

Collaborations Ideas:

- » Zoo
- » Museum
- » Festival
- » Competition
- » School or College
- » Dance Company
- » Youth Orchestra/Professional
- » Aquarium
- » Homeless Centers
- » Library
- » Autism Center
- » Medical centers/Hospitals
- » Senior living (kūpuna)
- » Dementia/ memory care units
- » Science Centers
- » City Park
- » Refugees
- » Food pantries
- » Juvenile (or adult) detention centers
- » Music program - sistema, other
- » Early learning center

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Community Impact Through Mission-Aligned Partnerships

Catherine Beeson, Assistant Principal Viola, Colorado Symphony

Richard Scerbo, Director, National Orchestral Institute and Festival

Rachel Schultz, Chief Operating Officer, Hawaii Youth Symphony Association

Kelly Waltrip, Managing Director, The Gilmore Piano Festival, Former Executive Director, Denver Young Artists Orchestra/Managing Director - Alliance with the Colorado Symphony

Randy Wong, President and CEO, Hawaii Youth Symphony Association

Partnership Journeys

Hawai'i Youth Symphony & Pacific Music Institute

Organizational Culture

- » **Vision:** Music Is A Right in Hawai'i
- » **Mission:** to foster fun & creative opportunities for youth, through a deep appreciation for music and lifelong learning in the context of our Islands' cultures.
- » **Core Values:**
Inspire, Dream Courageously,
Grow Together, and Have Fun

HYS at a Glance

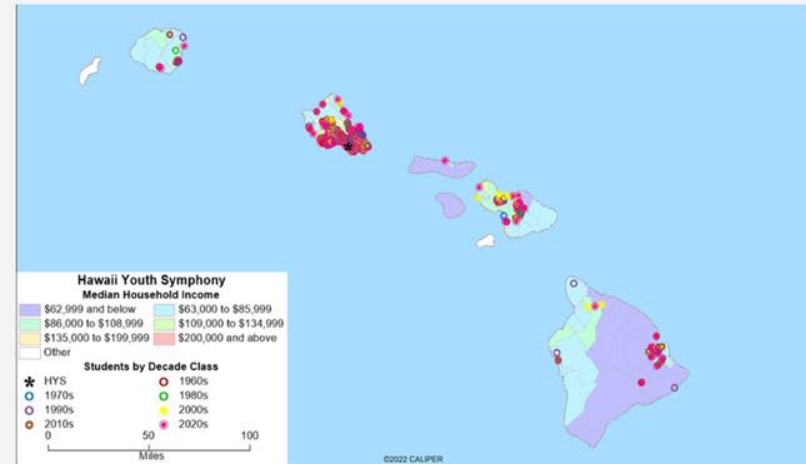


Our Demographics

Who we serve

- » HYS serves over 800 youth ages 7-18 from all islands statewide
- » 30%+ of those youth enroll in our PMI summer program
- » In addition to teaching enrolled youth, we desire to serve others (general youth, elders, vulnerable population, etc.) through community outreach

Where they come from



Orchestral Learning Alliance

What is OLA?

- » Founded in 2018; a partnership between HYS & the National Orchestral Institute + Festival
- » Mentorship, outreach, & pre-professional training, all rolled into a bespoke Teaching Fellowship
- » 30 OLA alumni; over 1,500 hours of contact time & nearly 10,000 youth served
- » OLA means life – and for us, orchestra *is* life



OLA fellows performing at Maui High School



Colorado/Haiti

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Colorado Symphony/Denver Young Artists Orchestra



Community Impact

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Sustaining Collaboration

A symphony orchestra is performing on a stage. The conductor is in the center, facing the musicians. The stage is lit with warm, red light. The ceiling is a grid of recessed lights. The audience is visible in the foreground, with one person's phone screen glowing in the dark.

Mauí Arts & Cultural Center

Sustaining Collaboration: OLA

Things that Work

- » Macro & Mini MOUs for clarity and adaptability
- » Checking in, bouncing ideas off each other
- » In-person touch points between activities
- » Introducing new ideas, collaborators to keep things fresh
- » Relentless storytelling

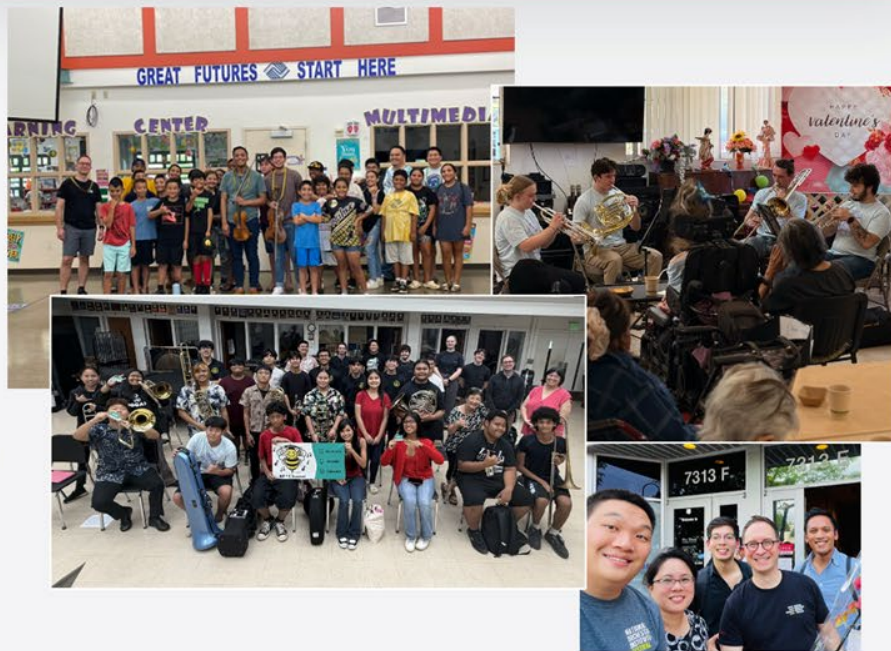


Teaching Artist/Professional Musician Involvement

Teaching Artist Development

Practice makes better!

- » Work with a professional chamber musician with experience in community outreach/residencies
- » Take them to a variety of community settings
- » Set rigorous—but attainable—goals & challenges
- » Give instant feedback
- » Provide Life experience (contracts, background checks, schedule coordination)
- » Develop appropriate scripting & presentation methods





Checklist for Mission-Driven Partnerships

Building impactful, community-centered partnerships requires intentionality, trust, and structural alignment. Use this checklist and discussion guide to evaluate and strengthen your collaborative efforts.



Foundational Elements

Ensure these core pillars are in place to build a strong, mutual foundation before launching.

- **[] Trust & Foundational Relationship**
 - Cultivate a deep understanding and respect for the partner organization's existing work in the community.
- **[] Shared Alignment**
 - Establish clear, shared intentions, mission alignment, and an explicit organizational commitment to the partnership.
- **[] Community Focus**
 - Clearly define the purpose, need, and specific community to be served by this partnership.
- **[] Adaptive Vision**
 - Create a shared vision of what success could look like, leaving room for flexibility and evolution over time.
- **[] Documented Agreement**
 - Outline terms in a clear, written Memorandums of Understanding (MOU), including finances, governance, and an evaluation timeline/format (to be updated as needed).

Questions & Discussion Recommendations

Bring these questions to your leadership and planning tables to stress-test your partnership strategy.

- **[] Scope & Risk**
 - Can we start with a pilot or a smaller version of the ideal program?
 - Are both organizations willing to view failure and risk as opportunities for learning rather than reasons to end the partnership?
- **[] Resources & Sustainability**
 - Are there dedicated human and financial resources allocated to support the partnership?
 - Is there a plan to identify sustainable funding for the program or partnership?
- **[] Stakeholder Inclusion**
 - Have musicians and teaching artists been involved in the planning and design of the program?
 - Has the community being served been involved in the planning and design of the program?
- **[] Training & Logistics**
 - Is there a plan to prepare all participants for the experience of working together through training, community education, or other support?
 - Who are the people and positions within each organization responsible for managing the program and maintaining the partnership relationship? Who/what else is needed to support?
- **[] Communications**
 - Do we have a shared narrative to use externally about the partnership? Is co-branding needed?

Unusual Collaborations / Meaningful Intersections

Work with those at your table to identify a possible collaboration and discuss challenges that may arise.

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- » Other music program

Q&A

Thank You For Joining Us!

Please feel free to reach out to any of the panelists with questions.
Emails are on the handouts on the tables.