

UTAH SYMPHONY EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT



2017-18

Total Services Provided to Utah Students and Teachers

Total # of Districts	Total # of Charter Schools	Total # of Schools	Home School Students	Total # of Instructional Hours	Total # of Teachers	Total # of Students
31	36	421	135	380.5	3,101	76,021

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

CONCERTS IN SCHOOLS

FULL AND CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERTS

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
23	2	271	47	1,503	36,121

The core of Utah Symphony's educational offerings is concerts serving all school districts. The POPS Legislative mandate ensures equity in the geographic distribution of our services, and the requirement that the services be free does not restrict participants to those of higher income. Utah Symphony goes beyond the mandated service to each district every three to five years, by performing every year in all districts along the Wasatch Front from Ogden and Weber in the north to Nebo in the south.

Experiencing the actual art form at its professional best is a crucial part of arts education and forms an important part of the core curriculum. Pre-concert curriculum-based preparation provides a basis for understanding; attending a concert brings together all that the students have studied, and learning comes to life. After the concert, teachers can use the materials for post-concert discussions, activities and lesson plans.

Description of the Programs

Utah Symphony School Concerts, performed throughout the state, are based on thematic material and include musical demonstrations and introductions of the music. Each year we create an elementary and a secondary program for both full orchestra (about 75 musicians) and chamber orchestra (about 45 musicians). Having four concert programs gives us flexibility to best serve diverse student populations in venues across the state. The Utah Symphony gave 47 school concerts this year. In addition to 26 concerts along the Wasatch Front (Weber to Nebo), the orchestra traveled by bus to Beaver, Brigham City, Junction, Kanab, Logan, Millville, Morgan, Nephi, Salina, Tooele, and Tropic to perform on-site school concerts. We invite local legislators to every school concert.

The musical element of melody was used in 2017-18 to introduce and explore some of the great concert repertoire for the full orchestra concert programs. We were able to include a piece by a Hispanic composer in these concerts to add greater appeal to diverse students. The chamber orchestra programs focused on the instruments and sections of the orchestra, as well a variety of some basic elements of music. Our lively narration and musical examples provided guided listening for students and teachers. Assistant Conductor Conner Gray Covington connected very well with the students in his first year with the Utah Symphony. The elementary concert programs also included moments of audience participation to enhance active listening and keep attention focused on the experience.



What I liked was how you guys taught us about melody and how important it is to make a good song.

I loved how you played so many different songs and I learned something new on every song.

Students, Bastien Elem/Jordan SD

All the music was so good! Loved how conductor explained things to us, like melody!

It was AMAZING!!!! I want to come again to hear you, that's how good you are.

Students, Bates Elem/Weber SD

All teacher materials, including the music, were provided online this year. Teachers only had to play the Concert Preparation PowerPoint (which was conveniently segmented so they could use it in small chunks) and they could learn along with their students. We invited an elementary teacher who actively supports music education to review previous years' concert preparation materials with us. Her advice brought about several changes in the format and length of the materials, making them more teacher-friendly.

The materials for elementary programs included:

- Tracks of recordings of the concert music.
- A PowerPoint presentation introducing the composers and the music of both the elementary programs, information about what to expect at a concert, concert etiquette, and some information about the musicians of the Utah Symphony. No advance teacher preparation was necessary.
- A PDF with cross-curricular lesson plans and activities plans that incorporated the Utah Core Standards and Curriculum for grades four through six, with input from fine arts, math, and social studies directors at the USBE.

My students liked the PowerPoint presentations.

Thank you for the performance -- I really enjoyed it, what a breath of fresh air !!! Some of my students want to play instruments now!!

I think it was a great experience for our students and I really enjoyed the commentary. I thought it was a great way to get students to listen carefully.

Teachers throughout the state

The materials for secondary programs included:

- Tracks of recordings of the concert music.
- A PDF with general information about the program and concert etiquette as well as ways to connect the concert music to the secondary Music Connections and Music Aesthetics curriculum.

General Materials available for all included:

- A PowerPoint presentation introducing the elements of music.
- A PDF with online resources to help teachers extend the learning in their classrooms.

You guys were 10 out of 10 and keep playing and do not stop and if you run out of songs make some up. 😊

Student, Meadowbrook Elem/Nebo SD

To help facilitate the performances, schools provided student crews to help with the load-in, concert production, and load-out, working side-by-side with our professional crew. For stage crew students especially, this is an opportunity to see how the skills they are learning in high school are developed and used in a professional setting, helping make them career-ready. In return these students were given ticket vouchers to upcoming Utah Symphony concerts.

The Symphony Education Manager talked with District Arts Coordinators and music teachers in each school we visited to determine how we might best meet their needs with our variety of offerings.



Evaluations for teachers and students were included in the materials. Teachers who responded to our survey agreed that concert programming was age-appropriate and a good use of classroom time. When classes of students wrote with questions, Utah Symphony education staff responded.

Student Learning and Connection to the Core Curriculum

Pre-concert preparation and narration at the concert identify the elements of music and their role in communicating ideas and feelings. The narration makes connections between the music and the cultural and historical context in which it was written, and helps students build a listening vocabulary based on the musical elements. Through demonstrations and guided listening,

students also have the opportunity for aesthetic development, creating a basis for future music preferences. Students can then respond to the performance, bringing their own interpretation and meaning to their evaluation of the experience.



Elementary teacher materials give opportunities for connections to the language arts, social studies, math and music curriculum. Secondary materials primarily connect to the music curriculum.

Students' life skills are enriched by learning audience behavior and observing the stage presence exhibited by the orchestra musicians. Students particularly notice the great result of all the musicians working collaboratively together.

In their letters, students express appreciation for how much practice has gone into giving such a polished performance and note that this has inspired them to work harder.

Students write that they are inspired to take up an instrument, or to practice harder on one they are already learning. Secondary students, who have many pressures on their elective opportunities, find inspiration to remain in band or orchestra, reaping the many rewards of discipline, collaborative effort, artistic expression, and the strong bonds of a musical peer group.



I enjoyed listening to all the instruments one at a time and getting to know the family they are in.

I enjoyed the joy on their face when they played the instruments.
Students, Glendale Middle School/Salt Lake SD

MEET AND GREETs and **MUSICIANS IN THE CLASSROOM** are often scheduled in conjunction with school concerts. Descriptions of these events can be found under Interactive Events with Musicians on page 12.

STANDING OVATIONS ALL AROUND UTAH



JUAB HIGH SCHOOL



BEAVER HIGH SCHOOL



RIDGELINE HIGH SCHOOL

Your concert was inspiring and beautiful. It moved my soul. Thank you for taking the time to come and play for us. It really means a lot.

Student, Logan HS/Logan SD

When the symphony played it was as if the music was moving through them.

Student, Bear River HS/Box Elder SD

The orchestra students at our school had such a great response to the symphony. They enjoyed it, learned so much, and many have the 'bigger picture' in mind as they practice.

I thought it was musically stellar. I thought the selections were appropriate. All of the other teachers from my school that were there were very complimentary of the program and were happy to use their school hours to do it.

Teachers throughout the state



PIUTE HIGH SCHOOL

CONCERTS & EVENTS AT ABRAVANEL HALL

5TH GRADE CONCERTS

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
9	17	194	10	747	19,167

Fifth Grade Concerts give students an opportunity to hear the Symphony in acoustically-acclaimed Abravanel Hall. A field trip to Abravanel Hall is also a chance for many students to experience the beauty that can be achieved in architectural design, as a tribute to the importance of art and culture in their community. This can be an important experience of social and civic responsibility which demonstrates promotion of the common good.

We were particularly excited to be a part of the *Go West!* festival which was a collaboration between the Buffalo Bill Center in Cody, Wyoming and the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. UMFA presented an exhibit of art from the Buffalo Bill Center. The invitation to collaborate gave us a great starting place for this year's theme.



This year's concerts tied in very well with the 5th grade social studies curriculum which focuses on the United States. The *Go West!* theme used musical examples to review different parts of our country's westward expansion. We established that we were "in the west" after listening to *The Cowboys Overture*. We then had music about a railroad that gave us the chance to talk about the importance of the railroad to the expansion. Next, musical examples portrayed the vast open spaces that welcomed the pioneers, as well as the activity of chores undertaken on a ranch. There was a piece about the life of cattlemen, and one that demonstrated how a community might come together for a dance after a week of hard work. A movement from *The Grand Canyon Suite* celebrated one of our great western natural treasures. The students

joined in with the celebration when they stood and sang *America the Beautiful* with orchestral accompaniment. And we ended with a recognition of the diverse cultures found in the West by performing an exciting piece by a Mexican composer.

Before the concert, students seated in the hall could watch a pre-concert slide show full of information about the concert and Utah Symphony members, including featured stories about musicians who got their musical start in school music programs.

Assistant Conductor Conner Covington collaborated with education staff to assure a focused narration that corresponded closely with the thematic thread and supported teaching of the core curriculum. Students were involved in the performance at various times throughout the concert with interactive activities.



You guys were amazing! I'm not just saying that because my teacher told me to. I actually mean it.
Student, Indian Hills Elem/Salt Lake SD

This was the best concert yet. This was fantastic!
Teacher, Indian Hills Elem/Salt Lake SD

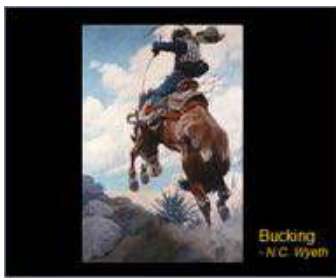
The conductor really is the key to connecting with the students! It was fabulous!
Teacher, Parkside Elem/Salt Lake SD

During the concert, a slide show reinforced the composer names and their pieces. Pictures of artwork from the *Go West!* exhibit at UMFA, as well as other pictures of western themes were carefully choreographed and shown with the music to engage the students' imaginations visually as well as aurally.

A corps of nearly 80 volunteer docents visited the hundreds of participating schools to prepare students for this exciting field trip (see the next section of this report).

Prior to each concert, teachers received information on how to access and use our online materials which were formatted similarly to those for our in-school elementary programs described on pages three and four. The concert preparation materials were for those classrooms that might not have a docent visit, especially charter and private schools. The other materials were to be used as follow up to the concert.

The ten 5th Grade Concerts were attended by students from the Alpine, Canyons, Davis, Granite, Jordan, Morgan, Murray, Salt Lake City, and Tooele school districts, charter schools, private schools and home-school groups.



I hope you are as happy as all of the people you make happy!

Another thing I loved was when the conductor would stop in between each song and explain what the sounds in the next song would mean and what instruments play each sound.

My favorite part was when we got to sing along with the orchestra playing. I liked it because I felt like I was a part of the Symphony.

Your music expressed peoples feeling as you played. I was able to relate the music to myself.

Students, Endeavor Elem/Davis SD

I think Utah Symphony was the best place I've ever gone to in my whole life.

I really like the slide show that was shown to us. When I was listening to the songs I felt I was venturing in the west and going on amazing adventures and waltzing in a barn. . . . You opened up my eyes to music!

Students, Parkside Elem/Salt Lake SD



Thank you for showing us Utah's history in a fun entertaining way.

Student, Syracuse Elem/Davis SD

I am proud I live in Utah, and glad there is a symphony to cheer Utah on!

Student, Driggs Elem/Granite SD

For purple mountain majesties

Above the fruited plain!



Student Learning and Connection to the Core Curriculum

The text on pages 3 and 4 describes these connections to all Utah Symphony education concerts.

5TH GRADE DOCENT PRESENTATIONS

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
7	10	188	148.5	704	18,533

Docents made 198 presentations to fifth-graders to prepare them for the 5th Grade Concerts at Abravanel Hall.

The Symphony Education Manager trained the volunteer docents, who included Symphony Guild members, retired teachers, and Utah Symphony staff. Each docent was given a lesson plan and a flash drive with a PowerPoint presentation, to ensure consistency in presentation. Docents were invited to attend a rehearsal for this concert to help bring the music alive for them, which in turn added to their enthusiasm when presenting the materials to students.

Each visit was approximately 45 minutes and included student participation and discussion. Starting with a brief introduction to Abravanel Hall, the presentation then oriented the students to the theme of the concert, the featured composers and their music. The story of our western expansion told with music and pictures – including some of the great art in the *Go West!* exhibit at UMFA – either reinforced what some students had already studied, or was an introduction to the topic that they would cover later in school. Having this introduction in the school setting makes it possible to insert many opportunities for the docent to invite student comments and questions.



The docent at our school was perfect and the ladies who presented were wonderful!

Teacher, Rose Creek Elem/Jordan SD



In addition to introducing the students to the music they would hear at the concert, the docent presentation is especially well-suited to guide students in learning how to interpret intent and meaning in the music, and applying criteria to evaluate orchestral music which is often an unfamiliar genre for elementary students.

Teachers were given access to classroom materials on our website so they could provide additional concert preparation and follow-up. Connections to the 5th grade Core Standards and Core Music and Social Studies curriculum were highlighted.

Thank you for giving us a small preview of what the Symphony would be like.

Thank you for coming to our school on your time to teach us about the symphony.

Students, Taylorsville Elem/Granite SD

We were glad the docent got us all ready for the symphony. Having the children pre-listen to the music increased their recognition and enjoyment of the music.

Teacher, Driggs Elem/Granite SD

OPEN REHEARSALS AND TOURS

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
7	1	21	16.5	9	466

Open rehearsals gave students the opportunity to see the orchestra at work. Pre-rehearsal talks introduced students to Abravanel Hall, the orchestra, and the music to be rehearsed. Teachers occasionally requested information about careers in music. In addition to the opportunity to hear a live performance of music from the orchestral repertoire, students got a rare look into the level of professionalism that allows the orchestra to assemble a polished performance in just a few rehearsals. Each musician demonstrated discipline and integrity in having their part fully prepared, and teamwork as they worked together in rehearsal. Students could use this opportunity to heighten their music listening skills and reflect on music's impact on culture and history. They could also take inspiration from the results of hard work they witnessed on stage, applying it to their personal experiences practicing, rehearsing and performing. For students considering careers in music, observing professionals in rehearsal is helpful in getting them college or career ready.



Tours introduced students to the architectural and acoustical properties of Abravanel Hall. We usually also use time on the tours to talk a bit about careers in orchestral music – professional musicians, staff positions, and the importance of volunteers to all non-profit arts companies.



YOUTH SYMPHONY FESTIVAL

Fourteen youth symphony orchestras from Nebo to Logan and from St. George came to Abravanel Hall, each giving a 20 to 30 minute formal performance for members of the other orchestras. The Symphony provided the venue and some of the equipment for the day's performances. Some of these orchestras were district honors orchestras, while others were independently organized. For the second year, one of the partner orchestras arranged for adjudicators who provided comments evaluating each orchestra's performance. Orchestra directors had the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues during lunch. After the Festival, the Symphony Education Manager met with orchestra directors to select the students who would participate in the All-Star Evening concert later in the season.

(Note: While most of the participating students were in public schools, attendance figures from this event are not included in the statistics for this report because they did not work directly with Symphony artists. Student numbers totaled just under 1,000.)

STUDENTS IN PERFORMANCE

STUDENT SOLOISTS WITH THE SYMPHONY

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
6	1	7	12	-	7

Salute to Youth

Our Salute to Youth concert featured ten students (six in public schools, one in a charter school, one in a private school and two in college) each performing a movement of a concerto with the Utah Symphony. After undergoing an intensive audition process, students selected to perform in the concert met with the conductor to study the score, discuss matters of interpretation, and refine performance skills. Then they rehearsed and performed with the orchestra. Three of the soloists participated in an interview that was posted to our Facebook page. Soloists received a CD of their performance with the Symphony. Thus, very early in their musical careers they have experienced success in setting a goal, maintaining the discipline to achieve it, exploring their personal artistic choices with professional musicians, and receiving the recognition of their community through a public performance that attracted newspaper articles and reviews. This experience boosts their college application and audition opportunities, certainly making them more college and career ready.



All-Star Evening Soloist

This year's All-Star Evening soloist was Jarom Martineau, an 18 year-old home-schooled pianist from Provo. Jarom prepared one movement of the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 1 for the Salute to Youth auditions in the summer of 2017. Based on that performance he was selected to be the All-Star Evening soloist which meant he would need to learn the other two movements of that concerto. He worked diligently through the fall and winter and came to his score reading with the conductor fully prepared. Like the Salute to Youth soloists above, he benefited from mentorship by and performance with the professional musicians of the Utah Symphony.



STUDENTS AS PART OF THE SYMPHONY ENSEMBLE

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
11	4	24	20	-	56

All Star Evening Side-by-Side

The All-Star Evening Concert gave 57 high school students (one of whom attended private school and another was homeschooled) the opportunity to perform side-by-side with the Utah Symphony. The selection of students is a collaborative process with youth orchestra directors. Students participated in three rehearsals with Assistant Conductor Conner Covington, a sectional led by a Utah Symphony musician/mentor, a rehearsal with the orchestra, and a public performance in Abravanel Hall. Utah Symphony principal players often gave individual solo opportunities over to the student musicians. Rehearsals with our conductor gave them a new level of insight into analysis of the interpretive nuances appropriate to the repertoire. One student took part in a joint interview with the conductor that was posted on our Facebook page. Another student was recruited to do an Instagram takeover the day of the concert.



Thanks for the amazing opportunity again, I had the time of my life!

I loved playing on stage with the Symphony members and was able to learn a great deal from working with my stand partner.

All-Star Students

Thank you for your great support of music education in our district. It's thrilling to see students succeed beyond the classroom with community partners like the Symphony.

Davis School Board Member

Symphony Pops Concert – A Broadway Christmas with Brian Stokes Mitchell

We were asked to have a student percussionist participate in the Broadway Christmas with Brian Stokes Mitchell concerts in December. Connor Pemberton from Woods Cross High School was selected for the honor. He was coached twice by our principal percussionist, sat with the percussion section during half of one of the concerts to observe, and performed brief snare drum solos on two concerts, in front of the orchestra alongside the guest artist.

INTERACTIVE EVENTS WITH MUSICIANS & STUDENTS

MEET AND GREETs

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
7	-	7	3.5	9	184

Meet and Greets began years ago at the request of a district arts coordinator and have been popular ever since. This year Meet and Greets were held at Box Elder, Cottonwood, Logan, Morgan, Orem, and Tooele High Schools, and Glendale Middle School. In between school concerts, Utah Symphony musicians chatted informally with music students while enjoying refreshments provided by the hosting school. These sessions usually lasted about 30 minutes. Students had a chance to ask questions of the musicians they had just heard (or were going to hear) in performance, and orchestra members had the chance to make connections to our school audiences.



MUSICIANS IN THE CLASSROOM

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
13	-	16	18	19	546



Musicians in the Classroom placed musicians in schools at the secondary level. Based on the request of the teacher, they conducted rehearsals, led small sectionals, gave masterclasses, performed with the students, discussed careers in music, and offered musical and technical suggestions. Musician visits gave students a closer, more direct connection to a professional musician with the hope that students will be inspired to maintain and increase their participation in music.

This year 24 different Utah Symphony musicians participated in the program, several of them more than once. The musicians visited 16 different schools. Districts served by this program include Cache, Davis, Jordan, Juab, Kane, Logan, Nebo, Salt Lake City, Sevier, Tooele, Uintah, Washington and Weber.

He helped rehearse and prepare music for our upcoming festival. Many thanks for sending him out. He is great with the kids.

Teacher, Bountiful HS/Davis SD

I would do this again in a heartbeat and I'd recommend it to a colleague.

Teacher, Clearfield HS/Davis SD

**Thank you for a fantastic bass sectional!
Thank you so much for making us so much better!
You really helped improve our sectional in a fun enjoyable way.
the insight, and the opportunity work with you.
You really helped us improve the piece we're playing.**

Students, Woods Cross HS/Davis SD

GUEST ARTIST EVENTS

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
10	4	31	6.5	-	75

As part of their visits to Salt Lake on behalf of Utah Symphony, three guest artists participated in outreach events. All events were free and the masterclasses were open to the public.

Violinist **Will Hagen** led a masterclass at which four talented violinists from our Youth Guild performed. A masterclass is much more than just a lesson. Pieces should be performance-ready and students must be able to be taught and critiqued by a professional musician, unknown to them, in front of an audience. They must be solid in their musicianship to be able to make adjustments and try new techniques in the course of their short time with the guest artist. For the Youth Guild students this masterclass was particularly meaningful as Will Hagen is from Salt Lake and is a former Youth Guild member himself.



Pianist **Stephen Hough** was scheduled to lead a masterclass with four students from our Youth Guild. Just hours before the class was to begin, Mr. Hough became too ill to teach. We were very fortunate to be able to get Frank Weinstock, retired member of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music faculty, to lead the class.

Composer **Zhou Tian** is writing a piece for a co-commission of which the Utah Symphony is a part, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike. Mr. Tian came to Salt Lake in May to hear the orchestra and visit the historical sites he would be writing about. As part of his visit, we arranged for him to have a meet and greet with local composers. He also visited the Gifted Music School, where he led their orchestra in a reading of one of his pieces. He also talked about his life and career, and took questions from the students.



Thank you so much for all you provide for these young students and the music community! These opportunities are priceless!!

Violin Teacher



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

CLASSROOM PRESENTATION

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
2	-	2	2.5	21	483

The Utah Symphony Education Manager visited a Herriman High School orchestra class at the request of the teacher. The High School Music Club was going to attend a concert featuring Bernstein's "Age of Anxiety" and the visit was intended to give the students an introduction to the music on that concert program. There was also some discussion and questions about careers as a professional musician.

Utah Symphony was invited to send a musician to be part of a 9th grade assembly at West High School at the beginning of the year. Principal trombone player Mark Davidson joined community leaders and other professionals who were all speaking about ways to find inspiration to help overcome challenges.

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC CLUBS

We know that one of the important tasks of the teen years is the development of self-concept, and one of the ways teens explore this is through peer group interaction. Our high school music club program makes it possible for high school students to develop and share their love of and interest in music with their peers in a social setting away from school. Groups attend four symphony concerts and can choose to attend one opera dress rehearsal (Opera statistics are included in the Utah Opera report.) In 2017-18, we had nine high school clubs, seven of which came from public high schools, one from a charter school, and one from a private school. Student enrollment in the eight public/charter school clubs was 299. Those numbers are not included in this report because they purchased tickets to attend (\$5 per concert).



UTAH SYMPHONY YOUTH GUILD

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
12	7	46	8.5	-	83

Utah Symphony Youth Guild is dedicated to giving students a personal involvement with the arts, including supporting the Utah Symphony through education and volunteer service activities. Membership is open to families with children ages 8 to 18. In addition to the opportunity to purchase ticket vouchers at greatly reduced prices, students also receive complimentary tickets as part of many of the education and service activities.

(NOTE: Backstage Seminars and a chamber music masterclass are the only Youth Guild events included in the statistical reporting. They are education activities in which students interacted with Utah Symphony musicians.)

Abravanel Hall Ushering and Coat Check: Youth Guild members may serve as ushers for selected Masterworks concerts and staff the Youth Guild coat check for all concerts.

Lobbyfest featured members of the Youth Guild providing musical ambience at Abravanel Hall for concertgoers prior to evening concerts by the Utah Symphony.

Family Music Fairs were held in the lobby of Abravanel Hall prior to all three of the Family concerts this season. Youth Guild members earned service credit for helping with activities involving musical concepts.

Random Acts of Music continued this year. In collaboration with the Salt Lake City Public Library, individuals and small ensembles provided music in the atrium of the downtown library three times during the season.

Backstage Seminars: Each Youth Guild Backstage Seminar began with a tour and talk about Abravanel Hall, and also featured time with a Utah Symphony musician prior to a Masterworks concert.

Youth Guild Masterclass: In addition to our guest artist masterclasses, the Youth Guild offered a chamber music masterclass with our principal violist Brant Bayless.

Youth Guild Recital: Each year Utah Symphony musicians adjudicate Youth Guild recital auditions, giving students meaningful written feedback. A free recital of the winners was held at The Waterford School where they were awarded cash prizes.



This is one of THE BEST ways I know to get children interested in USUO!!!! Thank you for all the wonderful work you do, it's very much appreciated.

Thank you for all the wonderful experiences you provided for our family through the years. We have so many great memories.

Youth Guild Parents



MUSIC OUTREACH PROGRAM

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
2	5	8	29	-	69

The Utah Symphony Guild continued a program of free, twice-weekly violin lessons to students in the after-school program at the Northwest Recreation and Community Center. Violins, all teaching materials and the teacher are provided to this program. Many of the students came from schools in the Rose Park area of Salt Lake City. Students performed in two recitals during the school year. Students in the program were offered a pair of complimentary tickets to the Utah Symphony Family concerts in December and April.

The program continued its collaboration with the Guadalupe School where 52 students also had violin lessons twice a week. The Symphony Guild provides the violins, music, music stands and other teaching materials. The school finds private donations to pay the teacher.

THE UTAH SYMPHONY'S GREAT AMERICAN ROAD TRIP (GART)

In late August 2017, the Utah Symphony embarked on the Great American Road Trip, a 1200+ mile tour of some of Utah's National monuments. Each stop of the journey provided stunning natural backdrops for our free concerts, and the concert program highlighted music inspired by nature including two pieces by Mohican composer Brent Michael Davids. GART was a fantastic opportunity for our Education & Community Outreach department to serve populations in the more rural areas of our state.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
4	-	8	5	15	231

Presented in partnership with the Natural History Museum of Utah (NHMU), two "Listen for Music in Nature" assemblies featured our woodwind trio in a program that explored music in nature and nature in music. After playing a "guess that sound" game with the NHMU, students were introduced to the basic elements of music (melody, rhythm, dynamics, tempo). Using their new understanding of musical elements, students listened more carefully to the nature sounds from the preceding game. Then, they listened for representations of nature in Alyssa Morris's piece titled *Brush Strokes*.

Two other school assemblies offered to Native populations (the Navajo Nation in Montezuma Creek and the Ute tribe in Fort Duchesne) featured Mohican composer Brent Michael Davids. Mr. Davids expanded upon his music career/challenges as a Native composer and demonstrated his innovative flute designs. One flute mimicked a dove, and another mimicked fast chirping and tweeting. The woodwind trio also performed for a band class at Uintah High School, giving insights about the music and answering questions about careers.

INSTRUMENT VIDEO LIBRARY

One of the projects for which we used POPS funding in 2015-16 is a video library of the instruments in the orchestra. The videos were made available on our Education website in March of 2017. The videos introduce each of the orchestral instruments to viewers, demonstrate some of the capabilities of each instrument, address each instrument's role in the orchestra, and personalize the musicians who play them. We use school concert visits, open rehearsals and Musicians in the Classroom visits to let students know about this resource. As of the end of June, 2018, the combined videos of the introductory interviews have had 164,547 visits. We also created a set of videos of each instrument playing the Ode to Joy to allow for meaningful comparison of timbres. Those videos have had 256,712 visits. We have no way of tracking the schools attended by those who views the videos, so there are no numbers for this project included here.

PRE-CONCERT LECTURES

Pre-Concert Lectures feature Symphony artistic staff and guest conductors. Teachers who sign in when they attend receive re-licensure credit as part of Teachers in the House (see below.)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TEACHERS IN THE HOUSE

Districts	Charters	Schools	Hours	Teachers	Students
7	4	17	9	74	-

With the Teachers in the House program, many teachers took advantage of the chance to receive re-licensure credit when attending a Utah Symphony Masterworks concert and the pre-concert lecture. Only instructional time is calculated for this report; concert time for which teachers purchased tickets is not included.

It was a wonderful way for me to earn re-licensure ours with actual arts experience! It made me excited to think that I could help children develop a love of the symphony! Maybe I will even teach a future musician for the Utah Symphony!

Teacher, Davis SD

Documentation of three year rotation to all districts and charters

District	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Alpine	21		30	26	X
Beaver	4			5	
Box Elder	11	3			
Cache	10	15			
Canyons	35	35	35	35	X
Carbon		4			X
Daggett					X
Davis	50	45	59	52	X
Duchesne		8		3	X
Emery					
Garfield	4				
Grand					X
Granite	68	61	64	60	X
Iron			6		
Jordan	44	41	43	42	X
Juab	5			5	
Kane	6			6	
Logan	4			6	
Millard			5		
Morgan				4	
Murray	11	9			X
Nebo	30	34		32	X
North Sanpete		5			X
North Summit					X
Ogden	15	17	15		X
Park City			3		X
Piute	3			3	
Provo	13	12	17	12	X
Rich				4	
Salt Lake City	30		33	35	
San Juan			4		
Sevier	8			3	X
South Sanpete					
South Summit			3		
Tintic					
Tooele	17	18		22	
Uintah		10			X
Utah School for the Deaf & Blind					
Wasatch			4		
Washington	6		15		
Wayne			3		X
Weber	14	18	21		
Charter	32		39		
Total # of Schools Served	455	453	481	457	
Total # of Districts Served	29	27	29		

Organization's Self-Evaluation

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

Utah Symphony maximizes available funding by carefully scheduling and mapping all concert runouts and tours to fit the schedules of school districts and comply with the orchestra's collective bargaining agreement. Travel times, rest stops, meal stops, and concert schedules are all carefully monitored to avoid expenditures of overtime.

As much as possible, concert programs are chosen for the musical appeal of pieces that don't require hiring extra musicians. We also program music from our extensive library whenever possible, to avoid the expense of music rentals or purchases.

Teacher materials are always created with cost effectiveness in mind. Licensing budgets are scrutinized to get the most recorded music possible for each concert program. The terms of our music licensing from Naxos make it possible to embed the music of our concerts in a PowerPoint that can then be put on our Education website. Not only does this format make the music files more broadly available, it is also less expensive than the licensing for duplication to CDs. We also avoid the CD duplication and shipping costs.

PROCEDURAL EFFICIENCY:

School concert programming makes the most of all the Symphony's resources. One elementary and one secondary program are created for both the full and chamber orchestra each year. This means we can maximize the efficiency of our rehearsals for a large number of concerts. Teacher materials are created before the school year that apply all year. And the librarians assemble the music for each program once for concerts through the year.

School concert scheduling is started in the spring of each year. We work with District Arts Coordinators to find the best date and venue in their district for each concert. School concert tours are scheduled to efficiently use the time of the orchestra and staff in a way that takes greatest advantage of the geographic realities of our large state. Careful records and site pictures are kept of schools visited to help with future concert planning. Site visits to schools are made only when we will be in a new venue.

As much as possible, additional enrichment events like meet and greets, conductor visits and musicians in the classroom visits are scheduled in outlying districts while the orchestra is visiting instead of making a separate trip.

Records for each event are collected at the time of the event. Records are scrutinized and reviewed monthly.

We promote our educational activities in a variety of ways. District Arts Coordinators receive an overview and materials at the annual DAC meeting in Springville before the start of each school year. They can pass this information along to their principals and teachers. We send a mailing with flyers to secondary instrumental and choral teachers each fall. In 2017-18 we also used a WordFly mailing of these materials that proved popular. When invited, we attend district meetings of music specialists to increase awareness of our offerings. At each school concert, we converse with music teachers in the schools to inform them of our offerings. We send out a fall mailing to secondary instrumental teachers with our offerings for the year, and send them regular email reminders.

Information on our Education website is geared towards different populations: schools, students, teachers and families. This allows teachers and administrators to peruse the possibilities, and check them against school and district schedules before contacting us to make plans.

COLLABORATIVE PRACTICES:

We work closely with District Arts Coordinators to find a concert date and schedule that best fit the schedules of each district and participating schools in the coming school year. Each district chooses how they want our concerts to serve them. Some make the concerts available to students and teachers in grades 4-12; others specify a particular grade level or levels to be served. Because music education programs vary so much from district to district, we also work with the DACs and music teachers to

select the concert programs (elementary or secondary) most appropriate for their students. We then offer Meet and Greets and Musicians in the Classroom visits where possible.

In all school venues, we work with district and school personnel to develop plans for the Symphony truck arrival and load in, the Symphony bus arrival and access to the school (especially to avoid congestion with school district buses bringing students to the concerts), and the most efficient use of school facilities to cause the least disruption to other school classes and activities.

Student crews help with the load in, set up and load out for our concerts in the schools. They also provide technical assistance during the concerts. Through this process, students gain stage experience working with professionals and are given ticket vouchers to Utah Symphony concerts as a thank you.

For our Great American Road Trip in August of 2017, we worked extensively with DACS, schools, Native populations, a Mohican composer, and the Natural History Museum of Utah to present school assemblies and other meaningful learning experiences in Springville, Montezuma Creek, Fort Duchesne and Vernal.

The Symphony Education Manager and the Director of Education regularly attend the Statewide District Arts Coordinator and Arts Leadership Meeting in Springville each year. They attend the regular POPS meetings and participate in POPS peer evaluations.

We continued with our "Utah Symphony Recommends" poster, based on a suggestion of a former music educator as well as the very positive responses we received from other teachers. The poster lists the repertoire for our Masterworks concerts and Opera season with individual recommendations from Utah Symphony musicians for particularly noteworthy musical moments for their particular instruments. Since many music classes have a concert attendance requirement, this is a handy guide for students to use when considering which concerts they might like to attend.

We continued to encourage high schools to create High School Music Clubs with Utah Symphony | Utah Opera. There were nine clubs in 2017-18, with several other school groups attending less frequently.

We convene youth orchestra directors for a meeting each year to nominate students for the side-by-side portion of our All-Star Evening concert. Rehearsals involving only student musicians for this concert are held at area high schools. This collaboration strengthens our presence in the school communities.

We notify all principals with students participating in the Salute to Youth and All-Star Evening concerts, encouraging them to share the news with others at the school. Frequently, school board members are also notified of these student performers in their districts.

EDUCATIONAL SOUNDNESS:

Once programming is completed, the Core Standards and Utah Core Curriculum (including language arts, math, social studies, music, and life skills) serve as guides when creating teacher preparation materials.

- For our school concert programs we create both an elementary and secondary version of both the full orchestra and chamber orchestra programs. The elementary materials are created with grades 4-6 classroom teachers in mind and include cross curricular lesson plans connecting the music to language arts, social studies and math curricula. The secondary materials are created more with music teachers in mind and include connections to the secondary Music Connections and Music Aesthetics curriculum standards. They also have more general information about concert etiquette and expectations that are useful for teachers in other content areas.
- Teacher materials for our Abravanel Hall 5th Grade Docent Concerts focus on the 5th grade curriculum.

We were very pleased with the relationship that developed with our new Assistant Conductor, Conner Covington. Conner brought both a strong sense of concert music that would be successful with young audiences and a willingness to work as a colleague, welcoming suggestions and developing programs and content based on them. Student letters and teacher surveys regularly referenced how much they enjoyed his conducting and the manner in which he engaged the audience during the performance. The collaboration between Mr. Covington and the Symphony Education Manager ensured that the programming, script, musical demonstrations and audience participation were all in support of the music core curriculum.

Student and teacher evaluations and comments about each year's concerts are reviewed by Symphony staff to inform our decision-making regarding upcoming programs. Teachers agreed that the concert programming was age-appropriate, a good use of classroom time, and that the orchestra's performance was of high quality.

In addition to maintaining improvements to our teacher materials that were suggested in our most recent POPS peer review, we also invited an elementary classroom teacher who we know to actively support music education, to review previous years' concert preparation materials with us. Her advice brought about several changes in the format and length of the materials, making them more teacher-friendly.

We continue to work to make our Education website a source for all in our community who want to be actively involved in music.

- The instrument video library continues to be very popular.
- Online resources are updated regularly as we learn of new ones.
- Contact information for area youth orchestras makes it easy for students, parents and teachers to discover their options for participation.
- Teachers will find similar information about community orchestras and choirs.
- Guest artist masterclass information and sign up is available on our website.
- Our Utah Symphony Recommends poster is available to help students and teachers make choices about which concerts to attend.
- Teachers can find teacher materials and downloadable flyers on our website.

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE:

Utah Symphony is one of only 15 full-time professional orchestras in the United States. We hold competitive auditions whenever there is a vacancy, fielding applicants from around the world. Because of this, the quality of musicianship in our orchestra is high.

Our Music Director, Thierry Fischer, is a strong proponent of our education programs and makes it a priority to give support and advice to Assistant Conductor Conner Covington. Maestro Fischer's dedication to the continued improvement of the overall quality of musicianship of the orchestra, in combination with the artistic partnership of the two conductors, has created an environment of enthusiasm and excellence on the part of individual orchestra musicians.

Utah Symphony celebrated its 75th anniversary season in 2015-16, which included a tour to Carnegie Hall. The long term excellence represented by our 75th anniversary continues into future seasons. The Symphony has released three CDs since 2015, and currently has four more in production. One of the already released CDs contains three pieces that were commissioned by the Utah Symphony.

The education staff continually seeks to improve. The Symphony Education Manager regularly participates in the League of American Orchestras education and outreach online discussions and telephone conference calls, which give us ideas from orchestra education departments throughout the country.

We participate in discussions and peer evaluations with our POPS colleagues, and implement learnings from both of these. The staff members of the Education Department attended the Mountain West Conference in May of 2018.

THE RESULTANT GOALS, PLANS, OR BOTH, FOR CONTINUED EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT:

Ensure equity. The mandate that POPS programs reach all districts in the state is the starting point for ensuring equity in our offerings. This guarantees that we serve populations beyond the proximity of the Wasatch Front, including the most remote and smallest districts. We collaborate with the District Arts Coordinator in all districts to determine the location of our concerts and which schools will be invited to attend. Because the POPS funding requires that our services are provided free to the districts, the socio-economic status of school populations is not a factor in their ability to participate.

Continue quality education concerts and programs. Utah Symphony is dedicated to offering students the opportunity to hear professional musicians in live concerts—with supporting materials developed for and delivered to teachers—to every school district in the state on a three-to-five-year rotation plan. To boost our efforts to better serve Utah's diverse student population, our current CEO has made it a priority for us to include music by Hispanic composers when it fits with a concert theme, even if it means incurring additional costs of purchase or rental. We will continue this effort in future years whenever possible.

We offer a variety of programs and events for students and teachers, but our signature programs by which we serve Utah school districts are our education concerts in schools throughout the state, and our 5th Grade Concerts in Abravanel Hall. We will continue to serve Utah schools on our established rotation.

Continue improvements to teacher materials. We will continue to incorporate the improvements that were made in our teacher materials this past season, especially in the Concert Preparation PowerPoints for each elementary school concert program. All the supplemental materials will still be provided. The licensing process that allows us to include the music excerpts in the PowerPoint on our website for all to access easily will remain in place.

Improve teacher use of our offerings. For all of our teacher materials, the challenge remains to better capture teachers' attention about their availability and value. Because we work at the district level with DACs, access to individual teachers is sometimes problematic. Flyers that explain how to access and use the online teacher materials are sent to all schools attending a concert as the DACs have directed. When possible, they are also sent by email. But we sometimes learn that they don't reach the teachers.

We hope to begin working this summer on a new system for registering schools to attend our concerts in the schools. The goal will be to get more email access to teachers attending these concerts, and also better information about the numbers of students, teachers, and chaperones attending.

While we receive many positive comments from students and teachers about the repertoire on our school concerts, we also hear from teachers suggesting we play more music that is familiar to students. As examples, they encourage us to do concerts of movie and video game music. We often include one piece from a familiar movie, intending to demonstrate that students are already familiar with the sound of a symphony orchestra. As much as possible, and when thematically appropriate, we try to include other music with which some students might be familiar like Beethoven's Ode to Joy, and the first movement of his Symphony No. 5.

It would not be appropriate to perform concerts primarily of movie and video game music as part of the POPS program. A central goal of Utah Symphony education programming is to introduce and promote the symphonic repertoire to Utah students and teachers in the most professional and best performance possible. The vast symphonic repertoire, created over centuries, is an artistic and cultural treasure, and these concerts give us the opportunity to broaden students' awareness of their cultural history. We need to work on getting teachers more aware of the benefits of programming the way we do.

Maintain the instrument videos on our Education website. The instrument videos which were created with one-time POPS funding have been available on our education website since March of 2017. They have proved to be very popular. The American Federation of Musicians under which our bargaining agreement with our musicians is governed, allows for a two year approval for such video postings. We will work to renew that approval by next spring so these videos will be able to remain on our website.

Continue the Utah Symphony Recommends poster. Our colorful Utah Symphony Recommends poster will be sent to secondary music teachers to be hung in their classrooms. It will list the repertoire for our Masterworks concerts and operas with individual recommendations from Utah Symphony musicians for particularly noteworthy musical moments for their individual instruments. We hope that this will inspire students of those instruments to attend concerts. Students often use these posters to help them select the concerts to attend with their High School Music Club.

Grow our High School Music Clubs. We know peer group social activities are very important for this age group and we would like to use that interest to help support music teachers in creating enthusiasm and commitment for their programs. We plan to pursue focused recruitment of schools, making personal contact with the music teachers to help them discover the ease and value of participation.

Plan for a Utah Symphony String Day for high school musicians. Our Brass Day in 2013-14 and Woodwind Day in 2015-16 were both successful in serving high school instrumental players. We hoped to hold a String Day in 2017-18. We worked with several area string teachers to help define the most beneficial activities for a string day. We selected a Saturday that appeared to work for both our musicians and student/USHAA schedules. Our musicians were recruited to teach, but the event had to be cancelled because of low student response. We will renew the plans for the 2018-19 school year and hope to have a very successful event.

Continue Musicians in the Classroom. The one-time POPS funding in 2015-16, which has now moved into ongoing funding, allows us to continue, and work to expand, our Musicians in the Classroom program. This is an effective way to put the talents and professional experience of our musicians in direct service to young music students in Utah schools. The feedback from teachers and students has been very positive.

Professional Development. We will continue our investment in teachers' learning about classical music beyond their experiences with our school concerts with our Teachers in the House program. We will stay tuned to any further discussion among the POPS groups about presenting a joint professional development conference for Utah teachers.

Spike 150. Utah is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike in May, 2019. Utah Symphony is a co-commissioner of a piece by Zhou Tian about the building of the transcontinental railroad. This piece will be premiered in May. We will plan a number of outreach events for Zhou Tian when he returns to Salt Lake and some of these will involve students.

Composer Andrew Norman. Utah Symphony is performing two pieces by American composer Andrew Norman in the 2018-19 season. He is designated as our Composer in Association for the season and will make three visits to Salt Lake. Two of those visits are for the performances of his pieces. The third visit will be dedicated to a variety of outreach activities. We will work to build on his previous residency in the Des Moines schools, during which he explored sounds with elementary students. And we will plan other programs in which older students can actively explore this living composer's music with him.

All-Star Youth Pro-Am

In the past, the All-Star Evening has combined an opportunity for a soloist to play an entire concerto with the Symphony, and also the opportunity for a number of young musicians to sit side-by-side with professionals performing some of the great classics of the symphonic repertoire. For the 2018-19 season we are making a small change to the format of this concert. The soloist opportunity will be focused in our Salute to Youth concert. The All-Star event will have a name change to All-Star Youth Pro-Am. The students will continue to have rehearsals with the conductor and a mentoring session with musicians from the orchestra prior to the evening event. Then in one evening, there will be time for rehearsal and a performance of pieces from our repertoire.

Evidence of Non-Profit status

Utah Symphony's tax exemption number is 12006459-002-STC.