

Learning and Community Programs 2020/21



Nurturing Creativity, Curiosity, and Virtuosity

Inspired by Music & Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel’s belief that “music is a fundamental human right,” the Los Angeles Philharmonic is committed to bringing the transformative power of music into the lives of Angelenos. During the 2020/21 season, the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s Learning and Community programs are reaching students, teachers, young musicians, families, and concertgoers of all ages through free and low-cost concerts, intensive orchestral training programs, mentorship of young composers, complimentary ticket distribution in partnership with the offices of the County Supervisors, and events at Walt Disney Concert Hall and venues across Los Angeles.

YOLA (Youth Orchestra Los Angeles)

This LA Phil youth development initiative, in collaboration with community partners, seeks to democratize music education by offering free, high-quality instrumental music instruction in neighborhoods that are overlooked and under-resourced, with the vision that YOLA neighborhoods become vibrant centers of musical culture with a deepened sense of community.

YOLA Overview

- 4 community sites
- Students aged 6-18
- Serving over 1300 students annually
- 12 to 18 instruction hours per week
- Intensive in- and after-school ensemble-based learning
- Life skills development in leadership, mentorship, and communication
- Academic tutoring and college prep
- Parent and family engagement
- 100% high-school graduation rate
- 90% attend college



YOLA Sites and Partners

Through YOLA, community partners, peer program partners, and philanthropic partners come together to serve a common goal: putting the transformative power of music-making into the hands of young people who would not otherwise have access to it.

YOLA at EXPO Center

The YOLA at EXPO Center program, within Exposition Park in South L.A., has grown to include three orchestras, mentorship, group lessons, chamber music, and parent programs.

YOLA at EXPO Center is a partnership of the LA Phil, Harmony Project, and the EXPO Center, a City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks facility.

Location: South L.A. **Students:** 320
Established: 2007 **Hours Per Week:** 12-18
Ages: 6-18 **No. of Orchestras:** 3

YOLA at Torres

Nestled on the campus of Esteban E. Torres High School, a performing arts magnet school in East L.A., YOLA at Torres offers students the opportunity to thrive in an intensive, nurturing musical environment, receiving up to 15 hours of musical instruction and academic tutoring per week.

YOLA at Torres receives logistics and infrastructure support from the East L.A. Performing Arts Magnet and Beyond the Bell.

Location: East L.A. **Students:** 220
Established: 2014 **Hours Per Week:** 12-15
Ages: 8-17 **No. of Orchestras:** 3

YOLA at HOLA

YOLA at HOLA (Heart of Los Angeles) classes include music creativity, singing and solfège, ensemble rehearsals, and an hour of academic tutoring daily. This holistic approach fosters a sense of community and provides the students with the opportunity to take advantage of HOLA's exceptional programs and resources.

YOLA at HOLA is a partnership between the LA Phil and Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA).

Location: Rampart District **Students:** 250
Established: 2010 **Hours Per Week:** 15
Ages: 8-18 **No. of Orchestras:** 2

YOLA at Camino Nuevo

YOLA at Camino Nuevo is the first in-school YOLA model, allowing the LA Phil to bring rigorous music education into the school day and extend it after school. Currently serving students in grades K-6, the program will grow to serve students through 12th grade at the Kayne Siart and Miramar campuses of Camino Nuevo Charter Academy.

Location: Westlake/
MacArthur Park **Students:** 500
Established: 2017 **Hours Per Week:** 10
Ages: 5-11 **No. of Orchestras:** 1

“Music gave me a life I never imagined I would have, and it made me realize that where I came from had nothing to do with where I can go.”

Marcela, YOLA Class of 2014

Beckmen YOLA Center at Inglewood



The Judith and Thomas L. Beckmen YOLA Center at Inglewood marks the next step in YOLA's evolution: a space of its own. The Frank Gehry-designed Center will be a dedicated home to YOLA, serving as the program's fifth site and a central space for LA Phil's learning and community initiatives including the YOLA National Festival and YOLA National Symposium. A versatile 25,000-square-foot facility, the Beckmen YOLA Center at Inglewood will serve as a:

- New YOLA site welcoming 500 students annually with daily after-school sessions and weekend rehearsals
- Home for the YOLA Institute, providing leadership development, college preparation, and pre-professional training opportunities
- Rehearsal and performance space, bringing together students from all of YOLA's five sites to play together
- International teaching studio, hosting teacher training and convenings
- Host site for the YOLA National Festival, serving outstanding young musicians from across the U.S.

Student recruitment will begin in spring 2020.

YOLA Institute

Our students face obstacles that their more economically privileged peers do not in applying to and attending colleges and conservatories. The YOLA Institute helps level the playing field by providing them with the resources necessary to be competitive applicants to university music programs and conservatories. These resources include:

- Private lessons with LA Phil musicians and teaching artists
- College application support, including subsidized audition travel and recordings
- Additional training opportunities through chamber music ensembles and a high-level "super" orchestra made up of students from all of YOLA's sites
- Performance and travel opportunities, including regional, national, and international tours

YOLA Opportunities

YOLA's young musicians have performed in great concert halls all over the world and hundreds of venues throughout Southern California, on national and international television broadcasts, and alongside the greatest artists from numerous genres.

Beginning in 2013, YOLA musicians have accompanied the LA Phil on every one of its orchestra tours, traveling to cities in Europe, the East Coast, and Asia. In the fall of 2016, a full YOLA orchestra of 80 students embarked on a five-city tour of California.

Whether they are sharing the Super Bowl halftime show stage with Chris Martin (Coldplay), Beyoncé, and Bruno Mars, or performing side-by-side with the LA Phil, YOLA's musicians rise to any occasion.

YOLA National

YOLA National programs bring together those who believe that music education has a powerful role to play in youth and community development. Designed to respond to the changing needs of the field, YOLA National offers an ever-growing number of opportunities for young musicians, teaching artists, program administrators, and other stakeholders to learn from and create community with one another.

Through this work, the LA Phil aims to empower young people from populations that have been historically excluded from intensive music training and foster a dialogue among practitioners that will help shape the future of the field.

YOLA National Institute

Open to select musicians from the YOLA National Festival, the YOLA National Institute (YNI) offers in-depth training to young musicians interested in pursuing a career in music. YNI Fellows are leaders from their home programs who think critically about the arts and actively seek opportunities to challenge and question the role of music in their communities. The program offers mentorship, private instruction, chamber music coaching, travel opportunities, and financial support for college applications. Over the course of the year, fellows work together as a cohort to explore career pathways in music and work with artist-mentors as they navigate the college application process or their first year of college. All expenses, including travel, room, and board, are paid for by the program.

22 young people served.

YOLA National Festival

An intensive orchestral training program, the YOLA National Festival is open to young musicians aged 12-18 from Sistema-inspired programs and similar initiatives from across the country that are invested in youth and community development through music education.

Musicians convene each summer in Southern California for a two-week period of learning and performance with world-renowned conductors and artist mentors. Participation is free – travel, lodging, meals, and programming are provided to students. This year's program will feature two ensembles: the YOLA National Symphony Orchestra and the YOLA National Chamber Orchestra.

140 students served.

YOLA National Symposium

The YOLA National Symposium brings together educators, administrators, advocates, and other key stakeholders invested in progressive music education and youth development to advance the field through collective learning and dialog.

Approximately 350 people served.



Programs Supporting Young Musicians

The LA Phil follows in a deep tradition of enlisting accomplished musicians as mentors. Our programs for young musicians aim to help them reach their potential and to inspire virtuosity. With the support of Los Angeles Philharmonic musicians, students and teachers learn important lifelong lessons.



Invited Rehearsals

Invitational rehearsals provide middle- and high-school music students and school orchestra and band instructors with a rare glimpse at the creative process of the Los Angeles Philharmonic as it prepares for a concert. As part of the experience, school ensembles will gain first-hand insight into the rehearsal process, along with information on the repertoire and composers, and participate in a dynamic and interactive workshop.

Approximately 2,000 students served.

Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program

A unique offering among American orchestras, the Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program (CFP) is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for high-school-age composers to become a part of the LA Phil's thriving new music community. The innovative, multi-year program offers students a high level of consistent and intensive focus on the process of music composition, giving them the tools and freedom necessary to shape the future of concert music. Fellows are guided through the creative process from start to finish by internationally acclaimed composer and Program Director Andrew Norman. Students work with LA Phil musicians and guest artists in frequent reading sessions; hear their pieces performed by the LA Phil, chamber groups, and other orchestras; attend more than 20 concerts at Walt Disney Concert Hall; and engage with many of the world's greatest living composers.

15-20 students served.

National Composers Intensive

Since 2015, the LA Phil's National Composers Intensive has brought together contemporary composers, both those who are established and those with careers in the making. Serving composers aged 18-30, the National Composers Intensive demonstrates the LA Phil's commitment to the evolution of living music on a national scale and supports new music from commission to performance. These programs serve as models for the creation and performance of new music, which is at the very heart of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's identity.

Eight people served.

Dudamel Fellowship Program

This program is the LA Phil's initiative to identify emerging young talent in the field of conducting. Three to four promising young conductors are selected by Gustavo Dudamel to participate in residencies at the Los Angeles Philharmonic each season that include opportunities to hone their skills as conductor and educator. Fellows act as cover conductors for LA Phil concerts and guest conductors for LA Phil learning and community concerts, and work with students in key learning programs of the organization.

Four fellows participate.

Symphonies for Youth



The LA Phil believes in the profound and transforming experience of living music. We are committed to creating innovative music education programs that provide teachers and students throughout the greater Los Angeles area access to the world’s finest musicians and creative programming.

Toyota Symphonies for Youth

The Toyota Symphonies for Youth series showcases the Los Angeles Philharmonic in eight concerts created especially for children aged 5-11 and their families. These multi-disciplinary concerts are a perennial favorite of old and young alike and feature guest artists of the highest caliber, such as world-renowned pianist Emanuel Ax and three-time Grammy®-winning jazz bassist Christian McBride. Free pre-concert activities, including art-making, singing, dancing, and story-telling, precede these fun-filled and thrilling events.

An audience of approximately 16,000 served.

Symphonies for Schools, Supported by The Walt Disney Company

Elementary schoolchildren are introduced to the LA Phil, and middle- and high-school music students experience their “hometown A-team” orchestra annually through these free concerts at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Each teacher who applies to participate in this program is required to attend a preparatory workshop focusing on either the curricular integration of the music or the connections to their music-making. The program culminates in unforgettable concerts developed especially for these age groups.

Approximately 13,500 students and teachers served.

Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts Youth Concerts

The Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts sponsors two LA Phil concerts at no cost for elementary schoolchildren from the San Gabriel Valley. These specially designed concerts for youth also include the distribution of program books with music and art activities.

4,500 students served.

Adults & Community

The LA Phil leads the field in designing engaging concert experiences for specific audiences. We want to serve not only audiences who are tried and true, but also new audiences with young faces, in unusual settings – in churches and school auditoriums – for people less familiar with music or with the Philharmonic.

Upbeat Live

These pre-concert events are an informative and engaging way to learn about the music before the performance begins. There will be over 100 talks by renowned musicologists, panel discussions, and/or other special events held one hour before most concerts in BP Hall in Walt Disney Concert Hall. Upbeat Live events are free with the purchase of a concert ticket.

Audience of approximately 350 served per event.



Neighborhood and Community Concerts

The LA Phil's concerts in the community include occasional free orchestra and chamber music concerts in churches, community centers, and other venues across Los Angeles. Concerts have been performed at East Los Angeles College, First Congregational Church, Macedonia Baptist Church, and Morningside High School.

Audiences of 4,000 served.

Community Concert Connections

Through Community Concert Connections, the LA Phil distributes complimentary concert tickets to organizations that work with individuals in need, families, youths, and seniors who could not otherwise attend concerts. 501(c)(3) organizations submit a brief application describing whom they serve and, once accepted, receive a set of concert dates from which to request their tickets. At the Hollywood Bowl, tickets are offered for Tuesday and Thursday evening Los Angeles Philharmonic performances.

Over 16,000 tickets distributed through more than 100 social service organizations.