejuvenate and rebuild this program. PYO has grown its membership to include a diverse group of students ages 12-25, from across the Peninsula and from a variety of backgrounds. Because of this, the students are growing and learning together in a unique way that can't be found anywhere else on the Peninsula. The Peninsula Youth Orchestra makes programming inclusive and accessible by offering participation on a sliding scale based on household income. This is possible thanks to our supporters! PYO has had an exciting year with numerous performances at local venues, including the Ferguson Center for the Arts, The American Theatre, and at churches and community gatherings.



Community Concert

Soundscapes was invited to participate in the Virginia Community Music Festival in April 2022 by providing a free concert at the Ferguson Center for the Arts. The performance in the Diamonstein Hall was an extraordinary success as students from all 3 programs--Carver, Greenwood, and PYO--performed on the grand stage. The final piece, "Ode to Joy," has been a staple of Soundscapes performances since the beginning, and this was a special moment for all involved.



Student Stats

Total Students Served in Fiscal Year 2022:

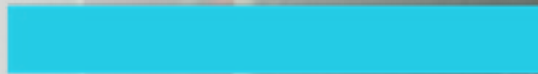
Greenwood After-school Program
36 students



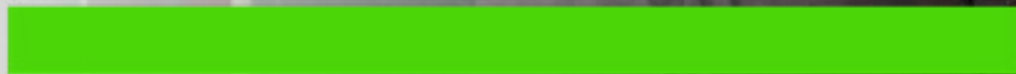
Peninsula Youth Orchestra
38 students



Summer Camps
61 students



Carver After-school Program
114 students



Student Profile: Lance

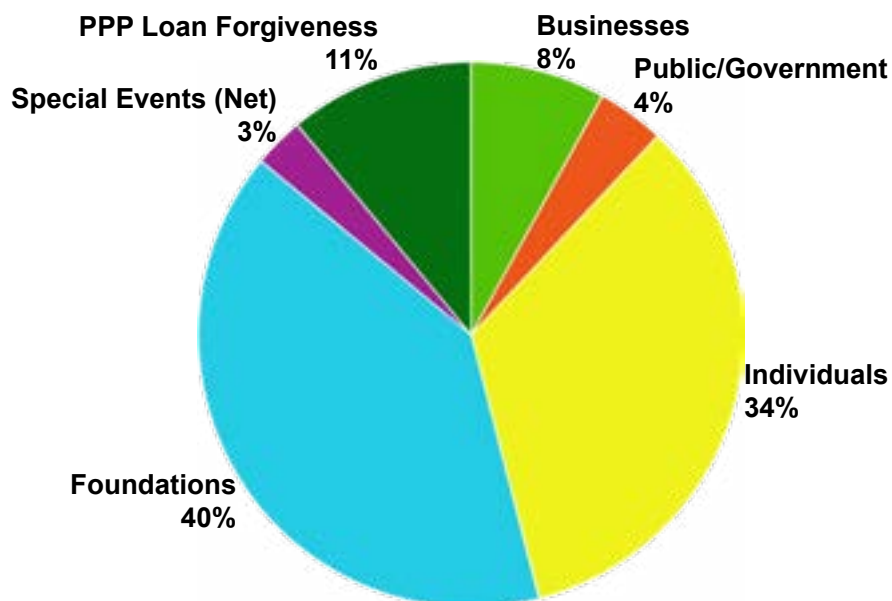


During the final performance of Peninsula Youth Orchestra's 62nd Season, Soundscapes presented the first-ever Citizen Artist Award to student Lance Fox. The Citizen Artist Award is presented to a student who exemplifies the values of Soundscapes and displays that extra level of excellence in both musical skill and in the expression of the social responsibility we strive to achieve. Congressman Bobby Scott was in the audience and shared his congratulations with Lance.

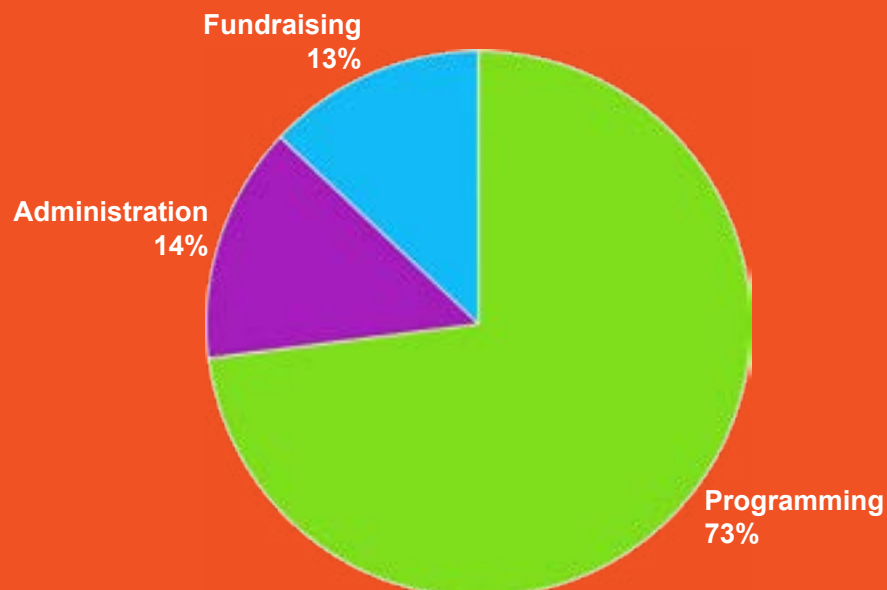


Financial Details

Income FY22



Expenses FY22



Award Recipients

Each year we celebrate our students who have been in the program for 5 or 10 years by giving special awards. This year we included our staff as well!

Student 10-Year Plaques

Liam Barnstead
Horn

Nashara Townsend
Cello

Student 5-Year Medals

Angel Rainey
Violin

Tracie Epps
Cello

Kawtar Ajlani
Violin

Lee Benton
Viola

Aniya Walker
Violin

Raelyn Flanagan
Flute

Julie Hayes
Violin

Staff 10-Year Plaque

Catina Horton-Billups
Connections Specialist

Staff 5-Year Medals

Ciara Alexander
Level 1 Director

Westley Benson
Wind Band Director

Rebecca Kim
Carver Program Manager

Carol Minter
Executive Director

Our Events



Soundscapes Golf Classic

The annual Soundscapes golf outing at the James River Country Club included 17 teams raising nearly \$50,000 for Soundscapes students and programs. We are grateful to our presenting sponsor, TMG, and all the players who participated. After the tournament, players were treated to a performance by a Soundscapes string ensemble making this truly a spectacular event.



Music by the Pint

St. George Brewing Company hosted two Music by the Pint events to raise awareness of Soundscapes. Partnering with local musicians and businesses is a wonderful way to connect with the community!



Our Donors

Donations shown occurred between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. In spite of our best efforts, errors occasionally occur. If you notice a mistake, please accept our apologies, and contact Sara Balgoyen at sbalgoyen@soundscapeshr.org or 757-273-6178 ext.8 so we can correct our records.

Platinum

Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Foundation
Caren Kaplan and Richard Seidel Charitable Fund of the
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Earl & Waverly Charitable Fund
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Anne Henry
John & Marjorie Holt

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Peninsula Community Foundation of Virginia
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Huntington Ingalls Industries
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Charitable Fund
Mary Neale
Old Point National Bank
Payday Payroll Services
Donald & Louise Ragland

Rotary Club of Oyster Point
Ward Scull
Jim & Becki Shamblen
St. Andrew's Episcopal
Church
Troy & Theresa Stavens
Target Corporation
Virginia Wertman &
Stanley Bolding

* deceased

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Bradley Norris
Craig Nuckles
Jeannette Dodson-
O'Connell
Rick Overbaugh
Francie Pearce
Keith Percic
Mike & Nancy Petters
Kathryn Powell
Reynaldo & Cynthia
Ramirez
Teresa Randolph
Neal & Barbara Rosenbaum

Chris Ross
Robert & Alice Rubinstein
Janet Salley
Robert Schmidt
Bobby Scott
Lynne Seekamp
Lindsey Sharpe
Ann & Guy Sheets
Luvia & Tim Sniffen
Raymond Spencer
Joseph Spencer
Ruth Steinberg
Gloria Strong
Kenneth Stump
Walter Taylor
The Beach Group
Amber & John Thomas
John & Ellen Tompkins
Paul & Rosemary Triple
Helmuth Triesmann &
Tamzen Burgess
Joanne & Jeffery Trimbur
Valerie Wallace
Bobby & Joy Walters
James & Mildred Wassum
Chip & Peggy Watson
John & Nancy Whitley
William Wilds
Josephine Williams
Kristen Witt
Woman's Club of Hilton
Village
Jim & Joan Wool
Betty Wrightson
Amy Zakrzewski Watson

In-Kind

Michael & Karen Allen
Kelley Brown
Elefteriou Family

Bill & Janice Grace
Indulge Bakery & Bistro
Sue Lezkovits

Nancy Moseley
Newport News Public Schools
Bradley Norris

Schlesinger's
Dorothy Tenczar
Kathy Walker




Looking Ahead

What an exciting time to be at Soundscapes! While our students and program staff spent the past year making music together again, our Board and administrative team focused on planning for the future. During the first half of 2022, Soundscapes worked with an expert consultant to explore the best methods for growing our organization. This project was made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Foundation. The conclusions of the feasibility study were exciting:

- 1) The community wants more of Soundscapes!
- 2) Establishing a central location for Soundscapes will allow us to grow and reach many more students on the Virginia Peninsula.
- 3) To reach our goals, we need to spread the word about the good work we are doing.

The future looks bright for Soundscapes and for our community. As a friend and supporter of our program, you know the impact our program is having on young people. You can help us spread the word about Soundscapes by talking about our programs, inviting us to speak to your community groups, and hiring our performance ensemble to play at your events. By this time next year, we hope to have even more exciting news to share.

Sincerely,



Carol Minter
Executive Director



Reynaldo Ramirez
Co-founder & Program Director

P.S. We're actively searching for a Soundscapes Hub site. If you have a building and are open to filling it with young people experiencing life-changing music education, please reach out!



How to Support

Generous supporters like you make Soundscapes programs possible for students to participate and reap the benefits of music-making, performing, and skill-building. We couldn't do it without the community.

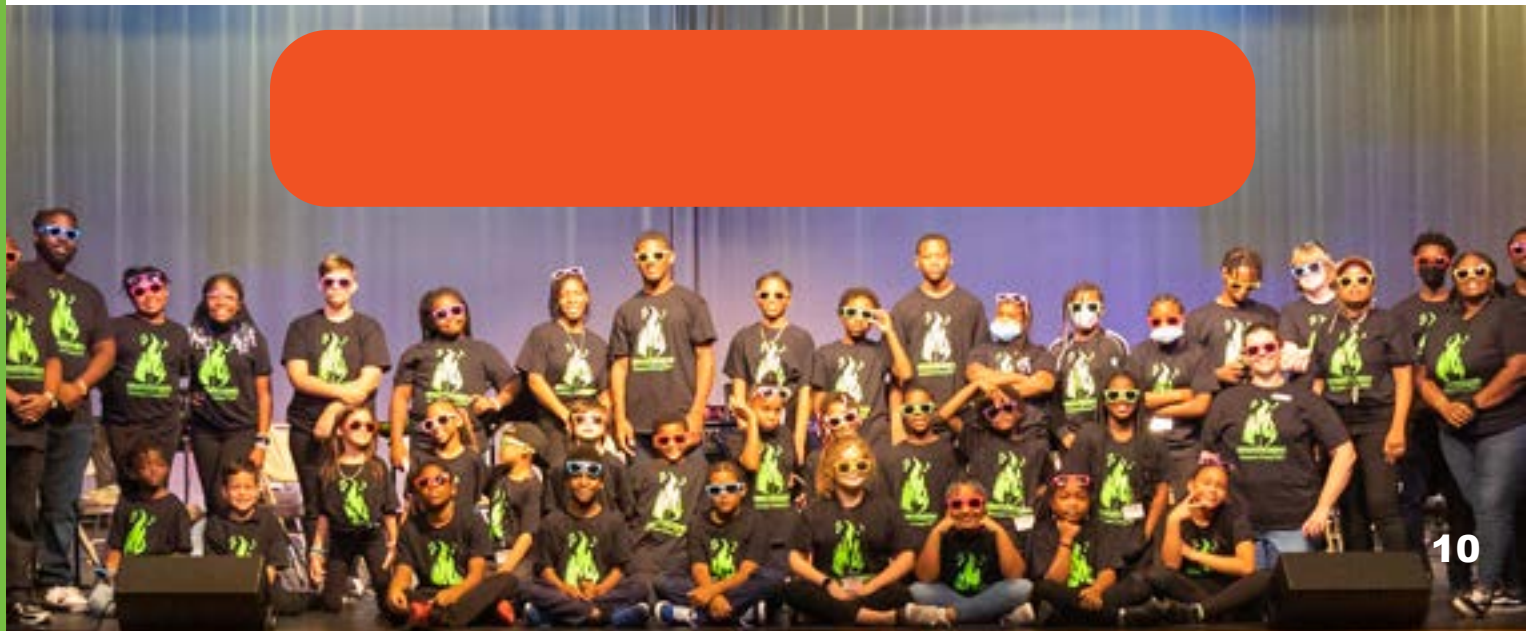
Join the Encore Club

Every phenomenal performance deserves an encore! The Encore Club at Soundscapes recognizes donors who make monthly gifts. By joining the Encore Club, you are giving our student musicians a standing ovation every month and allowing them to come back to the program day after day, year after year.

Donate an Instrument

Do you have an instrument hidden away in a closet or under a bed that hasn't been played in a while? Consider donating it to Soundscapes! For students from low-income households, purchasing or renting an instrument can be a significant barrier, which is why we provide free instruments for all students in the daily program.

Contact Sara Balgoyen anytime at 757-273-6178 ext. 8 or sbalgoyen@soundscapeshr.org to learn more.





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