

2020 Education Impact Report

KEEPING THE MUSIC ALIVE

The Santa Rosa Symphony is a key provider of music education in Sonoma County, delivering comprehensive music training and engagement both in the schools and through extracurricular programs, advancing students' curiosity, collaborative spirit, motivation for excellence and community service.

In the face of the pandemic, we have sustained all of our music education services, innovating on past program success in order to continue providing uplifting opportunities for creative expression. Reflecting our commitment to breaking down barriers to access, the vast majority of the families whom we reach pay nothing for these services.

VALUES

Equitable access to music education

Encouraging youth excellence

Training for lifelong learning and engagement



NOURISHING YOUNG ARTISTS

Being a part of SRSYO is constantly encouraging me to strive to be a better musician. I think SRSYO represents connection through music and, though it has been difficult to emulate during this time, our Sunday Zoom rehearsals brought us together. Collaborating and playing with a string quartet over Zoom is something I will never forget!

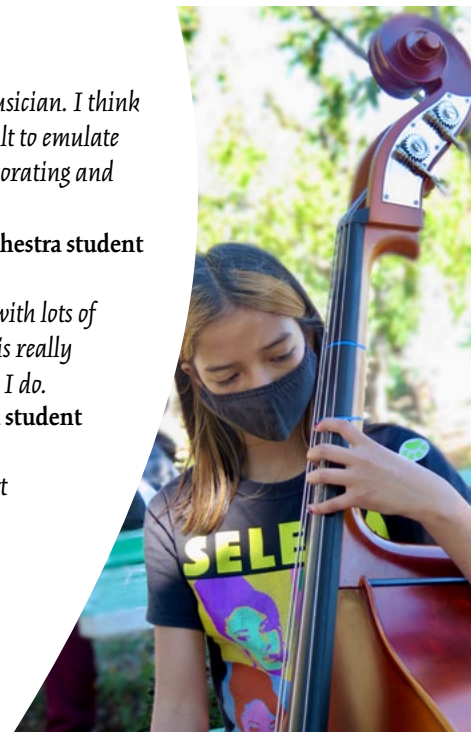
— Valentina Badano, Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra student

I've always wanted to play in an orchestra and to be able to make music with lots of different instruments. The feeling you get when all of the parts fit together is really amazing. I love being able to interact with people who love music as much as I do.

— Eliana Badano, Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra student

One of the biggest criticisms in education about supporting students is that the support is often unsustainable, usually a 'one-and-done' type scenario. The Santa Rosa Symphony's It's Elementary program is the opposite of that, and that is why it is such a beneficial program to children. The support is multi-year and has a lasting positive impact on children's school experience.

— Mary Reynolds, Ed.D., Principal, Miwok Valley Elementary Charter School





RESPONSIVE ARTS EDUCATION FOR ALL



New video lessons

for 20 schools across Sonoma County.

98%

of families paid nothing for our services.

All education programs continued

during the pandemic, keeping students engaged while putting safety first.

Zero students turned away

for lack of funds, thanks to Symphony financial aid program.

4-year school concert initiative

successfully brought free professional performances to 84 schools.



DEEPENING ROSELAND ENGAGEMENT

When our afterschool program for Roseland students, Simply Strings, had to temporarily pause in-person learning during the pandemic, we designed a free virtual course for all third-grade classrooms in the Roseland district. Reaching nearly 200 students, Simply Strings teaching artists met live with each class once a week for interactive lessons on rhythm, pitch, tempo, and meter.

Now, in addition to reinstating the afterschool program, the Symphony is committed to continuing this music appreciation course in-person during the 2021-2022 school year.



Thanks for all the work of Simply Strings. It has been a life-changing program for many students over the years, and we are blessed to have you all on the Sheppard campus and now in this virtual world.

—Roseland Public Schools teacher



srsymphony.org

To learn how you can support music education, please contact Director of Development Ben Taylor, (707) 546-7097 ext. 214.