



# SAINT JAMES MUSIC ACADEMY

A Music Academy for  
Social Transformation



## ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19





# SAiNT JAMES MUSiC ACADEMY

*“teach children the beauty of music and music will teach them the beauty of life”*

-Maestro Antonio Abreu, founder of El Sistema

# it's a musical life...

## Friends of SJMA:

We mark the completion of our twelfth year providing free music education to the children of our community, and with it a renewed sense of the value of our endeavour. Our work is nothing short of thrilling, sometimes for its successes and sometimes for its challenges!

SJMA has long understood that in order to serve our neighbourhood with our maximum potential we need to remain supple in all that we do. In fact, our Values Statement says in part: “We embrace flexibility, creativity, and experimentation.” If we were to distill the 2018-19 year into a single few words it would be “change and transition to adapt to our evolving community.” Staff, teachers and families came together this year to reflect on how we can do even better as an organization. What emerged is exciting for its new possibilities, that are underway now. At its core is our desire to provide a higher level of investment in our children. With an emphasis on a more comprehensive junior program as the future of outstanding orchestras and choirs, more performance opportunities, and programming that promotes the many benefits of learning music (including intellectual and social skills) we hope to bring the

SJMA experience to a new level of excellence.

For this new season of change, expectation, and growth we've even chosen a theme: “A Musical Life.” Because SJMA is much more than after school music lessons, and because music itself is much more than a sequence of notes. Music is deep. It is moving. It inspires. A musical life at SJMA pushes us – children and adults alike – to become more, to become greater, to become prodigies in art and in life.

We hope this annual report on the year will inspire you with its vision for what is possible. Most of all, we thank you for being part of this one-of-a-kind work that has transformed so many, and with all of us joining together, will transform many more in the years to come.



**Dee Dee Sung**, President Board of Directors



**Kathryn Walker**, Executive Director



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our

# MISSION:

Create a community of learning where children and youth collaborate and are inspired and challenged by the joy of making music together



## VISION:

Pursuing excellence in musicianship and in life, children discover their full potential, become engaged citizens and build for themselves a musical life

## VALUES:

**COMMUNITY** - taking care of each other  
**BELONGING** - honouring individuality  
**COLLABORATION** - teamwork in all we do  
**EXCELLENCE** - in musicianship and in life  
**JOY** - open hearts, smiles, and celebration

music  
for  
social  
change  
in  
**5**  
KEY  
AREAS



## LIFE SKILLS

Through the self-discipline of mastering a musical instrument and cooperation with others children discover their true potential to become a child in progress. This sets them up for success in school and in life.



## EDUCATION

Music ignites all areas of a child's development and contributes to skills for school readiness including intellectual, social emotional, motor, language and overall literacy.



## HEALTH & WELLBEING

At SJMA we nourish the body through nutritious food in a warm and welcoming environment. We nourish the soul by allowing music to do its magic...increasing human connection, regulating emotions and relieving stress



## RESILIENCE & JOY

As children engage musically they discover the deep riches of their own potential and find new self-esteem. Strengthened in spirit, they learn to overcome barriers they did not make and find joy in the beauty and necessity of collaborating with others.



## THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Our choirs and orchestras are models of healthy community life where children learn to play their part in making the world a better place. When children engage and collaborate with others they become role models for their families and communities.

# our PROGRAMS

: meeting our kids where they're at  
and growing over time



## JUNIOR PROGRAM **ages 6-9**

Our early start program where all novices start from a foundation of Kodaly - listening, singing, rhythm and movement - to support them in progressing into our Novice String Orchestra, Woodwind Ensembles, Choir, and Marimba. This program is focused on providing young children an opportunity to learn, from the earliest age, the joy of making music together. Music ignites all areas of a child's development and skills for school readiness including intellectual, social emotional, motor, language and overall literacy.

## EXPLORING MUSIC **ages 6-11**

Through music, children who face various barriers to learning such as developmental delays, trauma and behavioural challenges discover all that music has to offer under the guidance of trained Music Therapists. Making music together increases human connection, relieves stress, regulates emotions and leads to better brain development. This program is less curriculum based and more therapeutic and development based and is an approach used to eventually fully integrate each child into the core SJMA program wherever possible. Music classes offered are piano, ukulele, marimba, dance/movement, and singing.





## ages 10-17 **SENIOR PROGRAM**

As our musicians graduate into the Senior Program they become primarily engaged in collaborative music making through our Orchestra and Choir programs. Here the focus is on teamwork, playing their part, and celebrating shared achievement. Performance opportunities abound. They spend their time together in String Ensembles, Woodwind Ensembles, Jazz Ensembles, Fiddle Group, and Chamber groups, all supported by instrument-based technique classes, theory and rhythmic training. Instruments offered are violin, viola, cello, double bass, clarinet, flute, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, percussion, guitar and piano.



## preschool - grade 7 **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Public schools are often hard-pressed to deliver an adequate music education for their kids. SJMA is helping to fill the gap by providing schools in our area with free music instruction. Choirs focused on literacy, kindergarten classes learning rhythm and movement, and one-on-one music therapy programs are offered at four of our local elementary schools.

## ages 6-17 **SUMMER MUSIC CAMP**

Our summer music camps encourage students to continue their musical training (instrument, orchestra, choir) during longer summer breaks and foster friendships among students in an atmosphere of summer adventure and play. They are also a great way for new students to make connections and start building their musical foundation.



## VOLUNTEERS

Our Volunteer Program remains at the centre of our sustainability as an organization. It is at the heart and soul of what is most valuable at SJMA: the goodwill of our community of support. Our volunteers contribute in every area of our program from escorting children safely from their schools, to preparing and serving nutritious food, to teaching music and taking care of the governance of our organization. We thank and celebrate them as valued members of SJMA.



## NUTRITION PROGRAM

Our Nutrition Program can best be described in two words: Nutritious & Abundant. Through the exceptional leadership of Olivia Lohan, and our volunteers, our food is always healthy, beautifully presented and there is always plenty for everyone. We welcome each child with a lovingly prepared meal to nourish and centre their day in a community of care where they renew their energy to engage fully in their musical learning.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dee Dee Sung - Board Chair  
Sandra Birch - Secretary  
Alex Lau - Treasurer  
Arlene Gladstone - Director  
Sharon Kravitz - Director  
Tom Durie - Director  
Dr. PJ Janson - Director  
Jenn Hepburn - Director  
Virginia Hong - Director

## STAFF

Kathryn Walker - Executive Director  
Jose Ceron Ortega - Music Director of Orchestras  
Yolanda Hong - Program Administrator  
Melodie Mallinder - Development Officer  
Paul Myers - Development Officer  
Lindsay Burke - PR/Communications & Events  
Sarah Godoy - Community Life Coordinator  
Olivia Lohan - Nutrition Coordinator  
Christine Ito - Volunteer Coordinator & Administration  
Kael Vincent - Operations Manager  
Jared Braund - Operations Manager  
Ryan Tang - Senior Reception & Design  
Philip Tran - Senior Reception & Operations Assistant  
Junko Bishop - Junior Reception  
Renata Abrahms - Junior Reception

## TEACHERS

Alexander Cheung - Cello  
Ali Lohan - Art  
Anthony Cheung - Viola  
Ben Lockwood - Woodwinds  
Cynthia Friesen - Choir  
Damarise Ste. Marie - Dance  
Elizabeth Mee - Bassoon  
Evelyn Hunter - Kodaly & Orff  
Jay Balletta - Choir  
Heather Hay - Cello  
Jill Samycia - Choir  
Jim Littleford - Brass  
John Littlejohn - Violin  
John Korsud - Brass  
Jose Ceron Ortega - Orchestra  
Kiyomi Hori - Choir  
Kristen Cooke - Oboe  
Laine Longton - Cello  
Llowyn Ball - Violin  
Meaghan Williams - Double Bass  
Melody Owen - Music Therapy  
Mercy Walker - Choir  
Negin Attar - Junior Orchestra  
Parker Woods - Jazz  
Robin Reid - Percussion  
Sabrina Perry - Violin  
Sangito Bigelow - Marimba  
Tatyanna Dobrowski - Music Therapist  
Teina Smith - Art



our PEOPLE



# 2018-19 HIGHLIGHTS



Friends joined us for an Open House where they had the opportunity to experience a 'Day in the Life' of an SJMA student. The students then had the opportunity to pass on what they have learned to this group of novice musicians!

**SJMA Intermediate Orchestra  
and Senior Choir perform at  
the Dreamers & Builders Gala**

**May 2019**





**SJMA Intermediate Orchestra  
perform at the Vancouver  
Symphony Orchestra School of  
Music Annual Showcase**

**June 2019**

*“Having grown up in the Downtown Eastside  
my whole life, I’ve never seen the children so  
proud of themselves. The audience went wild!”*

*-parent of SJMA student*

**GRADS  
of  
2019**



Chloe Vincent



Cindy Lin



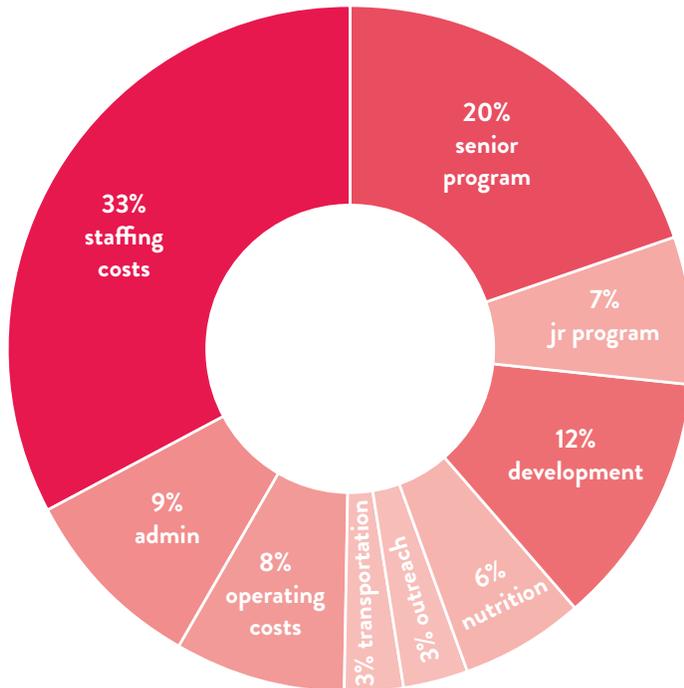
Roger Huang



Rose Huang

# FINANCIALS

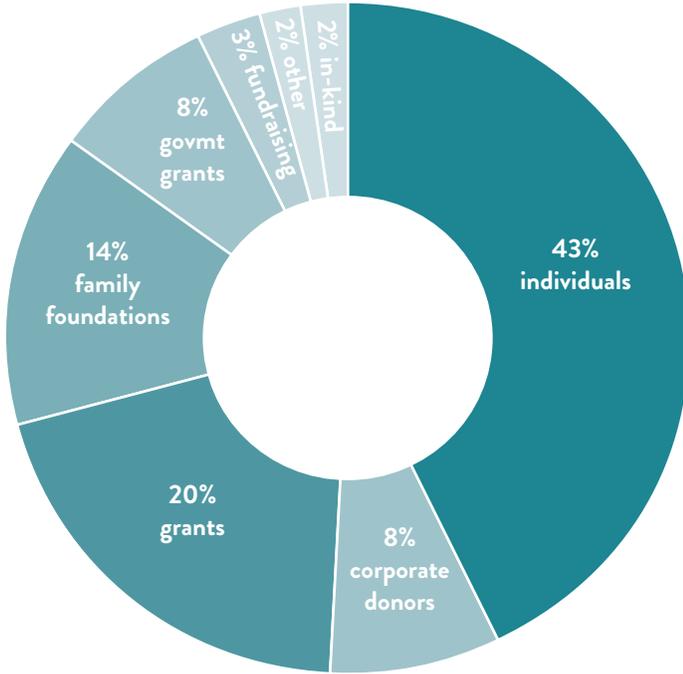
SJMA is proud to report another year of strong financial support from our amazing community of donors. Our supporters have enabled us to maintain a high level of investment in our children, while remaining resilient, flexible, and adapting to our ever changing community needs. At the forefront is always a vision for strategic and sustainable growth, without compromising the standards of excellence our children deserve.



## FY 2019 EXPENSES

Senior Program	\$181,335
Junior Program	\$66,162
Development	\$105,666
Nutrition	\$52,956
Transportation	\$27,405
Community Outreach	\$25,283
Operating Costs	\$71,667
Administrative	\$85,532
Staffing costs	\$300,541

**TOTAL \$916,549**



## FY 2019 REVENUES

Individuals	\$437,008
Corporations	\$80,089
Grants	\$207,077
Family Foundations	\$150,300
Government Grants	\$80,000
Fundraising	\$27,024
Church	\$2,842
Other	\$19,910
In-kind	\$19,466
Endowment	\$2,693
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,026,410</b>



105

Symphony of 1000 monthly donors gave over

\$70,000

37

Foundations and trusts gave over

\$350,000

28

Corporate donations and sponsorships gave over

\$80,000

400+

Individual donors gave over

\$437,000

12

Special events and concerts raised over

\$27,000



## LOOKING AHEAD...

Our future is our children.

A musical life begins with our dynamic junior program where children learn, from the earliest age, the joy of making music together. Through orchestras, choirs, rhythm and movement each child discovers their potential for creativity and working cooperatively with others. Our program is unique, as rather than teaching each child privately to learn their instrument and then to someday join an orchestra we teach each child their instrument in the context of orchestra. This approach ensures that music is learned in society with others, in cooperative learning and in a community of challenge and support. As children mature into our senior program they access a high level of musicianship, self-discipline and achievement. The most dedicated become our youth mentors who will share their learning with the youngest students and become their role models as they mature.

Following on the success of our intermediate orchestra performance at the Orpheum this past June, our Symphony Orchestra and Choral Program will continue to grow and advance with the steady enrolment of the graduating juniors who have an excellent foundation for success.

We are inspired and excited about the year ahead and hope you will join us in this musical life!



# play your part....



**VOLUNTEER** From our kitchen to the walking school bus, our volunteers fill this school with love. Email us at: [volunteer@sjma.ca](mailto:volunteer@sjma.ca)



**PARTNER** Are you a local business or community organization? Let's build our community together.



**DONATE** It is through your gifts that, together, we can bring the power and love of music to our kids. Visit our website or reach out to [melodie@sjma.ca](mailto:melodie@sjma.ca) to donate today.



**VISIT** Open houses, concerts, community dinners - we are always finding ways to get together and we would love for you to join us! Reach out to [melodie@sjma.ca](mailto:melodie@sjma.ca) to plan your visit today.



**LIKE** Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and help us share our stories and spread the word! [@the\\_sjma](https://www.instagram.com/the_sjma)



**FUNDRAISE** Have a fundraising idea? Show your support by starting your own campaign or hosting an event. Visit [sjma.ca](http://sjma.ca) for more details.

# A Musical Life



## SAiNT JAMES MUSiC ACADEMY

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