

IMPACT REPORT


Atlanta
Symphony
Orchestra
Talent Development
Program

30
YEARS

23|24



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF THE TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

One of the most successful diversity music programs in the country, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's **Talent Development Program** (TDP) provides 25 young Black and Latine musicians each year with the highest levels of musical training and wraparound support.

TDP Alumni go on to attend top music schools and pursue successful professional careers in music. Read on to learn about the TDP's landmark 30th year.



30 YEARS

For 30 years, the **Talent Development Program** (TDP) has served as a model among arts organizations nationwide, helping more than 150 young Black and Latine musicians secure places at the country's top music schools and conservatories.



23|24 HIGHLIGHTS

- This year the **TDP 30th Anniversary Musicale** was an alumni celebration, with a rousing performance by the TDP Alumni Orchestra.
- The ASO and Equity Arc welcomed more than 50 industry leaders from across the country to the **Building Bridges Symposium**, strategizing best practices to increase diversity in classical music.
- The ASO celebrated TDP Founder **Mrs. Azira G. Hill's 100th Birthday** and her continued dedication to TDP throughout the past 30 years.



"Being a part of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra family and the Talent Development Program has been one of the great joys of my life. It is very rewarding to see the talent and the success of these young musicians. I consider myself truly blessed to have been a part of their journeys for the past 30 years."

- Azira G. Hill, TDP Founder

BY THE NUMBERS

900+

hours of private music lessons by ASO musicians

\$1M+

dollars in college scholarships awarded to 2024 TDP graduates

\$41,456

in scholarships given for summer music programs through the Azira G. Hill Endowment Fund

2,300

audience members across 5 concerts in 4 metro counties

6

masterclasses with world-class BIPOC musicians

18

TDP students attended prestigious summer music programs

2024 TDP GRADUATES



Jaia Alli | Cello

Jaia began her cello training in 2014, was a member of TDP for eight years and was the principal cellist for the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra. She has participated in the Bowdoin International Music Festival, the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, the Sphinx Performance Academy, and more. Jaia will attend Emory University and plans to double major in Music and Molecular Biology.



Sage Harrison-Conaway | Harp

Sage began studying the harp seven years ago, was a member of TDP for six years, and spent four years with the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra. She has participated in the Urban Youth Harp Ensemble, Interlochen Arts Camp, the UNCSA American Harp Academy, and more. Sage will attend Vanderbilt University to study Music Performance.



Justin Griffin | Trumpet

Justin began playing trumpet nine years ago. He was a member of the Lovett Wind Symphony and joined TDP in 2018. Justin participated in the Atlanta Music Project, the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra, GMEA All-State Band. He will attend Loyola University to study Music Performance.



“Every major city should have a program like this. Imagine what orchestras would look like if we could flood the field with all the talent coming out of Atlanta!”

- Michelle Cann, celebrated pianist and TDP30 keynote speaker

TDP ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

The TDP’s Spark Alumni Award celebrates TDP alumni who serve as role models for the next generation of classical musicians. Here are our 2023 Spark Alumni Award winners:



Lindsey Sharpe Class of 2015 | Cello

On joining TDP: “From then on, I had everything I needed. I had private lesson support. I could attend Atlanta Symphony Orchestra concerts whenever I wanted. I received support that helped me attend summer camps like Meadowmount, Brevard, and Tanglewood.” Lindsey is currently a Fellow in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and Chicago Sinfonietta.



Joshua Williams Class of 2018 | Tuba

“I have grown up dreaming not only of the opportunity to play in the ASO but to change the demographic of orchestras to be more reflective of my community. I hope that my work in the Orchestra will pave the way for other aspiring musicians of color.” Joshua is currently a Fellow with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.



Christopher Mosley Class of 2003 | Violin

Christopher is a passionate educator and performer. He is the owner and director of MPA Productions, a musical production company focused on increasing the visibility of minority string players in and around metro Atlanta’s public schools.



Lizbeth Yanez Class of 2017 | Trumpet

Lizbeth is a powerful advocate for diversity and equity for women of color in the arts. She holds a bachelor’s degree in trumpet performance from Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music and a master’s degree from the Yale School of Music. She’s performed with the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra, Bourbon Baroque, and attended the Brevard Summer Music Festival.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE TDP!




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The Talent Development Program is possible thanks to generous community support.

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