



10th YEAR soundscapes

Changing lives through music

ANNUAL REPORT
FY2019

attacca

Italian aht-tahk-kah

(imperative verb, used as musical direction)

, moving forward without pause

YAFFA HOWELL
2014



*“Soundscapes is not just music.
It teaches him how to have
structure in his life.”*

MONIKA BURKE, SOUNDSCAPES PARENT

QEDAR LEWIS
2013



LANCE FOX
2013



ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT 2019

Yaffa Howell Qedar Lewis Lance Fox

From the Board Chairman

Dear Friends,

Soundscapes is celebrating its tenth anniversary this fall. On the very first day in 2009, we asked the first grade children at Carver Elementary whether they were interested in learning how to play instruments and be in an orchestra. When eighty children signed up, I knew we had struck gold. My first impressions were confirmed at the first concert, when I saw the faces of the parents who came into the auditorium, filled with pride because their children were in an orchestra.

Soundscapes was the first program in Virginia and one of the first in our country based on the international El Sistema movement, where community-based youth orchestras are used to inspire social change. The vision, the passion, and the hard work of co-founders Anne Henry and Rey Ramirez have built this program into a model for El Sistema-inspired programs across the United States.

Soundscapes has succeeded in changing the lives of more than 1,400 children in our first 10 years, not just teaching them to play a musical instrument, but building their self-confidence, changing their world view, strengthening their social skills, improving their self-control, impacting their academic performance, and improving their ability to work in teams to meet common goals. Some of the first students who started with us in 2009 are still involved today and serve as mentors and role models for the younger students.

Soundscapes could not have had this success without your support as a community. What's past is prologue, and our future is bright: we are expanding to a second elementary school in the Denbigh section of Newport News; we have joined forces with the Peninsula Youth Orchestra to continue the music education of our students in middle and high school; and our best students are playing in advanced ensembles across the country. You have made all of this possible, and, with your continued help, we will only get better at serving more children and changing more lives. I am proud to be a part of Soundscapes, and I am proud of this community for sharing our vision and committing to this cause. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robert R. Hatten

Chairman of the Soundscapes Board of Directors

Managing Partner at Patten, Wornom, Hatten & Diamonstein



About the Program

Soundscape is a nonprofit organization that teaches critical life skills to students through music education. At the heart of the organization's success is the strong belief in the power of music to change lives, and the understanding that all children have the capacity to create and contribute both musically and to our community.

Soundscape students are ambitious, creative, and determined, even though they are some of the most vulnerable youth in Newport News. To support them, Soundscape provides free, high-quality music instruction, free instruments, and frequent performance opportunities. Instruction takes place for 2 hours after school every weekday during the school year at Carver Elementary School. Younger, less advanced students participate for 4 hours per week; older, more advanced students participate for 10 hours per week. Soundscape also provides several half-day and full-day summer programs.

The innovative music education model used at Soundscape is inspired by El Sistema, a philosophy that uses orchestras to give at-risk young people the skills they need to thrive in society and become model citizens. Although El Sistema originated in South America over 40 years ago, it has taken off in the U.S. in the past 10 years. Soundscape is a proud founding member of El Sistema USA.

MISSION STATEMENT

Soundscape is a nonprofit educational intervention organization that instills transformative life skills in under-resourced children in our community, using intensive music study and frequent ensemble performances.





Board of Directors

FY 2019

ROBERT R. HATTEN

Chairman

ANNE HENRY

Ex Officio, Secretary

R. DONALD RAGLAND

Treasurer

JOSEPH C. BARTO III

Director

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN, JR.

Director

WILLIAM BEACH

Director

CLAIRE BELLECCI

Director

J. W. WHITING CHISMAN, JR.

Director

HON. ALAN A. DIAMONSTEIN*

Director

WILLIAM M. GRACE

Director

JOHN HOLT

Director

DR. WAYNE LETT

Director

REYNALDO RAMIREZ

Ex Officio, Director

*DECEASED



312

*TOTAL STUDENTS
SERVED IN FY19*

167

Total served
during
school year

145

Total served
through
summer
programs

8,269

audience
members
reached

32

public
performances

PERFORMANCES

59% Female

41% Male

89%

parents reported
their children were
more confident and
self-reliant because
of Soundscapes

100%

parents reported
their children
performed music
more skillfully
because of
Soundscapes

PARENT SURVEY

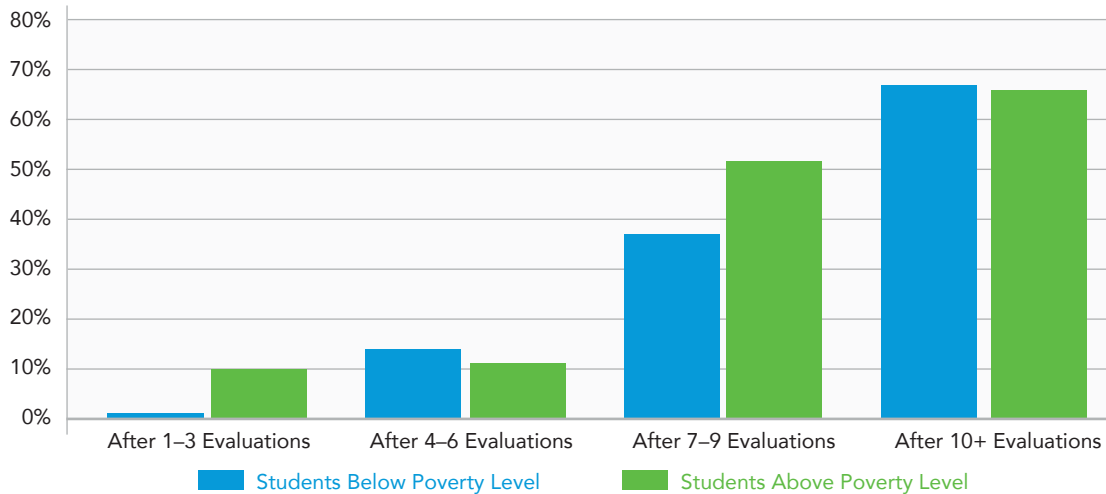
84% Age 6–11

15% Age 12–15

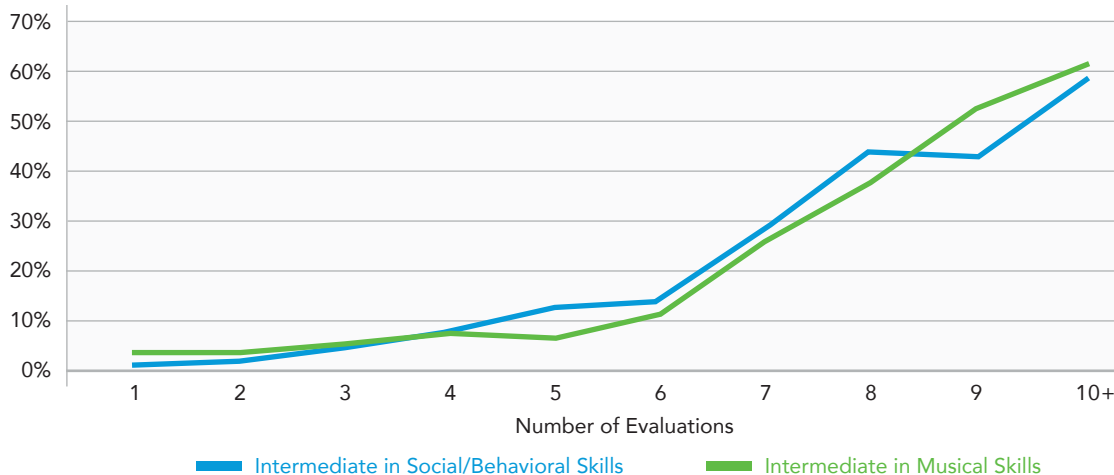
1% Age 16+

Evaluation Results

IMPACT ON CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY % of Students Rated Intermediate or Above



SOCIAL AND MUSICAL DEVELOPMENT % of Students Rated Intermediate or Above



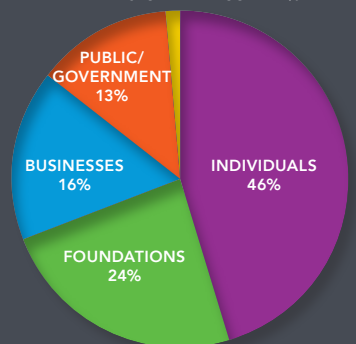
Explanation

Soundscape students are evaluated three times a year using a custom rubric, which was designed in 2014 by assessment expert Dr. David Dirlam. The rubric measures each student in 9 areas of musical and social/behavioral performance. The rubric starts with "beginner" and ends with "inspiring," which is considered professional-level achievement. Reaching a rating of "intermediate" indicates great progress. As the first chart shows, students living in poverty start out behind their peers, but after time in the program, the achievement gap is eliminated. As the second chart indicates, social/behavioral growth is happening at nearly the same rate as musical growth, showing that Soundscapes is successfully teaching life skills through music education.

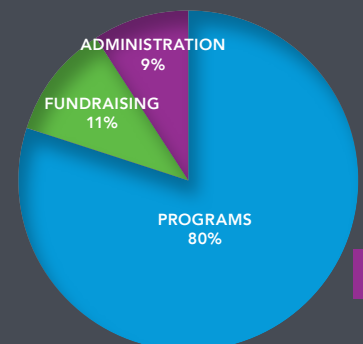


INCOME

IN KIND & OTHER INCOME 1%



EXPENSES





7



1. Soundscapes recognized eight students who reached the impressive milestone of being in the program for five years by presenting them with a medal during the spring concert. Soundscapes also recognized two students who had been in the program for 10 years.
2. Bobby "BlackHat" Walters performs with his band as part of the Music by the Pint Festival in February 2019. For the festival, Soundscapes partnered with local venues and bands to provide concerts for the community. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about Soundscapes and make donations in exchange for pint glasses and T-shirts.
3. Soundscapes was one of only five art organizations across Virginia recognized by Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation for excellence and innovation in its arts programming.
4. Golfers enjoy perfect weather at the Soundscapes Golf Classic on May 20 at the James River Country Club.
5. Venezuelan El Sistema expert Roberto Zambrano conducts students during a week-long visit to Soundscapes. During his visit, Roberto observed and coached the teaching artists as they worked with the students and also spent time with the students and the administrative staff.
6. A quartet of students performs a short concert at TowneBank in December 2018. The students spent a day giving "Art Attacks" — brief holiday performances — throughout the community.
7. For the first time in 2019, Soundscapes held two full-day, week-long summer camps. The two camps were made possible thanks to a generous gift from the Petters Family Foundation.
8. A group of Soundscapes students performs in the lobby of the Ferguson Center for the Arts before a Virginia Symphony Orchestra performance. Frequent performance opportunities are a key component of the Soundscapes mission.
9. Jim Nesbit, a visitor from the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, mentors Soundscapes students. Soundscapes partners with fellow arts organizations throughout the year and brings in guest musicians to play for and with the students.
10. A brave student demonstrates the scale she learned on the recorder for Newport News Police Chief Steve Drew and Co-founder and Program Director Rey Ramirez.



10





Three of our students found their hard work at Soundscapes paying off in extraordinary ways in summer of 2019. Jordan Hill, left, and Christine Park, right, both 8th graders at Crittenden Middle School, were accepted by audition into the Youth Orchestra Los Angeles National Festival, an intensive two-week learning program and top-tier ensemble of students from across the country. The festival concluded with concerts in the Walt Disney Concert Hall, including a portion led by renowned conductor Gustavo Dudamel.

Jordan plays cello and has been a part of Soundscapes since she was 6 years old. She has always been a

LEADER IN THE PROGRAM.

Taking part in the YOLA National Festival has been a dream of hers for years, and this year, it became a reality.

Christine has played violin for less than three years and took to the instrument naturally. In her audition video, she shared:

"MUSIC HAS HELPED ME WITH CHALLENGES IN MY LIFE."

Liam started in Soundscapes as a kindergartener in 2012. Liam excels at the French horn in every setting: in the Soundscapes orchestra, as a member of the Soundscape performance quintet, and as part of the Peninsula Youth Orchestra. In the spring, Liam recorded an audition for the prestigious Interlochen Summer Arts Camp, where he was accepted and awarded a partial performance scholarship. He spent three weeks in beautiful Michigan playing in orchestras and wind ensembles. At the end, Liam received the

HONORED CAMPER

designation for exemplifying what Interlochen seeks in a camper.



TYLER PICKETT

Tyler joined Soundscapes in 2014 as a 1st grader. A year later he picked up the violin, and it became his favorite pastime. This year he celebrated 5 years in Soundscapes, where he has become an artistic leader of the string section. In addition, he is usually the first to help set up and take down the orchestra chairs and stands, which shows the type of person he is. This year Tyler performed in the first violin section and played first violin in a string trio for our annual community tour. He was a 5th grader in the Talented and Gifted program at Carver, and at the end of the year he was awarded the Yancey Leadership Award, the Principal's Award, "A" Honor Roll for the entire school year, and the President's Award for Educational Excellence. You can find him on Instagram at

@TYLER AND HIS VIOLIN

where he covers popular songs with his violin.



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!

PARTNER

City of Newport News
Robert R. Hatten, Esq.
John & Marjorie Holt
Robert & Pamela Sasser
VuBay Foundation

GOLD SPONSOR

Anonymous
Anne Henry

SPONSOR

Donna & Whiting Chisman, Jr.
Huntington Ingalls Industries –
Newport News Shipbuilding
Virginia Commission for the Arts & NEA

BEETHOVEN

The Abbutt Group, Inc.
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
Helen & Murray Main Foundation
Wythe Holt
Patten, Wornom, Hatten & Diamonstein
Petters Family Foundation
The Rona Jaffe Foundation
TowneBank
Rene Wenleder

MOZART

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
John & Rose Garrett
Marta Heflin Foundation
Donald Patten
Ward Scull
The Waterwheel Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

BACH

Juerg & Susanna Aeschbach
Joseph & Patricia Barto
D'Addario Foundation
Charles Frechette
Morningstar Foundation

MPI Fastech, LLC
Dr. Ruth Steinberg

CHOPIN

Bay Electric Company
Beth W. Moore CPA, PLLC
Charles & Gloria Brooks
Grace Industries, Inc.
Kiwanis Club of Greater Hilton
James R. Knight
St. George & Ann Lee
Wayne & Rebecca Lett
Mary Neale
Newport News Arts Commission
Old Point Trust & Financial Services, N.A.
Donald & Louise Ragland
Rotary Club of Oyster Point
Bill & Tudie Saunders
Troy & Theresa Stavens
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Karen Wilds

TCHAIKOVSKY

Christopher Beal
Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Foundation
Alan* & Beverly Diamonstein
William H. Ferguson
Bill & Janice Grace
Arthur & Nancy Henderson
Kiwanis Club of Peninsula at Oyster Point
Bobby & Vicki Lanier
Robert & Rhonda Laufer
Morgan Marrow Company
Nancy & Franklin Phillips Charitable Fund
Payday Payroll Services
Rotary Club of Newport News Foundation
Solsys Medical
Tidewater Association for Early
Childhood Education
John & Ellen Tompkins
John & Mary Wood

VIVALDI

The Arc of Greater Williamsburg
Charles & Susan Armfield
William & Nancy Beach
Claire Bellecci
Christine Cann
Capital District Kiwanis Foundation
Ward & Anne Cates
Wanda & Robert Eberle
Terry & Patti Hall
Bill & Anne Hart
Isabel & Philip Hatchett
Hilton Village Centennial
David Kaplan
King's Creek Plantation, LLC
Luxur-Eyes Optometric Center
Patrick & Carol Minter
Musician & Arts Foundation
Peninsula Community Foundation
of Virginia
Jonathan Reily
Bobby Scott
Jim & Becki Shamblen
TowneBank
Paul & Rosemary Tribble
Helmuth Treishmann & Tamzen Burgess
Virginia Wertman
Jim & Joan Wool

HANDEL

Black Marlin CPA
The Beach Group
Rob & Susan Goetz
LeRoy & Kathi Griffin
Alice Guthrie
Hampton Roads Eye Associates,
Oyster Point
Mary Lou Hatten
Conover Hunt
Brian & Maureen Hutchens
Junior Woman's Club of Hilton
Village, Inc.

Gifts and Pledges from July 2018 through June 2019

Urja Lansing
Anne P. Linn
Matthew Burton Architect, LLC
Candyce Mayo
Thomas & Susan Mayo
Harry & Judy McPherson
John & Amine Morgan
Thomas E. Morris
Robert & Alice Rubinstein
Janet Salley
Laurence Smail
Sandra Tudor
Clara L. Warren
Carolyn Webb
Woman's Club of Hilton Village

LISZT

Joni Baker
Walter & Priscilla Bele
Mary Dame Broad
Wayne Conners &
Margaret Mary Rand
Dorothy & Lake Critzer
Michael Curry
Gordon & Jane Cutler
Frances Eckert
Eugene Foster Jr.
Wallace & Barbara Garner
General Federation of Women's Clubs,
Hampton Roads Chapter
Carlyle Gravely
Lee & Vicki Hauser
Thomas & Donna Suttle Herbert
James & Bertha Kopp
Joseph & Marjorie Layser
Lincoln Financial Foundation
John & Janet Lockhart
Manhattan's NY Deli & Pub
John & Jane Matney
Myfanwy & Peter Morgan
Patrick & Elaine McDermott
Terry McGlennon

Michael & Pamela McGregor
Jason Messersmith
LaVerne Mitchell
Bradley Norris
Peak Consulting
Joan & Kevin Peterson
Rita Potter
Donald & Joy Ragland
Neal & Barbara Rosenbaum
Winthrop & Jane Short
Joseph & Janice Stellute
Wendy Stephens
Karl Troll
Virginia Health Services, Inc.
Patricia P. Woodbury
Betty Wrightson

SUPPORTER

Joan D. Aaron
Amazon Smile Foundation
Daniel Barto
Kevin Barto
Rebecca Boon
Allison Bretzius
Nicole Burnsed
John & Shirley Chirch
Minette Cooper
Bill & Sylvia Craft
Robert & Elisabeth Crutchfield
David & Kerri Difiore
Christopher Espy
Laura Favata
Rhonda Fingar
Jeremy Franks
Ted & Merrill Hemmert
John Roger Hogg
Timothy Hunter
Evelyn Hutchens
Ralph & Cathy Koch
Billy Lemon
Jack Luft
Theodora Merry

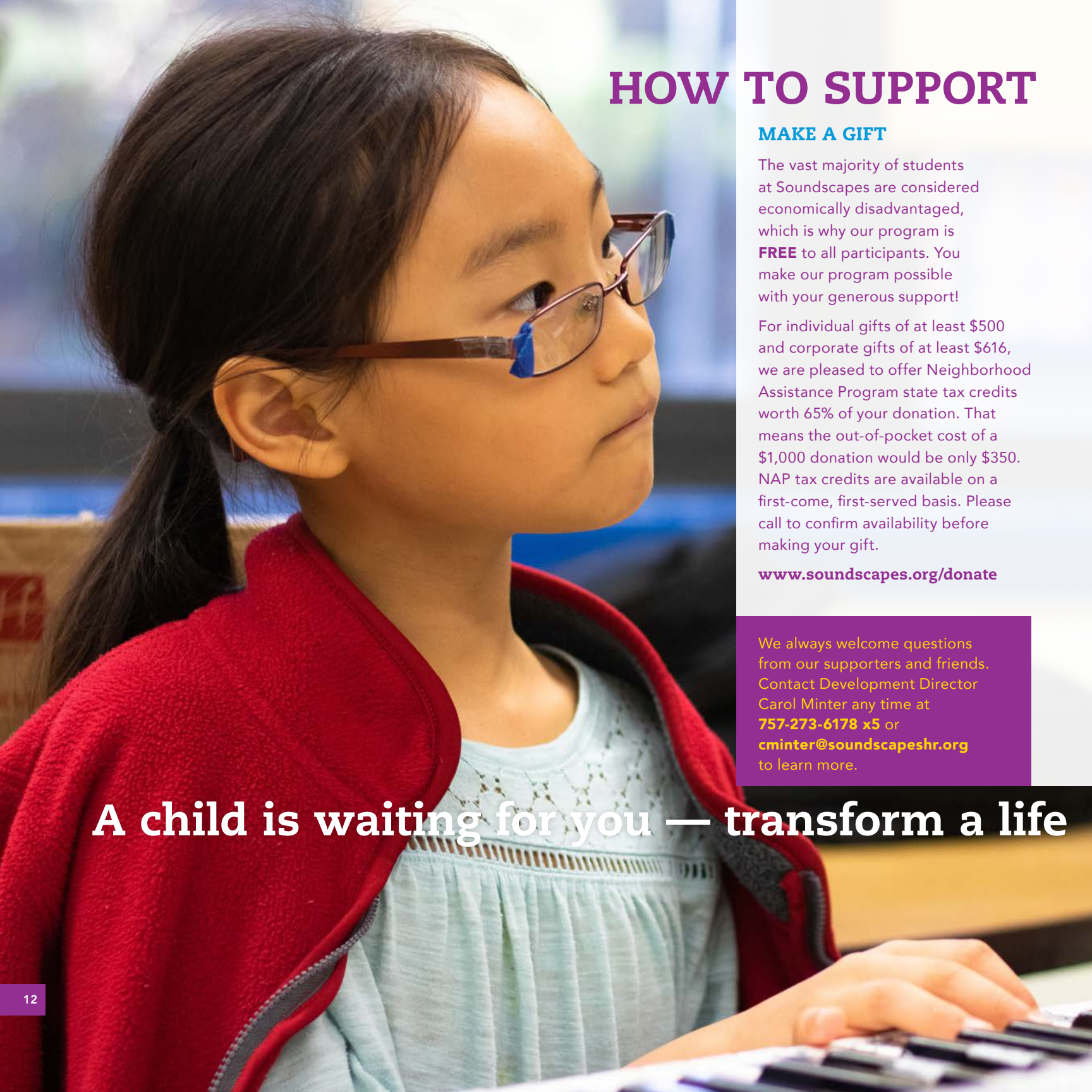
Tonia Moore
Samuel Morgan
Judith Myers
Rebecca Odum
Virginia Palmer-Fuechsel
Austin Pierce
Julie Pierce
Laura Rait
Reynaldo & Cynthia Ramirez
Teresa Randolph
Austin Schaffer
Charles Webb & Kathy James-Webb
William Wilds

IN-KIND GIFTS FROM JULY 2018 THROUGH JUNE 2019

ArtInspired Photography
Ms. Annah Bunch
Donna & Whiting Chisman, Jr.
Lynn Dudley
Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.
Joseph Kime
Mellen Street Creative
Mobile Mini
Morgan Stanley
Mary Neale
Newport News Public Schools
Rita Potter
Annalia Romero
Second Street

Donations shown between July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. In spite of our best efforts, errors occasionally occur. If you notice a mistake, please accept our apologies, and contact Carol Minter at cminter@soundscapeshr.org or **757-273-6178 x5** so we can correct our records.

*DECEASED



HOW TO SUPPORT

MAKE A GIFT

The vast majority of students at Soundscapes are considered economically disadvantaged, which is why our program is **FREE** to all participants. You make our program possible with your generous support!

For individual gifts of at least \$500 and corporate gifts of at least \$616, we are pleased to offer Neighborhood Assistance Program state tax credits worth 65% of your donation. That means the out-of-pocket cost of a \$1,000 donation would be only \$350. NAP tax credits are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call to confirm availability before making your gift.

www.soundscapes.org/donate

We always welcome questions from our supporters and friends. Contact Development Director Carol Minter any time at **757-273-6178 x5** or cminter@soundscapeshr.org to learn more.

A child is waiting for you — transform a life

soundscapes

SPONSOR A CHILD

Through the Sponsor a Child program, you can provide the gift of music for an individual student at Soundscapes! Sponsor levels start at just \$12.50 per month (\$150 per year). For \$100 per month (\$1,200 per year), you can fully cover the cost to provide high-quality music education for one child for an entire year. A child is waiting for you — transform a life through music today!

www.soundscapes.org/SponsorAChild

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 program.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

We provide volunteer opportunities to suit your needs, whether you are looking for a regular commitment to work with the students during weekday afternoons, a one-time opportunity during an event, or something in-between. Let us know your interests and availability, and we will be glad to find a way for you to get involved!

through music today!

*“Absolutely love
this program. Very
grateful my child is
able to participate.
She has shown
immense growth in
various aspects.
Thank you for
this program.”*

VIVIANA DOSWELL
SOUNDSCAPES PARENT





soundscapes

OFFICE

11009 WARWICK BLVD., SUITE 215
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA 23601

MAIL

11712 JEFFERSON AVENUE, SUITE C, #473
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA 23606

(757) 273-6178

WWW.SOUNDSCAPES.ORG