



Education & Community Engagement Programs

Pacific Symphony serves nearly 50,000 Orange County residents through Education & Community Engagement programs that:

- Introduce people of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds to the Symphony
- Provide multiple opportunities to actively engage with symphonic music and with Pacific Symphony
- Leverage community partnerships to enhance the lives of Orange County's citizens
- Inspire children and adults to become involved in, and deepen their involvement with, music and the arts
- Increase access to the Symphony musicians and to Symphony concerts

Education and Instrumental Instruction

Arts-X-press, in celebration of Cole Carsan St.Clair – Residential, arts immersion program for 150 diverse middle school students from throughout Orange County, held in three, week-long summer sessions.

Frieda Belinfante Class Act – Comprehensive symphonic education partnership between the Symphony and 32 elementary schools throughout the county, serving 16,000 students and 5,000 parents, teachers and administrators. The program introduces students and their families to the musicians of Pacific Symphony and educates them about symphonic music. Included are professional development workshops, encouraging classroom teachers to infuse the arts into their regular instruction. Program culminates with eight bus-in Youth Concerts at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall.



Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles

- **Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings** – String orchestra, conducted by music educator Irene Kroesen. Provides 62 young musicians (ages 11-15) with quality educational and performance experiences.
- **Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra** – Symphony orchestra conducted by Assistant Conductor Roger Kalia. Provides its 108 members with an orchestral experience, marked by educational excellence and strong connections with the Symphony and its musicians.
- **Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble** – Led by Music Director Gregory X. Whitmore. Provides 61 talented young wind and percussion instrumentalists the opportunity to pursue musical excellence through a unique relationship with the Pacific Symphony.



School and University Residencies and Partnerships – Symphony musicians work with elementary, middle school, high school or university instrumental music students to enhance their musical and technical skills and engagement with symphonic music. Current residencies include Sage Hill School and St. Margaret's Episcopal School. The Symphony also partners with Chapman University each year to create the multi-disciplinary Interplay Festival and provides concert attendance and on-site activities to support UCI's Illuminations Initiative.

Concerts and Community Festivals

Family Musical Mornings Concert Series, Presented by Farmers & Merchants Bank

– Five Saturday morning programs for young concert-goers and their families. Includes hands-on, entertaining and educational activities on the concert hall plaza and in the lobbies.



Symphony in the Cities Concert Series – Free orchestral concerts performed in the summer months in casual and inviting settings, usually area parks, for Orange County residents and their families. Includes pre-concert interactive and fun hands-on activities.

Site-Specific Concerts – Interactive and engaging concerts in non-traditional locations and with an adventurous mix of repertoire. Current concert initiative include a concert project to co-create content with Anaheim residents.



Pacific Symphony Presents on the Argyros Plaza – Public events featuring community performances, multidisciplinary arts activities, and Symphony musicians prior to the Symphony concerts throughout the year on Segerstrom Center for the Arts Argyros Plaza.

Lantern Festival – A public community arts festival celebrating the culmination of the Lunar New Year.

Community Compositions – Stories from Orange County residents inspire a composer to write a new piece of music performed by Pacific Symphony.

Access

Heartstrings – Major community-wide program providing free access and transportation to concerts, hands-on enrichment activities, and instrumental music education to a range of underserved local residents in partnership with 19 Orange County agencies. Initiatives include:

- **Santa Ana Strings** – Partnership between the Symphony and Boys and Girls Club of Santa Ana that provides intensive, introductory violin instruction to Santa Ana elementary-aged students.
- **Music & Wellness Initiatives** – Provides regular music therapy-informed, quality live music performances and other experiences that improve the well-being of children, families and adults suffering from various disabilities, seniors in underserved retirement centers and people in transition houses and homeless shelters. Current partners include the Orange County Rescue Mission and The Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental disorders.
- **Concert Attendance** – Provides concert attendance opportunities and transportation to Symphony concerts across all series, as well as specialized on-site events for partner organizations.



Lifelong Learning

OC Can You Play With Us? Side-by-Side and Chamber Edition – Adult amateur musicians play alongside Pacific Symphony musicians for a rehearsal and mini-performance conducted by Music Director Carl St.Clair and/or play in small chamber ensembles led by Pacific Symphony musicians.

Strings for Generations – An intergenerational music program in partnership with the Irvine Chinese School, which provides opportunities for family members to make music together.



Master Classes – Selected Pacific Symphony guest artists give public workshops for local student and adult musicians.