SOCIAL CHANGE THROUGH MUSIC

The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra (MYO) is a youth and family development program of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. MYO harnesses the unique expertise of professional musicians to address one of our city’s most pressing and overarching social needs - improving student engagement in school.

MYORCHESTRA

MYO develops musical skills and helps students realize their potential. Students learn to play in a fun, engaging, and challenging environment led by expert faculty with a long-term commitment to the learning process. A culture of support lays the foundation for life-skill development. Culturally-responsive teaching is a key element, helping to build a space that’s respectful and inclusive.

By providing students in and around Indianapolis with opportunities for after school and weekend programming, the MYO helps to keep kids in school and encourages school engagement.

MYFAMILY

Families are strengthened by having intergenerational members play together, while encouraging students to create new friendships, and supporting the development of positive relationships. By fostering these positive relationships, the MYO helps to increase student’s motivation and participation.

MYFUTURE

Students are prepared for their futures by building their self-esteem and utilizing life-skills learned through rehearsal preparation and performances. MYO students strive for their personal best and envision a positive future, including the goals of staying in and graduating from high school and attending college or vocational school.

MYO students also have access to additional life-skill building resources, including:

- Professional Skill Building
- Resume & Interview Workshops
- College Admission & Tours
- Financial Literacy Experience
- Peer Mentoring
- College Preparation

MYO AT A GLANCE

- Serves 220 socioeconomically diverse students and their families.
- 100% high school graduation rate since 2008
- 100% of graduating seniors have pursued post-secondary education
- Mentoring by caring adults who serve as positive role models
- Intergenerational participation as families learn together
- Family support services including food services, workshops, counseling, community support, college readiness programs, and more

SOCIAL SERVICE PARTNERS

- Second Helpings
  Serves dinners to families prior to rehearsals
- Domestic Violence Network
  Provides professional development and training to MYO instructors
- Art of the Soul
  Provides professional development for teachers & parents regarding positive discipline and a licensed therapist for families in crisis
- Broadway United Methodist Church
  Houses all MYO large ensemble rehearsals
- Butler University Community Arts School
- Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Association Volunteers

For more information on supporting the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, please contact Senior Gift Officer Rita Steinberg at (317) 231-6764 or rsteinberg@IndianapolisSymphony.org.

You may also make a donation on our website at IndianapolisSymphony.org/support/donate. Check with your employer for matching gift opportunities. Please make checks payable to the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.