

Seattle Symphony Community Engagement Programs

Community Connections

[Community Connections](#) is a program for nonprofit organizations that allows marginalized communities to attend Symphony performances for free, attend pre-concert workshops and participate in in-depth creative projects. Part of the Seattle Symphony's commitment to expand relations with its community, it currently involves more than 50 local nonprofits and works with youth, cultural and social service groups for customized pre-concert events, music-making workshops, creative projects and community concerts.

Last season, the Seattle Symphony gave away approximately 1,800 concert tickets to over 50 local nonprofits. Teaching artists made close to 80 community site visits and facilitated five creative residencies. In addition, in-depth special projects such as the Lullaby Project and prison visits further enhances the Orchestra's presence and work in the community. See below for further details.

Lullaby Project

A national program of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute



The Lullaby Project is an intensive Community Connections project in which mothers in challenging circumstances come together with Symphony teaching artists and musicians to write, record and perform personalized lullabies for their children. Over the course of a few months, Seattle Symphony musicians and teaching artists meet with participating mothers to help them conceptualize and compose a lullaby. The resulting works are recorded on CDs given to participants, who also attended a culminating sharing and reflection session. All activities and materials are provided free of charge to participants.

Prison Program

The Prison Program is a Community Connections project which brings hope and healing to residents of local prisons through live music. For the past four years, Symphony musicians and teaching artists have brought chamber music programs for men and women in Monroe Correctional Complex and Washington Correctional Center for Women.



"I watched over fifty incarcerated men sit quietly for 90 minutes and enjoy something that few of them had ever experienced. The power and richness of a live classical duet is a joy in any setting. To have this experience inside a prison makes it all the more unique and special."

– Superintendent of the Monroe Correctional Complex

Community Compositions

Lost & Found with Trimpin



The Seattle Symphony partnered with Path with Art, a nonprofit that uses art to transform the lives of those recovering from homelessness, addiction and other trauma, and sound sculptor and composer Trimpin, in ***Lost & Found with Trimpin*** in the 2015–2016 season. Trimpin led a group of participants from Path with Art in weekly workshops to take unconventional objects and old instruments to design and build a mechanical musical contraption. Participants were taught

the basic mechanics of robotics in the process of constructing a unique instrument, which was performed during a final public concert in Benaroya Hall.

Native Lands Potlatch Symphony

The **Native Lands Community Composition Program** is a community composition created in partnership with several local Native American tribes, all residing in the Puget Sound Region. The composition is co-written and jointly performed by local Native artists and youth along with Seattle Symphony musicians. The partnership included concert collaborations and cultural exchanges, as well as classroom residencies for school groups in Native American and other community centers.