

2023–24 IDEAS IMPACT

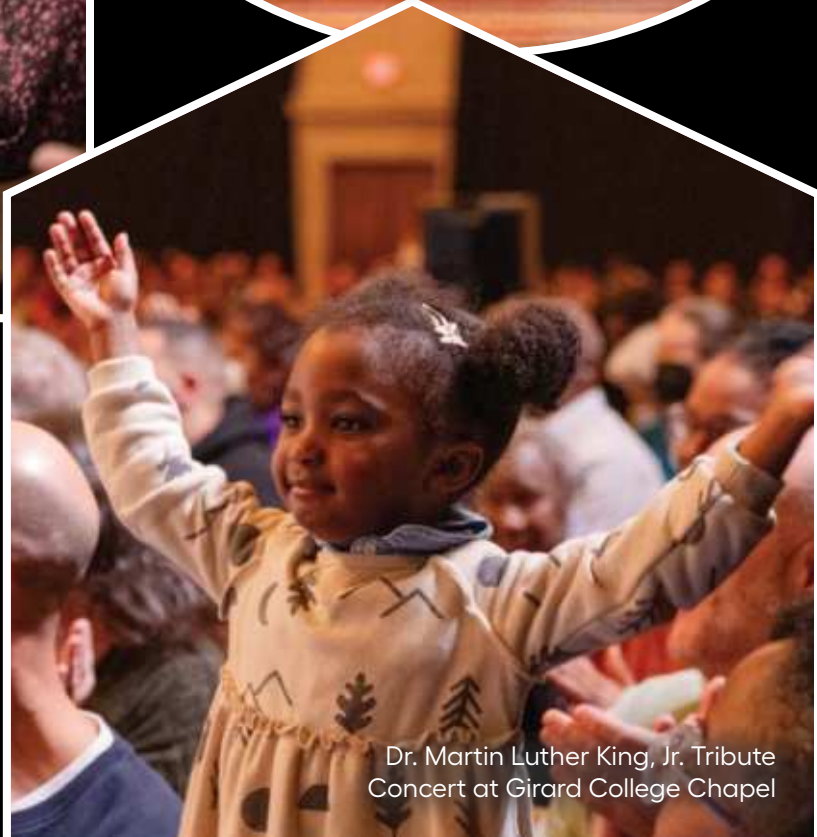
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity,
and Access Strategies



Free Our City, Your Orchestra LIVE
Concert at Temple University



Sensory-Inclusive Concert in
Marian Anderson Hall.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute
Concert at Girard College Chapel

The
Philadelphia
Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin
Music and Artistic Director

EnsembleArts

A Season of Impact

The 2023–24 season marked a significant milestone for our organization, for the City of Philadelphia, and for the performing arts world. On June 8, 2024, Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts was officially rededicated as Marian Anderson Hall in honor of the legendary Black singer, civil rights icon, and Philadelphian.

The dedication of Marian Anderson Hall is a shining example of our commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Strategies (IDEAS). Through IDEAS, we have deepened connections with our communities and laid the groundwork for building a brighter, more inclusive future for the arts.

With Marian Anderson’s name gracing the hall that is the home of The Philadelphia Orchestra, her daily presence now becomes a galvanizing force for our organization, and for all Philadelphians.



Matías Tarnopolsky
President and CEO



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and Ensemble Arts**
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EnsembleArtsPhilly.org
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MISSION

To share the transformative power of the performing arts and arts education with the widest possible audience.

VISION

To inspire and connect humanity with exceptional performances and experiences serving Philadelphia and the world.

VALUES

AUTHENTIC | COLLABORATIVE | EXCEPTIONAL | INCLUSIVE

Our values are based upon our fundamental principles of IDEAS, accountability, and fiscal responsibility.

Three Iconic Buildings That House Transformational Experiences



**Kimmel Center for the
Performing Arts**
Multiple venues under one roof



Miller Theater
1,800-seat proscenium theater
(formerly the Merriam Theater)



Academy of Music
2,900-seat historic theater



Marian Anderson Hall, Now and Forever

The **first** major concert venue in the world to honor the late performer and trailblazer, Marian Anderson Hall is an enduring monument to her artistry and achievements and a reflection of the inclusive future she helped to engender.

The dedication of Marian Anderson Hall is named in her honor by a visionary philanthropic gift from Richard Worley and Leslie Miller. It is through their transformative leadership that we are able to honor Marian Anderson in perpetuity, 85 years after she was barred from performing at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., because of her race.

Throughout her life, Marian Anderson emblemized the idea that music can change the world. Now, with her name gracing the home of The Philadelphia Orchestra, we can inspire everyone who comes through its doors with the idea that the arts are a transformative force for good.



Above: Marian Anderson singing at the Lincoln Memorial.

Below: Michelle Cann and J'Nai Bridges perform at the Marian Anderson Hall announcement event.



“When I was sitting here looking at how beautiful and amazing this hall is, all I could think about is the number of young people here in the City of Philadelphia who will one day get the opportunity to see this place, know that it exists. And particularly for those Black and Brown young people, to know that someone like them was worthy of a distinction like this. That means a great deal.”

—Philadelphia Mayor Cherelle Parker



PAST

In 1918, Marian Anderson made her debut at the Academy of Music on Broad Street.



PRESENT

Philadelphia leaders, renowned artists, and community members participate in the rededication of Marian Anderson Hall at the Kimmel Center. Both the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia declared June 8, 2024, Marian Anderson Day.



FUTURE

We will continue to build upon the legacy of Marian Anderson and serve as a beacon of hope and unity for generations to come.



My new routine before stepping on the stage is to look at [Marian Anderson’s] photograph and try to be worthy. She will be our North Star, guiding our future and continuing to make a lasting impact.

—Philadelphia Orchestra Music and Artistic Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin



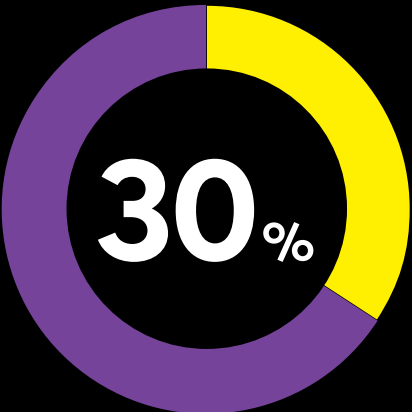
Above left: Marian Anderson at the Academy of Music in 1918; Middle, from left to right: Hon. Stacey Abrams, Philadelphia Mayor Cherelle Parker, Leslie Miller, Philadelphia Orchestra Music and Artistic Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Richard Worley, President and CEO Matías Tarnopolsky, and Philadelphia City Council President Kenyatta Johnson in front of the newly dedicated Marian Anderson Hall.

We are committed to diversifying our team and supporting their growth at every level.

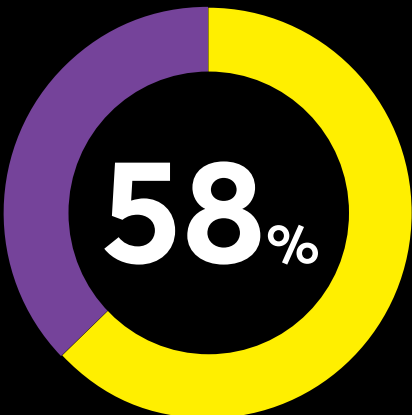


Ain't Too Proud: The Life & Times of the Temptations

Our staff diversity increased from last year:



of our full-time staff identifies as Asian, Black, or Latinx.



of our senior leadership team identifies as female.

We aim to share the transformative power of music with the widest possible audience.



Attracted approximately

1 MILLION GUESTS

to over

1,000 EVENTS

during FY24

3 new and innovative hour-long Orchestra After 5 concerts welcomed

over 1,200

First-Time Patrons

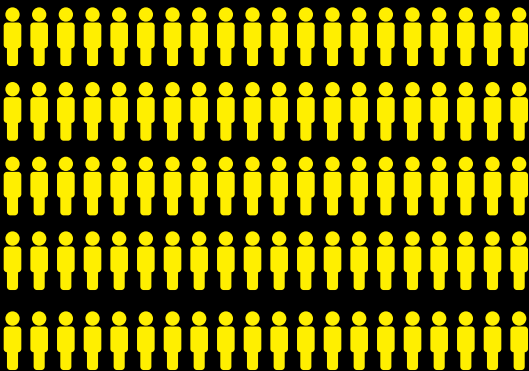


SERVED 38,000 STUDENTS FROM 400+ SCHOOLS

Approximately

100K+ PEOPLE

attended a free event



1 icon = 1,000 Guests

Welcomed 1,200 performers in our venues

Creating Economic Opportunity

3,900 total jobs supported in Philadelphia

INCLUSION

As a leading cultural convener, we ensure our programming reflects a wide array of perspectives and experiences.

GLOBAL COMMUNITY IMPACT

A string quartet of Philadelphia Orchestra musicians joined forces with the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra and the U.S. Consulate General Toronto for a free chamber music performance in Scarborough. This collaboration not only brought world-class music to the local community, but also fostered cultural exchange.



Violinist Daniel Han examines his bow in front of some students.

SYNCOATED LADIES AT THE MILLER THEATER

As part of our Family Discovery performance series, we welcomed the ground-breaking and acclaimed all-woman tap squad Syncopated Ladies, spearheaded by Emmy nominated choreographer, tap dancer, and artist Chloé Arnold. Part of their visit included a free TapIN, where over 50 audience members danced with the tap squad.



Convening community at our FREE Philadelphia Fall Arts Festival—We brought together more than 50 diverse arts and culture organizations to kick off the season.



Principal Guest Conductor Designate Marin Alsop leads our third annual **Pride Concert** in Marian Anderson Hall, with Philly drag queen Sapphira Cristál as host.

DIVERSITY

We seek diverse representation both on and off our stages.

This season, Joseph Conyers, principal bass of The Philadelphia Orchestra (Carole and Emilio Gravagno Chair) earned a new title of Education and Community Ambassador Chair. Conyers was awarded this new position following his May 2023 appointment to principal bass position, becoming the first Black principal instrumentalist in the Orchestra’s 123-year history.

With generous support from Mark and Tobey Dichter, this endowed position formalizes Joseph Conyers’s extraordinary commitment to our Education and Community Programs and empowers us to continue to create meaningful impact in our local community and beyond.



Bass PlayIN with Joseph Conyers

“Orchestras can be a barometer of their communities. How they look is a representation of those who have access to the resources to be part of an institution like The Philadelphia Orchestra.”

—Joseph Conyers

Across our more than 1,000 annual performances and events, we strive to ensure our programming is reflective of a wide variety of perspectives and experiences and showcases the diversity of our region.

We are proud to showcase several Philadelphia premieres of exceptional Broadway productions. This year included:

- **Ain’t Too Proud: The Life & Times of the Temptations**
- **Mrs. Doubtfire**
- **Girl from the North Country**
- **Disney’s Frozen**
- **Message in a Bottle**



Mrs. Doubtfire

EQUITY

We inspire the next generation through exceptional arts education and performances.

TRAILBLAZING A BRIGHT, INCLUSIVE MUSICAL FUTURE

With a vision of building an artistically broad and inclusive musical canon, The Philadelphia Orchestra is engaged in a long-term project to restore brilliant but forgotten works by composers like William Grant Still and Florence Price.



The Philadelphia Orchestra gave the first performance of William Grant Still's newly restored *Wood Notes* at an Our City, Your Orchestra Live concert at Temple University.



We continue to honor Florence Price's artistry, following our 2021 GRAMMY win for Best Orchestral Performance for our recording of her Symphonies Nos. 1 & 3.

UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND (UNCF) PARTNERSHIP

We enjoyed continuing our fruitful partnership with UNCF Philadelphia in the 2023–24 season. To further our work of honoring the legacy of Marian Anderson, we have collaborated with the Philadelphia branch of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) to establish an endowed scholarship to be awarded each year to one or two students from the Philadelphia region studying the performing arts or pursuing a career in arts administration at schools throughout the country.



Philadelphia School District students with a Jazz for Freedom teaching artist during a workshop session. This program, designed to supplement the Philadelphia School District's English Language Arts and Social Studies curricula, serves over 5,000 students in grades 5 through 7.



“... We don't see enough of ourselves, male or female, reflected in the headlines and history books of classical music, even though our influences can be heard in so many of the mainstream works that many love and celebrate today ... and it's time for that to change.”

—Nicole Jordan, Principal Librarian,
The Philadelphia Orchestra



ACCESS

The arts are for everyone, and we want every person who enters our buildings to know they belong.

Our ongoing commitment to accessibility includes renovations to our buildings and a wide array of technologies, experiences, and devices to ensure our spaces are welcoming and inclusive for the widest possible audience.

Relaxed Environments

Our Education and Community Programs offer a relaxed, judgment-free environment where guest movement is welcomed so that we are inclusive to those with any sensory needs, first-time theatergoers, and young children.

Assistive Listening Devices are available for all venues.

Audio Description (AD) and **American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation** is available at select Broadway performances.

ADVANCING ACCESSIBILITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Art-Reach Access Program: We proudly participate in the Art-Reach ACCESS Program, which provides Pennsylvania ACCESS/EBT Cardholders discounted tickets for featured performances.

Hands UP: Hands UP Productions provides high quality American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting service for all spoken and sung lyrics at select Broadway performances so our Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities can feel fully welcomed and engaged.



A family enjoying a Sensory-Inclusive Concert in Marian Anderson Hall.

Sensory Inclusive Experiences

Select concerts and performances are sensory inclusive to allow guests to move freely, vocalize, and be who they are. House lighting is kept at mid-level, house doors remain open, and there is a designated cool-down space for stimulated guests.

Sensory-Friendly Kits are available in all venues at all performances.

Personal Care Attendant (PCA)

Any guest who requires a paid Personal Care Attendant (PCA), is provided a PCA-Pass at no cost with a paid admission.



Hamilton performer and Hands UP ASL interpreters engaging with an audience

“

The minute a person whose word means
a great deal to others dares to take the
open-hearted and courageous way,
many others follow.

—Marian Anderson

”



DONATE TODAY

As a mission-driven nonprofit organization, we are able to further the impact of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Strategies through the generosity of donors and supporters like you.

Your support is our spotlight.