



Aalivah Grade 2, Violin

projectSTEP

FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

DEAR FRIENDS,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce Project STEP's annual report for the academic year 2021-2022. The world was just coming out of the pandemic, and like many organizations we started online but were back to in-person by the end of the year. Project STEP pulled through with strength and grace, thanks to the strong community, dedicated families and students, generous donors, innovative teaching faculty, committed board, and tireless staff. In particular, our new Executive Director Josué González and Artistic Director Dr. Ian Saunders both started in early 2022, energizing the students and keeping the program running smoothly all while experiencing the cycle of activities themselves for the first time. They shone as the new leaders of Project STEP and we are delighted to have them on board.

Given the complex teaching and performing environment with the global health situation, coupled with the leadership transition, the achievements this year were remarkable. We served over 100 kindergartener students in FOCUS, maintained the rigor of weekly lessons and rehearsals in our core program, and held several concerts. Highlights for students included masterclasses with acclaimed artists such as cellist Sterling Elliott and cross-cultural educator Fabiola Méndez. STEP's impact and collaborations grow every year: we held our first annual concert at the stunning Rockport Music Shalin Liu Performance Center in spring 2022.

At Project STEP, we are not only shaping musicians but also nurturing well-rounded individuals equipped with valuable skills for success. Through mentorship, community service, and

leadership opportunities, our students emerge as confident, disciplined, and resilient individuals. The statistic speaks volumes: 100% of our graduates have pursued further education in college or conservatory, a testament to the effectiveness of our approach. Your continued support enables us to empower students who are historically underrepresented in classical music to excel in both music and life.



Elisa Pepe

Elisa Pepe

President, Board of Directors



Aaron, Grade 6, Violin

OUR MISSION

Project STEP (String Training Education Program) recognizes that certain racial and ethnic minorities are vastly underrepresented in classical music. Its mission is to address this imbalance by identifying musically talented underrepresented students from Boston and surrounding communities, and providing them with comprehensive music and string instrument instruction. It sets the highest standards for disciplined study and performance, and offers a platform for students interested in pursuing classical music careers as well as other courses of study.

Core Values

- (1) We believe that the classical music profession should reflect racial and ethnic diversity.
- (2) We believe that children, if identified at an early age and immersed in long-term, rigorous music instruction, can flourish as professional classical musicians and as individuals, regardless of their ultimate career choice.
- (3) We believe that our students can reach their full potential when held to high standards and provided with the support and active engagement of teachers, mentors, family members, and alumni.
- (4) We believe that music can change lives and that the disciplined study of classical music enhances educational opportunities and opens doors for our students and their communities.

We envision a world in which the classical music profession reflects the racial and ethnic diversity of our communities.

PROGRAMS

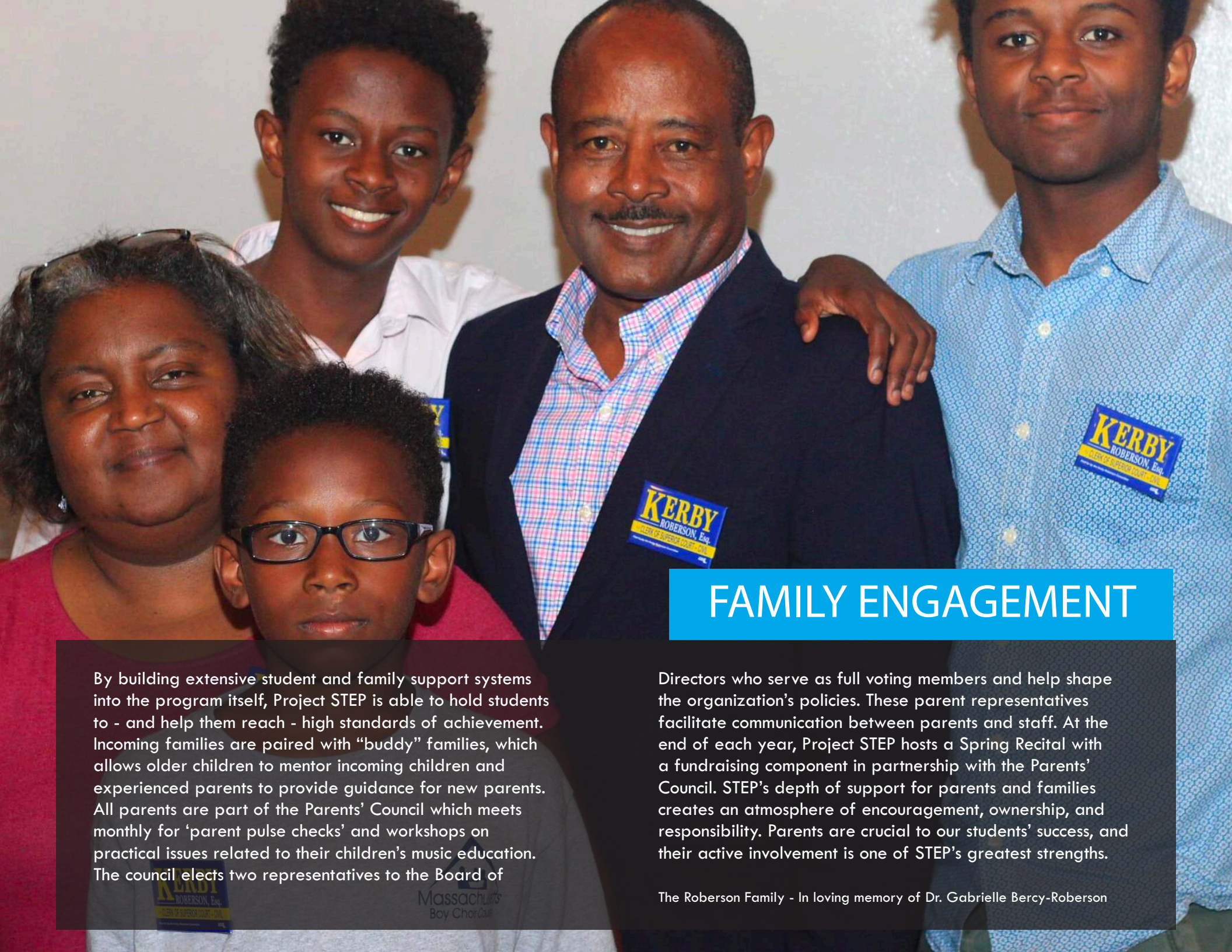
Project STEP provides a continuum of music instruction that can begin as early as kindergarten and continues through Grade 12. Students are invited to join Project STEP through one of two entry points, either by audition or through our kindergarten FOCUS program. The FOCUS program introduces kindergartners to the study of music at an early age, generating enthusiasm and providing a bridge to further study at Project STEP or other Boston-area music schools.

The FOCUS program resumed in 2022 after being put on hold during the pandemic. Project STEP partnered with the William M. Trotter School in Dorchester and the Mario Umana Academy in East Boston, from the Boston Public School system, to offer music programming for their K2 kindergartners during the school day. On weekends, students were able to participate at Boston Symphony Hall and the Community Music Center of Boston for more of these classes. In total, we were able to serve over 100 kindergartners from across the city.



Students who are selected to continue their musical studies in Project STEP's Core Program (Grades 1-12) receive weekly private lessons, theory and/or solfège classes, chamber music, orchestra, summer music camp support, and an instrument. In addition, they receive enrichment opportunities including masterclasses and performance opportunities with renowned chamber ensembles, and tickets to dozens of concerts each year. Project STEP is a model for creative youth development. In the course of studying music, young people develop social, creative, problem solving, collaborative, and critical thinking skills. These skills are widely transferable and enable youth to reach their full potential as musicians, students, and successful young adults.

Photo Above: 2022 Fabiola Méndez Masterclass
Photo Left: FOCUS Introduction to Music



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

By building extensive student and family support systems into the program itself, Project STEP is able to hold students to - and help them reach - high standards of achievement. Incoming families are paired with “buddy” families, which allows older children to mentor incoming children and experienced parents to provide guidance for new parents. All parents are part of the Parents’ Council which meets monthly for ‘parent pulse checks’ and workshops on practical issues related to their children’s music education. The council elects two representatives to the Board of

Directors who serve as full voting members and help shape the organization’s policies. These parent representatives facilitate communication between parents and staff. At the end of each year, Project STEP hosts a Spring Recital with a fundraising component in partnership with the Parents’ Council. STEP’s depth of support for parents and families creates an atmosphere of encouragement, ownership, and responsibility. Parents are crucial to our students’ success, and their active involvement is one of STEP’s greatest strengths.

The Roberson Family - In loving memory of Dr. Gabrielle Bercy-Roberson



Massachusetts
Boy Choir

FAMILY STORIES

Meet the duFrend Family - Our family has been part of the Project STEP community for the past eight years, starting with our son Aaron, who participated in the FOCUS Program while in kindergarten. In FOCUS, he was introduced to various musical instruments, rhythms and expressions, and later became one of four Black and Latino students fortunate enough to join Project STEP. Our daughter Aaliyah, who is currently in the 2nd grade, auditioned in to the core program. Both kids, now in the core program, play classical violin, an instrument and genre of music they would not have been exposed to if not for Project STEP.

Aaron and Aaliyah thoroughly enjoy both the robust string training program and the opportunities they are given to explore classical music. We spend our Saturdays bustling through the basement of Symphony Hall for chamber music, masterclasses, workshops and recitals, to the buildings of New England Conservatory for private lessons, orchestra, and music theory. On weekdays, the kids practice every day, both before and after school, ensuring they dedicate quality time to both music and academics. During the summer, they look forward to attending music camp. This year Aaron participated at Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music while Aaliyah attended The Rivers School Conservatory. Photo below of Aaron



Aside from providing string education, training and enrichment opportunities, Project STEP has instilled in our children the importance of giving back to our communities. Our kids have performed at Standish Village Nursing Home in Dorchester, Our Lady of the Visitation Church in Milton, Presentation Rehabilitation and Skilled Care in Brighton and Brookhaven Retirement Community in Lexington. This year, they were also privileged to perform with renowned Puerto Rican cuatrista, singer, composer, and educator, Fabiola Mendez in the Celebrity Series of Boston at the Kroc Center in Roxbury.

Aaliyah also performed at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport, while in past years Aaron performed at WCRB Cartoon Festival at Symphony Hall, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall. As a family, we look forward to seeing all Project STEP students perform at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration & Concert, and the Annual Spring Concert & Parents' Benefit.

Thanks to Project STEP, classical music now warms both our home and our hearts. We are grateful to the Project STEP faculty and staff, the Board of Directors, donors and the Project STEP families who are on this classical music journey with us, bringing to life an opportunity that would otherwise not have been possible! - **Merissa & Vincent duFrend**

Photo below of Aaliyah by Matthew Muise



2021/2022 SNAPSHOT

Despite challenges presented by a hybrid year that included both in-person and online learning, the 2021/2022 academic year was filled with outstanding achievements from our students including concerts, collaborations with renowned musicians, workshops, masterclasses, and community service performances.



Mass Mutual Event | Top Left: Ashe Gordon, Board of Directors; Gui, cello; Ángel Hernández Domínguez, Project STEP parent; Dr. Ian Saunders, Artistic Director; Bottom Left: Alex, violin; Sofia, cello; Suubi, cello; and Laura, violin.

Sterling Elliot Masterclass: Cellist Sterling Elliott is a 2021 Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient and the winner of the Senior Division of the 2019 National Sphinx Competition. His masterclass with our students was an extraordinary complement to our young cellists' education.

Concert and Masterclass with Fabiola Méndez: Méndez is a Puerto Rican cuatrística, singer, composer, and educator who has taken part in a musical movement, crossing lines of genres such as folkloric, jazz & Latin. Her important work with our students was an exploration in identity and culture.

Rockport Music Shalin Liu Performance Center: Friends, families, and newcomers gathered in Rockport's Shalin Liu Performance Center to hear Project STEP students play in this acclaimed performance space.

Project STEP Opens for MassMutual: A selection of students performed at the Convention Center for the MassMutual Leaders Conference.

Concert with A Far Cry: Project STEP performed with Grammy-nominated A Far Cry (AFC). Members of the AFC orchestra also mentor and instruct our students throughout the academic year.

Amir Bitran Masterclass: Composer and scientist Amir Bitran worked with our students in this exciting masterclass that was co-sponsored by The Celebrity Series, Boston Symphony Orchestra's Department of Education and Community Outreach, and Boston BEAM.

Annual Spring Concert & Parents' Benefit: This event is the culmination of a year's worth of dedication from our students and families.

Senior Student Recital: Olivia McCallum, double bass; Shivane Pratap, Cello; Nathan Theodore, viola; and Amir Ali, violin performed a concert that included pieces by Florence Price, William Grant Still, Franz Schubert, J.S. Bach, and more!



Caleb, Grade 10, cello

IMPACT

Through Project STEP, children from racial and ethnic backgrounds historically underrepresented in classical music gain knowledge, skills, and opportunities that help them to become successful musicians, students, and young adults.

During their years of intensive training, our students are challenged to achieve and maintain high levels of musicianship. The perseverance, self-discipline, confidence, problem-solving skills and strong work ethic they develop in the process prove to be invaluable in their future musical and non-musical pursuits.

Our students build leadership skills by mentoring younger students, taking leadership roles in chamber ensembles, and performing in community service events in their own neighborhoods. Tasked with taking care of their own musical instruments (on loan from STEP), students develop a sense of responsibility. After up to 12 years of training and support in Project STEP, our students become strong musicians and accomplished young adults who are prepared to succeed as classical musicians as well as problem solvers, critical and creative thinkers, and team players. **100% of Project STEP's graduates have gone on to college or conservatory** after graduating from high school, and excel in music studies, competitions, and academics.

The outcomes of our Core Program activities fall into three areas of major growth for our students:

- 1) Strengthened identity
- 2) Creative skill development
- 3) Workforce readiness

IMPACT_{CONT'D}

While other educational programs in Greater Boston offer music training for children, they do not match Project STEP's comprehensive package of high-quality, long-term training, support services, and scholarships intended specifically for children from backgrounds underrepresented in classical music.

For 40 years, Project STEP has been a pioneer working to build equity in classical music. STEP provides students opportunities to experience a high degree of inclusion by performing with peers and learning from professional musicians, many of whom are members from esteemed music institutions and our partners: The Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New England Conservatory of Music, and Boston University. Students in STEP gain role models, mentors, and confidence allowing them to thrive in their chosen passion and excel to extraordinary heights as classical musicians, creative and successful students, and engaged members of society.



Photo left: Performance at Boston Children's Museum - Sofia, cello; Suubi, cello; Javier Caballero, 2021 Artistic Director; Sokki, violin; Alex, violin

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Sonya White Hope, Project STEP's Earliest Graduate: A Biography

Artistic expression has grounded Sonya White Hope as long as she can remember: primary school art classes introduced the basics from color theory to ceramics; beginning ballet classes gave her balance and poise; and a stint as the Weather Girl on her middle school's in-house news broadcast provided an introduction to the theater. But none of little Sonya's artistic adventures compared to her violin! Beginning her training with a neighborhood teacher, Sonya and her younger sister Audrey soared!

Sonya remembers the early days of Project STEP fondly. As the 'oldest STEP child,' Sonya was committed to keeping an eye out for the younger students, building trusting relationships, and nurturing community among the families. By the time she graduated from high school Sonya was fluidly performing solo recitals on violin and orchestral and chamber music concerts on viola. Bachelors and masters degrees in viola performance and a doctorate in music education laid the groundwork for an engaging musical career. Sonya has enjoyed touring internationally with orchestras, performing chamber music in every setting imaginable, and teaching students of all ages.

Sonya discovered her passion – and hidden talent – for sharing the joy of music-making with children in the early 1990s. While honing her skills as the string teacher at Boston Latin School Sonya delighted in teaching Project STEP's youngest applicants in summer FOCUS classes. Currently she teaches strings at Boston Latin Academy. Speaking engagements, conference presentations, and other professional activities have included guest conducting at the Southern Maine Honors Music Festival,

(cont. next page) Photo left courtesy of Dr. Sonya White Hope



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT continued

participating as a music education fellow at Northwestern University's School of Music, instructing music education students at Boston University's School of Music, presenting her scholarship at the *Over the edge: Pushing the boundaries of folklore and ethnomusicology* and *Desert Skies* conferences, teaching strings in all of Boston's exam schools, participating as an advisor to state-level and local policy bodies and much more. Dr. White Hope's recent publications are available in the Bulliten of the Council for Research in Music Education and online at **SankofaSongs.org**.

Below photos: The first official class of Project STEP - from left to right: Audrey White, Sonya White, Vali Phillips, Michael Ireland, Crystal Reardon, Johnny Theodore, and Mr. Itzhak Perlman. Circa 1984.



Ever committed to the rich artistry of under-represented musicians, Dr. White Hope founded Sankofa Songs Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to nurturing outstanding Africentric arts education practice. Sankofa Songs provides music teachers and other arts educators professional development in culturally relevant practices through its annual Summer Institute, teachers' workshops, celebratory events, and scholarly research. Centering scholarship on arts education as cultural emancipation (AECE) philosophy, Dr. White Hope and the Sankofa Songs team examine topics at the intersection of culturally relevant music & arts education, Africa-descended students, and the arts of the African Diaspora. Dr. White Hope looks forward to future collaborations between Sankofa Songs and Project STEP.

When she isn't teaching, researching, or performing, Sonya enjoys making all sorts of art, cycling, and practicing yoga.

DID YOU KNOW? Since its inception, 100% of Project STEP graduates have gone on to college or conservatory. Approximately 60% pursue a career in music while others become leaders in their community.

Project STEP invests in our students, placing importance on how our society values the diverse cultures and ethnicities of our communities.

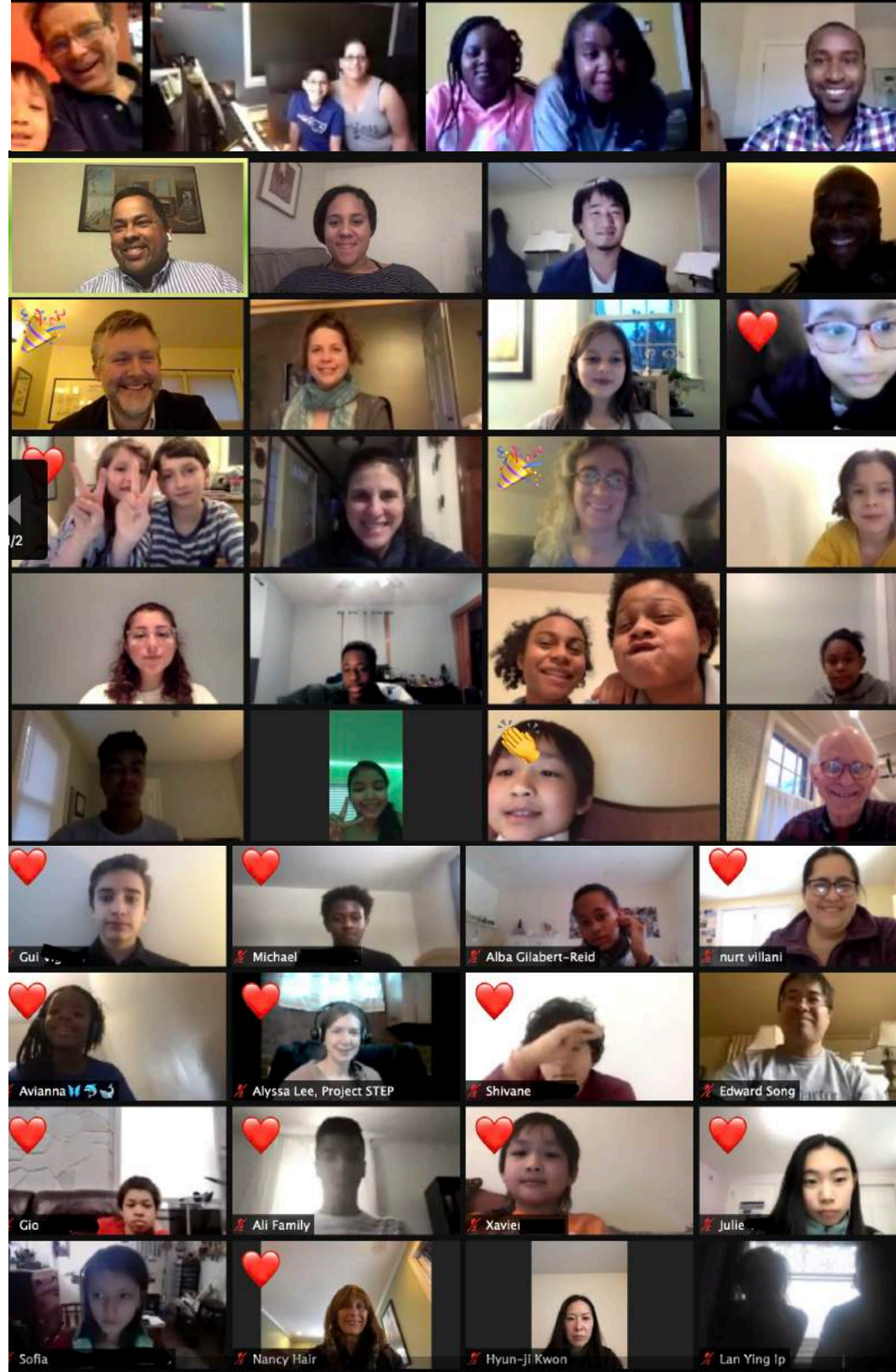
SUMMER CAMPS

The 2021 summer was highly atypical for Project STEP due to the global health crisis. Whereas our students normally would attend some of the top music camps locally, nationally, and internationally, STEP pivoted to come up with a solution that would keep our young musicians active, engaged, and learning safely by launching our first-ever online summer camp. Students developed their playing through group technique classes; participated in enrichment courses not offered during the year, such as fiddling, composition, and improvisation; and performed in masterclasses—all taught by a nationally renowned roster of teaching artists from groups such as the Silk Road Ensemble, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and the Sphinx Organization.

In addition, some students attended other virtual programs, including Four Strings Academy, Rivers Conservatory, and the Online Solo Strings Intensive. It was extraordinary for our students to come together with like-minded peers who share their passion for music despite the pandemic.

In order to help cover the costs of these programs and make them accessible to all of our students, we combine funds from Project STEP with scholarships from the camps themselves and special support from the following generous funders: The Janey Fund, The Mary Saudek Jaffee Fund, The Ramsey McCluskey Family Foundation, The Willow Tree Fund, and Winsor Music.

DID YOU KNOW? African American/Black musicians account for only 1.2% of our nation's orchestras and Latinx musicians make up only 1.6% (*League of American Orchestras, 2016*).



SCHOLARS

2021/2022 Kravitz Scholarship: Amir Ali, Grade 12, violin

The Kravitz Scholarship was established in 2007 in memory of Dr. Arthur Kravitz, a long-time supporter of Project STEP. As past President of the Board of Directors, Arthur loved classical music and believed strongly in the mission of STEP. This award is given each year to one advanced student for their commitment to their craft.



Photos by Matthew Muise and Project STEP

2021/2022 The Carlton Doctor Scholar:

Xavier Ip, Grade 11, cello

A special thank you to the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem for their generous support in honor of Carlton Doctor. Formerly the George James Webb Scholarship.



2012/2022 Charles H. Bond Scholars: Laura Licata, Grade 7, violin and Aaron duFrend, Grade 6, violin

The Charles H. Bond Scholarship is given each year to two Project STEP students for their dedication to their music studies.



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Reflecting the 2021/2022 academic year

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Boston University
New England Conservatory

Mariana Green-Hill
Artistic Advisor

Jodie McMenamin
Director of Donor Engagement

At the conclusion of the 2022 academic
year, Josué González was hired as Project
STEP's Executive Director and Dr. Ian
Saunders was hired as Artistic Director.

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Alexander Badalov, Cello
Laura Blustein, Cello
Miriam Bolkosky, Cello
Meghan Carye, Cello
Mark Churchill, Cello
Joy Cline Phinney, Pianist/Collaborative Coach
Sarah Darling, Viola, Chamber Coach, A Far Cry
Pascale Delache Feldman, Bass
Linda Emmanuel, FOCUS I
Jenny Fan, Cello, Suzuki, FOCUS II
Emmanuel Feldman, Cello
Susanne Friedrich, Cello
Ron Gorevic, Chamber Coach
Mariana Green-Hill, Violin, Chamber Coach
Sassan Haghighi, Cello
Nancy Hair, Cello
Susan Jarvis, Violin & FOCUS II
Anna Korsunsky, Violin
Hyun-ji Kwon, Cello & Chamber Coach
Angela Leidig, Violin, Suzuki
Lucia May, Violin
Carol Ou, Cello
Magdalena Richter, Violin
Joung Hoon Song, Violin
Peipei Song, Accompanist
Megumi Stohs, Violin, Chamber Coach, A Far Cry
Nurt Villani, Music Theory
Laura Williamson, Cello, Suzuki
Liana Zaretsky, Violin
Michael Zaretsky, Viola

2021/2022

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Up to \$5,000

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Project STEP students performing at Rockport Music. Photo by Matthew Muise.

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Abdi Ali

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Katura Robinson
Jonathan Saunders

Gifts in Honor of
the 2022 Senior Students
Diane M. Austin & Aaron J. Nurick
Albert & Lucy Casiano
Alexandra Fuchs
Ashe Gordon
Andrea Jarrett
Marta Jimenez
Dr. Michael J. Hoyle
The Hon. Antoinette Leoney (ret.)
Meghan Jasani & Adam Margolin
Jodie & Paul McMenamin
Kerby Louis Roberson, Jr.
Dr. Ian Saunders
Hagar & Dyango Shirman
Karine Querido

Gifts in Honor of
Aáron Soto
Felicia Pagán-Soto

Gifts in Honor of
Joel Stein
Hillary Smenton

**Gifts in Honor of
Alan Strauss**

Michael and Margie Bogdanow

**Gifts in Honor of
Nathan Theodore**

Marie Grandoit
Benz Theodore

**Gifts in Honor of
Dylan Wolfson-Blitzer**

Susan Wolfson

**Gifts in Honor of
Lorenzo Ye**

Marta Jimenez

**Gifts in Memory of
Barbara Berger**

Danita Hanson

**Gifts in Memory of
Louis H. Hamel, Jr.**

S. Tara Miller

**Gifts in Memory of
Ricardo Hofer**

Nancy Chodorow

**Gifts in Memory of
Barbara & Arthur Kravitz**

Ramon Greenberg
Neal Kravitz
Diana M. Nugent

**Gifts in Memory of
Phyllis Levinson**

Nan Levinson

**Gifts in Memory of
George & Ruby Luse**

George Luse Jr. & Lynn Duval

**Gifts in Memory of
Rita Meyer**

Sprague Ackley

**Gifts in Memory of
Janet Packer**

Elisa Pepe

**Gifts in Memory of
Daniel I. Palant**

Robert Abrams
Ronald P. Barron & Ina K. Wilhelm
David G. Kanter
Frederick H. Jacobs
Barbara Palant
Stefanie and Thomas Sinks
Loren Waldman
Kim Whiteley

**Gifts in Memory of
George Seaman**

Evelyn McFadden

**Gifts in Memory of
Melinda Wells**

Torena Webb-Thomas

**FOUNDATION, CORPORATE PARTNERS,
& GOVERNMENT SUPPORT**

Anonymous
Alchemy Foundation
Amazon Smile
The Bellevue Fund
Cakes by Noel
Canton Cultural Council
Carriage House Violins
Charles H. Bond Trust
City of Boston
Blessing Foundation
Boston Cultural Council
Boston Society of the New Jerusalem
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Boston University School of Music
Colonel Spencer Inn
Robert Lloyd Corkin
Charitable Foundation
Joan P. and Ronald C. Curhan
Family Fund
Dedham Institute for Savings
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation
Givinga Foundation
Martha Struthers and Donald C.
Farley, Jr. Family Foundation
Find Your Light Foundation
The Gregory E. Bulger Foundation
Harman Family Foundation
The George and Louise J. Hauser
Charitable Trust
The Janey Fund
Johnson String Instrument
The Klarman Family Foundation

The Kravitz Family Foundation
Liberty Mutual Foundation
Linde Family Foundation
Mabel Louise Riley Foundation
The Mary Saudek Jaffee Fund
Massachusetts Cultural Council
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Richard P. and Claire W. Morse
Foundation
Mu Phi Epsilon Foundation
The National Endowment for the Arts
New England Bio Labs
New England Conservatory
Novartis US Foundation
One Mighty Mill
The Parents & Families of
Project STEP
Ramsey McCluskey Family
Foundation
Rivers Conservatory
Savage Family Foundation
The Michael T. Sherman Foundation
SM Allen Real Estate LLC
Somerton Summers
Lauren and Eric Stein
Family Charitable Fund
Tower Point LLC
Virtuosity
Watertown Cultural Council
The Willow Tree Fund
Winsor Music



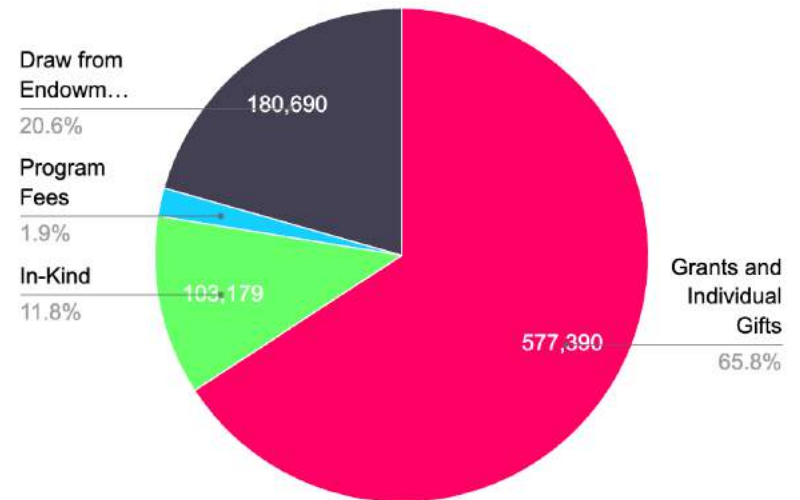
Project STEP's Core Program is supported in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and the Boston Cultural Council administered by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture.

FINANCIALS

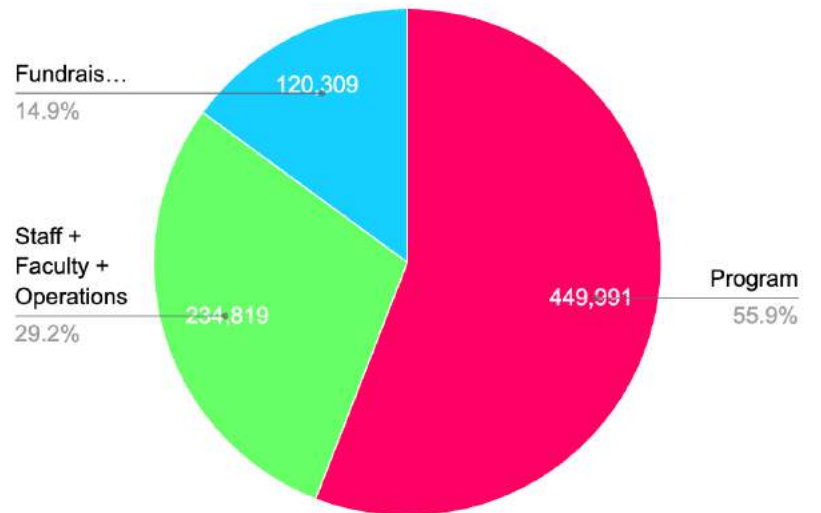
Statement of Activities for Fiscal Year 2022

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Operating revenue and support			
Grants and contributions	\$ 577,390	\$ 83,436	\$ 660,826
In-kind contributions	103,179	-	103,179
Program fees	16,263	-	16,263
Net assets released from restrictions	180,690	(180,690)	-
Total operating revenue and support	877,522	(97,254)	780,268
Operating expenses			
Program expenses	449,991	-	449,991
Management and general	234,819	-	234,819
Fundraising	120,309	-	120,309
Total operating expenses	805,119	-	805,119
Change in net assets from operations	72,403	(97,254)	(24,851)
Non-operating revenue			
Investment return	(387,949)	(108,075)	(496,024)
Change in net assets	(315,546)	(205,329)	(520,875)
Net assets at beginning of year as previously stated	2,577,994	823,136	3,401,130
Prior period adjustment	(75,073)	70,000	(5,073)
Net assets at beginning of year as restated	2,502,921	893,136	3,396,057
Net assets at end of year	\$ 2,187,375	\$ 687,807	\$ 2,875,182

Revenue



Expenses



A young man with dark, curly hair is shown in profile, focused on playing a cello. He is wearing a dark shirt and tie. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white.

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position FY2022

Assets

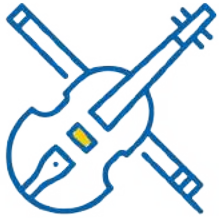
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 277,172
Accounts receivable	3,616
Contributions and grants receivable - current	45,250
Other current assets	3,546
Total current assets	<u>329,584</u>
Investments - Endowment	2,488,061
Contributions and grants receivable - long term	38,186
Instruments and equipment - net	53,579
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,909,410</u>

Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 31,172
Accrued expenses	3,056
Total current liabilities	<u>34,228</u>

Net assets

Without donor restrictions	
Undesignated	237,371
Board designated for endowment	1,950,004
Total without donor restrictions	<u>2,187,375</u>
With donor restrictions	
Purpose/time restricted	300,707
Perpetual endowment	387,100
Total with donor restrictions	<u>687,807</u>
Total net assets	<u>2,875,182</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 2,909,410</u>



INSTRUMENTS

Every student in the Project STEP's core program is able to use a Project STEP instrument throughout their twelve years of musical training. Like Goldilocks, we have to find the right instrument for the right student, considering age, size, experience, and use. As the student grows, so does their instrument, and it is exchanged for the next perfect fit. Most students throughout the course of their studies will change through four different instruments at least, if not more. We also often need to replace instruments in our collection all together and/or make repairs. On average a student instrument can cost between \$1,000-\$10,000 and repairs can range from \$75- \$1,500. Let's not forget bows, instrument cases, and instrument care!

Your support directly helps us maintain a healthy collection of instruments for our students.



SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

Each summer our students are presented with opportunities to attend summer music camp and take summer music lessons. We combine funds from individual donors (that's you!) with scholarships from the camps themselves and special support from generous funders including The Janey Fund, The Mary Saudek Jaffee Fund, The Willow Tree Fund, and Winsor Music. Approximately 80% of our students attend festivals and summer orchestra tours. Their local, national, and international music camp experiences are beyond compare.



MENTORS & MASTERS

Not only does Project STEP have a student-to-student mentorship program, we also host masterclasses with world-renowned musicians, including STEP alumni. These opportunities for support and inspiration are instrumental to our students' music education and provide life-long memories and friendships.



TEACHING ARTISTS

Project STEP works with the top musicians in the field to provide the very best education for our students. We have over 30 teaching artists from esteemed partnerships with: NEC, BSO, A Far Cry, and Rivers Conservatory.

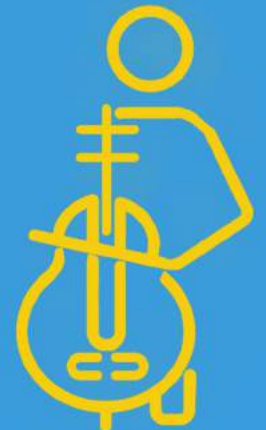


ORCHESTRA
PRIVATE LESSONS
MUSIC THEORY
CHAMBER ENSEMBLES
WEEKLY WORKSHOPS
FOCUS INTRODUCTORY PROGRAM

Project STEP: PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

YOUR SUPPORT STORY - WHY FUNDING COUNTS

1 STUDENT
+12 YEARS
=\$100,000



CORE PROGRAM - Every year, Project STEP must balance our fiduciary responsibility in parallel to each student's long-term music education. We support their training for up to 12 years, during grades 1-12. On average, every student entering the Core Program through FOCUS is considered a \$100K investment.

Students take up to 7 hours of music lessons on Saturdays throughout the academic year!

100% of our programming budget is allocated towards these Saturdays and other classes.

project STEP

301 Massachusetts Avenue | Symphony Hall
Boston, MA 02115 | 617-267-5777
projectstep.org



All Photos by: Abdi Ali, Alberto Casiano, Boston Symphony Orchestra,
Matthew Muise, Robert Torres, or Project STEP unless otherwise noted.