



# 2024-25 IMPACT REPORT



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## DEAR FRIENDS,

At Kaufman Music Center, we believe music is a powerful source of creativity and connection—it unites us and inspires us to dream bigger. Every classroom, lesson, and concert celebrates the best of the human spirit—this is a place where hearts and minds grow, and where excellence and empathy shine.

The joy and inspiration we create at Kaufman Music Center ripple outward, touching lives far beyond our walls. By supporting the Center, you open endless opportunities for growth and supportive risk-taking. You'll see countless examples of this in the subsequent pages of this year's Impact Report.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, students, faculty, and staff, thank you for your generosity. I invite you to keep sharing in this ever-growing celebration of music—and to take pride in the remarkable stories that you have helped make possible.

With gratitude,



Orli Shaham  
Chair, Board of Trustees



Orli Shaham

## DEAR FRIENDS,

Since stepping into my role as Kaufman Music Center's Executive Director, I have been both humbled and energized by the extraordinary welcome I've received from this community. In every conversation with students, faculty, parents, and supporters, I've seen the passion, dedication, and shared purpose that make our Center unlike any other place.

The "secret sauce" of Kaufman Music Center is the way our students, from pre-schoolers to adults, learn to listen to one another, collaborate with openness, and take creative risks in an environment that prizes both effort and excellence. It's in the mentoring that happens between peers, faculty, and visiting artists; in the rigor and joy of every lesson and rehearsal; and in the mutual respect that fills the halls of the Abraham Goodman House each day.

Our programs don't just produce exceptional musicians; they develop confident thinkers, empathetic collaborators, and resilient problem-solvers. The evidence is profound: academic gains, musical excellence, and social-emotional growth, all born from a model of education that we believe should be the norm, not the exception. This is what happens when access, opportunity, and artistic rigor converge.

These outcomes are yours to own. Your generosity sustains this culture of learning, collaboration, and artistic bravery. Every skill gained, every confident performance, every moment of personal growth is part of the legacy you help create.

As we look ahead to Kaufman Music Center's 75th anniversary in 2027–28, we are poised to deepen our role as a national leader in music education. We will continue to be a multi-pronged institution that serves all ages, champions artistic excellence, forges groundbreaking partnerships, and stands as a beacon for what is possible in the musical and educational landscape at this pivotal time. Together, we will expand our reach, inspire the next generation of artists and innovators, and demonstrate to the world the transformative power of music.

Thank you for your trust, your belief, and your partnership. I am excited for all we will accomplish, and for the many lives we will change together.

With gratitude,



Tony Mazzocchi  
**Executive Director**





# KAUFMAN MUSIC CENTER

Founded in 1952, Kaufman Music Center is the premier destination for learning and listening to music in New York City. **SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL** and **LUCY MOSES SCHOOL** offer rigorous, affordable training in music, dance, and theater for learners of all ages and skill levels, with abundant scholarships and a dedicated teaching faculty. **MERKIN HALL** presents today's most acclaimed contemporary artists and commissions in an intimate setting.

Our two schools and concert hall coalesce to provide a supportive musical community that welcomes over 50,000 students, performers, and audience members each year.



Student, Rowan Fortmiller



WELCOME TO

# LUCY MOSES SCHOOL

At **LUCY MOSES SCHOOL**, New Yorkers—from toddlers to teens to seniors—find a home in their shared passion for the performing arts. In 2024-25, Manhattan’s premier community arts school welcomed 1,900+ children and teens and 900+ adult learners to enroll in music, dance, and theater classes taught by the School’s dedicated and distinguished faculty.

**Private lessons and group classes catered to all levels and spanned:**

- Sixteen Instruments
- Voice
- Suzuki
- Dalcroze
- Six Styles of Dance
- Acting
- Musical Theater
- Jazz
- Music Theory
- Music History
- Ensembles

## **YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM**

The **YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM** offers pre-professional training for advanced musicians, ages 10-18. The Program’s rigorous after-school curriculum and array of performance opportunities prepare participants to pursue college-conservatory-level training and careers in music. Young Artists have advanced to top institutions across the country, including The Juilliard School, the Eastman School of Music, and Berklee College of Music.

“I was so impressed with how many concepts you introduced to the children in such a short amount of time. Melody, rhythm, and dynamics are the core of how we listen to and play music, and it felt like every child not only understood how you taught these concepts but also loved them.”

— *Paul Sipio,*  
*Trustee & Lucy Moses School Parent*



Student, William Swist

# SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Lucy Moses School's **SCHOLARSHIP FUND** makes performing arts training available to students of all income levels. In 2024-25, the School was proud to increase its subsidies and scholarship awards by **19%** to disburse more than **\$200,000** in aid to **124 music, dance, and theater students**.

## STUDENT STORIES INCLUDE:

- A multi-disciplinary teen artist who has won international awards for her violin and piano playing while also publishing poetry, performing with the Metropolitan Opera, and dancing with the New York City Ballet.
- An Afghan woman who came to New York City seeking refuge and the right to continue her education—academic and musical—after her formal schooling was disrupted by the Taliban.
- A young trumpet player who, after just two years of intensive study on her instrument, earned admission to Special Music School High School's audition-based brass program.

*"We are eternally grateful to all of you at Kaufman Music Center and Lucy Moses School for the many wonderful opportunities afforded to our family."*

*— Parent of a Lucy Moses School Scholarship Recipient*



# PATHWAYS PROGRAM

**PATHWAYS** bridges the economic opportunity gap in music education by welcoming low-income young musicians ages 8-13 to study at Lucy Moses School, where they embark on life-changing, intensive music study.

In 2024-25, Pathways **doubled in size to welcome 20 young musicians** who benefitted from entirely free, personalized training and additional supports to help them reach their full musical potential. This year, the Center is celebrating the admission of a Pathways student to Special Music School High School—an impressive early sign that the program is fulfilling its purpose.

“Honestly, without the Pathways program, it’s unlikely that my daughter would have had the opportunity to study music, especially an instrument like the French horn. Access to lessons, instruments, and performance opportunities can be limited in the community that we reside in.”

— Parent of a Pathways Student



# JAZZ PROGRAM CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

In 1995, renowned jazz guitarist and educator **Roni Ben-Hur** launched Lucy Moses School's **JAZZ PROGRAM** with a single class on jazz improvisation and harmony. It struck the right chord with the School's adult learners and, under Ben-Hur's leadership, evolved into a vibrant program for jazz vocalists and instrumentalists, ages 19-90+. Today, students of all experience levels can enroll in guitar, piano, and vocal workshops; participate in six different ensembles; and take private lessons or group classes in theory, improvisation, and more.

Ben-Hur believes that there's something deeply meaningful about teaching and playing jazz—an art form that has incorporated influences from cultures and immigrants all over the world—in a city like New York and at a place like Kaufman Music Center.

**“This melting pot that created jazz is a fascinating phenomenon that is welcoming to everyone. I think it reflects on the better part of our culture and our tradition.”**

— *Roni Ben-Hur*



Roni Ben-Hur

# RONNIE & LAWRENCE ACKMAN YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM

In spring 2025, Kaufman Music Center was proud to announce a landmark \$1.6 million commitment from Pershing Square Philanthropies to launch the **RONNIE AND LAWRENCE ACKMAN YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM**—a groundbreaking expansion of the Center’s scholarship initiatives which will ensure that 300 low-income students from across New York City can access deeply subsidized, worldclass music education, including private lessons, ensembles, music history, and training in music technology.

The Ronnie and Lawrence Ackman Scholars Program builds on Kaufman Music Center’s longstanding track record of providing arts education for young people of all ages and income levels. The Center is grateful to join with **Pershing Square Philanthropies** in opening new doors for the next generation of musicians, creators, and trailblazers.

**This grant marks the largest expansion of our scholarship program in the past decade.**





WELCOME TO

# SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL

Founded in 1996, **SPECIAL MUSIC SCHOOL (M859)** is the nation's only K-12 public school that makes music—like math, science, and history—a curricular cornerstone of every student's education. The School represents a unique partnership between Kaufman Music Center and New York City Public Schools. The Center provides daily music instruction, **including private lessons, music theory and history, ensembles, and more**, alongside New York City Public Schools' academic curriculum. Together, this tuition-free program fosters artistry, collaboration, and a deep sense of personal and collective meaning for 300+ students each year.

Highlights of the 2024–25 academic year included hands-on activities with leading musicians—including a workshop with visionary composer, director, choreographer, and 2024-25 Artist-in-Residence Meredith Monk as well as a masterful performance of Bach's multiple keyboard concerti under the baton of acclaimed pianist and Artist-in-Residence Simone Dinnerstein.

The School's roster of guest artists also included:

**Jane Marsh, voice**  
**Daria Rabotkina, piano**  
**Robin Scott, violin**  
**Curtis Stewart, violin**  
**Wilfried Strehle, viola**  
**David Ying, cello**

"The very concept of Kaufman Music Center's Special Music School—New York's only K-12 public institution offering intensive musical education without financial barriers—represents something profoundly democratic about artistic excellence."

— Edward A. Kliszus, *Opening Night Review*



# SELECT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## FABIAN BACHELIS | FLUTE

Winner, New York Flute Club Annual  
Young Musician's Contest

## LIAM CAWLEY | VIOLIN

Selected for Harmony Program's inaugural  
Midwinter Intensive with Chamber Music  
Society of Lincoln Center

## JOSEPH-GEORGES CORCOS | PIANO

Performer, Piano Concerto Festival – Paris, France

## AIONA CRUZ BISHOP | STRINGS

Participant, Summer String Festival,  
Elizabeth Marrow School

## EVELINA ERLIHA | FLUTE

First Prize, King's Peak International  
Music Competition

## NANAKA FURUKAWA | PIANO

Second Place, Debut Division, Cremona  
International Music Academy Competition

## ALEXANDER JOVANOVIC | PIANO

Grand Prix, IX Paderewski International  
Piano Competition  
First Place, 2024 Pacific Stars International  
Piano Competition  
Soloist, Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1  
with orchestras in Portugal and Estonia  
Second Prize, Geneva Musicale Competition

## KAI GRENIER | CELLO

First Place, USA Classical Hobbyists Competition  
First Place, International Grande  
Music Competition

## YOSEF KOGAN | VIOLIN

Winner, 2025 Special Music School  
8th Grade Concerto Competition

## LETAO LI | PIANO

First Prize, Franz Liszt Center Virtual  
Piano Competition (12-14 Age Group)

## YINGXUE LI | VIOLIN

Participant and Performer, Manhattan  
Chamber Music Festival – China

## CYRUS MAI | CELLO

Grand Prize Winner, Young Performers  
Foundation Chamber Music Competition

## ELIYA PARIENTE | PIANO

Performer, Piano Concerto Festival – Paris, France

## SOPHIA VICTORIA PLACIDO- GALARD | PIANO

Grand Prize Winner, Young Performers Foundation  
Chamber Music Competition

## AMIR SAHAY | PIANO

Performer, Piano Concerto Festival – Paris, France

## KATHERINE SOGOLOFF | PIANO

First Prize, Claude Debussy International  
Piano Competition  
First Prize, Cremona International Music  
Academy Piano Competition

## CICELY SOMERS | PIANO

Honorable Mention, Cremona International  
Music Academy Competition

## TSEJIN TEO | VIOLIN

Performer, Manhattan School of Music  
Summer Festival  
Second Place, Young Soloist International  
Music Competition  
First Place, Golden Classical Music Awards

## NEEL THOMAS | VIOLIN

Grand Prize Winner, Young Performers  
Foundation Chamber Music Competition

## EMMA WAITE | PIANO

Performer, The Piano Concerto Festival  
– Faro, Portugal  
Winner, Second Prize, Maurice Ravel Competition  
– Paris, France  
Winner, Second Prize, Elevato Piano Competition  
Performer, Piano Concerto Festival – Paris, France

## ALEXANDER ZHOU | PIANO

First Prize & Best International Pianist,  
International Piano Competition for  
Young Pianists – Kronberg, Germany

## LUKA ZYLIK | VIOLIN

Record-holder for Most Solos at Metropolitan  
Children's Chorus (3 seasons, 10 operas,  
and 50 solos)  
First Place, Prima Volta Music International  
Competition



Suzuki Flute Group Performing  
at 2025 Day of Musical Action

# SELECT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**ADAM BUENO | FLUTE**

Recognition of Achievement, National Merit Scholars Program

**JACKY CHUANG | VIOLIN**

Winner, Wildcard, Special Music School High School Concerto Competition

**ABIGAIL FELDMAN-LEWIS | VOICE**

Recognition of Achievement, National Merit Scholars Program

**ANNA KESSELMAN | PIANO**

Lang Lang Young Scholar for 2024-26  
Winner, YoungArts Award  
Finalist, 2025 Yamaha USASU International Piano Competition

**DEVON LEE | COMPOSITION**

Luna Lab & Chamber Queer's Nebula Project:  
Premiere of new work, DiMenna Center

**YOONSUH LEE | CELLO**

Winner, Wildcard, Special Music School High School Concerto Competition

**SILVIA NICHOLSON | PIANO**

Winner, Piano Division, Special Music School High School Concerto Competition

**VANESSA NIU | VOICE**

Commissioned for a NY Liberty basketball game  
Featured Performer, Guggenheim Museum,  
Harmony & Dissonance, Orphism  
– Paris, France  
Recognition of Achievement, National Merit Scholars Program

**VIOLET PARIS-HILLMER | VOICE**

Winner, Schmidt Regional Vocal Competition  
– Boston  
Finalist, Schmidt Regional Vocal Competition

**HAZEL PEEBLES | VIOLA**

National Youth Orchestra, Summer 2025

**CASEY SCHOPFLOCHER | VOICE**

Winner, Schmidt Regional Vocal Competition  
– Philadelphia  
Finalist, Schmidt Regional Vocal Competition  
Winner, Vocal Division, Special Music School High School Concerto Competition

**MACK SCOCCA-HO | VIOLA**

Recognition of Achievement, National Merit Scholars Program

**SOPHIA SHAO | PIANO**

Winner, YoungArts Award

**FRANCISCO SILVA | SAXOPHONE**

Winner, Excellence in Jazz, Peter Michael Gray Award

**SKYLER SPIVEY | VOICE**

QuestBridge Scholar  
Featured Performer, Guggenheim Museum,  
Harmony & Dissonance, Orphism  
– Paris, France

**TOMMY WAZELLE | FLUTE**

Winner, Woodwinds Division, Special Music School High School Concerto Competition  
Winner, Chamber Music Center of New York Concerto Competition

**ZACHARY WHELAN | VOICE**

Encouragement Award, Schmidt Regional Vocal Competition – Philadelphia  
Semi-finalist, Classical Singer Competition – Chicago

**NICKITA ZHANG | VIOLIN**

Winner, Strings Division, Special Music School High School Concerto Competition

**PHILINA ZHANG | PIANO**

National Merit Scholar Certificate of Merit Soloist, Little Orchestra Society  
Performer, Salle Cortot – Paris, France  
Kennedy Center composition premiere:  
Trio for Horn, Trombone and Piano



High School Choir conducted by Will Roslak

# THE PETER MICHAEL GRAY AWARD

Francisco “Chico” Silva, a Special Music School High School saxophonist, was the recipient of this year's **PETER MICHAEL GRAY AWARD**.

Established by an anonymous donor with a gift of \$250,000, the award is the first fully-endowed scholarship for a Special Music School student, recognizing a jazz student who exemplifies the core values of a Special Music School education: exceptional musicianship, leadership both inside and outside the classroom, and strong potential to advance in the field of music.

Chico studied privately with saxophonist Mike Webster and performed in both the Advanced Jazz Ensemble and Big Band. Over his two years at Special Music School High School, he made remarkable progress and emerged as a respected leader among his peers. This fall, Chico began his studies at Syracuse University.



# 2025 COLLEGE MATRICULATION

In 2025, Special Music School seniors achieved **100% graduation and college acceptance** for the ninth consecutive year. Graduates of the School are continuing their studies at prestigious institutions nationwide, including leading conservatories, Ivy League universities, and other top programs such as:

Berklee College of Music  
Binghamton University  
Boston Conservatory  
Buffalo State College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
City College of New York  
College of Staten Island  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth University  
Hamilton College  
Harvard University/New England  
Conservatory  
Ithaca College  
John Jay College  
Macalester College  
McGill University  
Middlebury College

New York City College of Technology  
New York University  
Oberlin College & Conservatory  
Penn State University  
Princeton University  
Queens College  
Sarah Lawrence College  
SUNY Fredonia  
Syracuse University  
The George Washington University  
The Juilliard School  
The New School:  
Mannes School of Music  
The Peabody Institute of the  
Johns Hopkins University  
University at Buffalo  
University of Michigan  
University of Southern California





WELCOME TO

# MERKIN HALL

**MERKIN HALL's** intimate scale and affordable ticket prices create unparalleled opportunities for audiences of all ages and musical interests to experience artists working at the highest levels of their craft.

The Hall's 2024-25 season showcased the **breadth and vibrancy of concert programming** that audiences have come to expect only at Kaufman. The *Artist as Curator* series—a celebration of innovation and collaboration—presented new music by today's most exciting composers, including Allison Loggins-Hull, Darius Jones, and Derek Bermel. *Tuesday Matinees* featured rising star musicians such as mezzo-soprano Taylor Raven and violinists Daniel Rafimayeri and Hina Khuong-Huu.

Beloved series such as *What Makes It Great?* and *Broadway Close Up* returned to acclaim, while *Great Vocalists* and *Piano Dialogues* spotlighted performers' mastery of their instruments. 2024-25 also saw the launch of *Rock and Roll Playhouse*, an interactive new series for families, featuring iconic songs from rock history.

16,189

AUDIENCE MEMBERS

63

CONCERTS

312

ARTISTS

## PAYING IT FORWARD

During the 2024-25 season, Kaufman Music Center was proud to partner with social service institutions such as **Hudson Guild, Greenwich House, Goddard Riverside Community Center**, as well as the city-wide programs like **Culture Pass, Club Free Time**, and the **Theater Development Fund**. Through these partnerships, the Center offered over 5,500 free and highly discounted tickets to Merkin Hall. Your continued support of our **PAY IT FORWARD** campaign helps us expand our reach and give even more audience members the opportunity to experience the magic of live music here at Kaufman Music Center.



# ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

Merkin Hall's season was anchored by three **ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE**—groundbreaking musicians and composers who developed new projects over the course of their yearlong residencies. 2024-25 Artists-in-Residence were composer, vocalist, and multi-genre creator **Meredith Monk**; Grammy-nominated violinist and composer **Curtis Stewart**; and celebrated pianist **Simone Dinnerstein**. Artists-in-Residence also teach, mentor, and inspire students of all ages across the Center's educational programs, yielding unique and mutually rewarding collaborations.

## MEREDITH MONK

Meredith Monk's Merkin Hall presentation paired a world premiere with a live performance retrospective of her 60-year interdisciplinary career. Monk also coached adventurous adult learners in a "Dancing Voice/Singing Body" workshop.

## CURTIS STEWART

Curtis Stewart's residency launched his new composition cycle: *24 American Caprices* for solo violin. Reflecting on the experience, Stewart highlighted the synergy between composing and mentoring: "I wrote ten of my *24 American Caprices* for Kaufman Music Center and five of those were played by students at Special Music School. They're these Paganini- and Wieniawski-level pieces, and these crazy, virtuosic students learned them in a month and a half. Now three of the students who played on that concert are recording those works on my next album."

## SIMONE DINNERSTEIN

As part of her residency, Simone Dinnerstein offered a spellbinding concert of two of Philip Glass' seldom-performed concerti alongside the solo work *Mad Rush* at Merkin Hall in May. Dinnerstein returned to Merkin Hall to lead Lucy Moses School students and faculty in an exuberant, free marathon concert of all twenty Philip Glass *Etudes* in June.





# KAUFMAN MUSIC CENTER LAUNCHES FIRST EVER ENDOWED COMMISSIONING FUND

Kaufman Music Center is proud to announce the launch of **THE ROZ LASKER COMMISSIONING FUND**, an endowed initiative designed to foster mentorship and collaboration in composition and performance. This fund supports projects that bring together commissioned composers and students from Special Music School and Lucy Moses School, encouraging creative partnerships and hands-on learning experiences.

The inaugural commission was awarded to acclaimed violinist and composer Curtis Stewart, whose project featured his *24 American Caprices*—a collection of dynamic, genre-blending works that reflect the diversity and innovation of American music. Stewart's commission included workshops, masterclasses, and performance opportunities for students at Merkin Hall.

Building on the success of The Roz Lasker Artist Mentorship Fund, which provides leadership support for our Artists-in-Residence Program, The Roz Lasker Commissioning Fund will ensure that mentorship, artistry, and collaboration remain at the heart of Kaufman Music Center's work.

"Collaboration is the bridge between ideas and action, between individuals and community. It's how we move beyond boundaries, rethink what's possible, and lay the groundwork for a more empathetic and equitable world. Supporting collaboration at Kaufman Music Center is my way of championing the belief that progress begins when we imagine and build something greater together."

— Roz Lasker, Trustee





WELCOME TO

# THEATER@ KAUFMAN

## BROADWAY PLAYHOUSE

Each year, Director of Theater@Kaufman Sean Hartley and a team of professional actors introduce New York City youth, ages 4-11, to musical theater's iconic composers, lyricists, and tunes at **BROADWAY PLAYHOUSE**. The series welcomes families and school groups to Merkin Hall for fun-filled matinee performances, which engage their young audiences with interactive sing-a-longs, sketches, trivia, and games. This season, to ensure that low-income students could share in the joy of *Broadway Playhouse*, the Center distributed more than 3,200 complimentary or deeply discounted tickets, including 1,800+ tickets to Title I New York City Public Schools at which more than 95% of families are estimated to be facing economic hardship.

## SUMMER MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP

For the Alvaro siblings and many others, **SUMMER MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP** is more than a summer camp—it's a family tradition. Every July, the beloved program brings together 85+ young people, ages 6-16, to rehearse and perform entirely original musicals by the Workshop faculty. This summer, recent Special Music School High School graduate Jon Alvaro and his sister Valentina—both longtime campers—joined the Workshop's small team of dedicated interns, who collaborate closely with both faculty and students to develop the show. The 35th summer of the Workshop culminated in three at-capacity performances of *Make a Splash*—a collection of short musicals—on the Merkin Hall stage.

“The kids sincerely feel a sense of community with the actors; they call them by name and talk about them as if they are old friends. Thank you all for always welcoming P.S. 129 into the *Broadway Playhouse* family. We look forward to many years to come.”

— *Public School Teacher,  
P.S. 129, a Title I School*



**"I don't think that we are born empathetic, I think that babies are probably born creative, maybe loving, but I think empathy is something that we really get to build. And if you get to play a Prince of Denmark, or a milk man with five daughters, you get the opportunity to look at the world through someone else's eyes, and that is the first step toward empathy."**

— Sean Hartley,  
Director of Theater@Kaufman  
2024-25 Gala Honoree



# A TRANSFORMATIVE BEQUEST

Morris Goodman's life and generosity touched every corner of Kaufman Music Center. For decades, Morris was a source of quiet, steady leadership—someone who never sought recognition, but whose devotion shaped the programs that thrive today in the **Abraham Goodman House**. His belief in the life-changing power of music and education was steadfast, and his involvement was rooted in a deep commitment to the arts and our community. Morris's exceptional dedication to Kaufman Music Center and our students—along with the profound legacy he and his family established over decades of support—exemplifies this unwavering belief.

Beyond his role as a cherished supporter, Morris was a brilliant linguist and educator. Born in New York City to Abraham and Mollie Goodman, Morris's early years were shaped by his family's immigrant journey and an enduring passion for learning. He was a graduate of Phillips Andover Academy, studied at Oberlin College, and earned his Ph.D. in Linguistics from Columbia University. Renowned for his expertise in Creole and African languages, Morris taught at UCLA and spent decades on the faculty at Northwestern University—leaving a lasting mark in both scholarship and mentorship. His fascination with languages led to fluency in numerous tongues and a deep appreciation for global cultures.

Equally important, Morris was a lover of music and a devoted patron of cultural and educational institutions in Chicago, New York, and beyond. This year, Kaufman Music Center is deeply honored to recognize a transformative \$200,000 bequest from Morris Goodman's estate. His legacy gift, given with characteristic humility, will ensure that new generations of students, artists, and audiences can experience the joy of music within the Center's vibrant, welcoming community. We celebrate and remember Morris not only for his generosity, but for the compassion, wisdom, and quiet encouragement that will continue to inspire generations.



Morris Goodman

# THE TZIPORA H. JOCHSBERGER SOCIETY

The **TZIPORA H. JOCHSBERGER SOCIETY** is named in honor of our founder, who passed away at age 96 in late 2017. The Society recognizes the following generous supporters, who have included Kaufman Music Center in their estate plans, making a difference during their lifetimes and beyond.

## MEMBERS

Anne Blatt  
Helene Blue  
Ilse Blumenfeld  
Sidney Bresler  
Rosalind Devon  
Phyllis and Samuel Feder  
Susan D. Fischer  
Emanuel and Ellen Genauer  
Anna Gold  
Morris Goodman  
Estelle Greco  
Rose Hirschel  
Deborah Holtz  
Adele D. Kapp

Carole A. Kemack  
Solange Landau  
Steven Lane  
Roz Lasker  
Marie Lewis  
Christina M. Mason  
Clarice Mertzal  
Janet Neiman  
Cathy White O'Rourke  
Johanna Roman Barish  
Evelyn Ronell  
Rita Fredricks Salzman  
Blanche Shapiro  
Dorothy Silverstein



Tzipora H. Jochsberger

# NEW TRUSTEES

Kaufman Music Center's **Board of Trustees** has elected three new members: Tamara Conniff, Paul Sipio, and Irina Vainberg.

## TAMARA CONNIFF

Conniff is a music executive, philanthropist, and film producer. She is the founder of music rights company AMR Songs, where she has built a successful portfolio of catalogs. She has served in several high-profile leadership roles in the music industry, including EVP of Business Affairs for Jay-Z's Roc Nation Music Publishing, COO of Artist Publishing Group and President of Music Services for Front Line Management/Ticketmaster. Conniff started her career as a journalist, was the first female Editor-in-Chief at Billboard, and launched the Women in Music brand. She serves on the board of several non-profits including the Ray and Vera Conniff Foundation. She has produced several films including the forthcoming documentary *Lahaina Rising*.



## PAUL SIPIO

Sipio is a Managing Director in the Origination group at Apollo Global Management, a high-growth, global alternative asset manager and a retirement services provider with over \$750 billion of assets under management. He has led Apollo's long-term financing partnerships in the music industry with Sony Music Group and Concord. Prior to joining Apollo in 2021, Sipio worked in the Technology, Media & Telecommunications Investment Banking group at Goldman Sachs as well as at Universal Music Group. He received his M.B.A. with Honors from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, and he graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in Music from Northeastern University. Sipio is a professor on the Music Adjunct Faculty at the New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, and he is the parent of a student at Lucy Moses School.

## IRINA VAINBERG

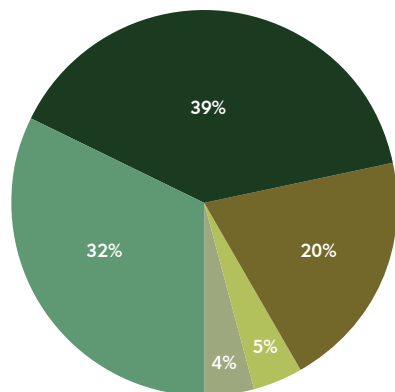
Vainberg is a partner at Troutman Pepper Locke LLP, where she is a member of the health sciences intellectual property department. She assists biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, research hospitals, and academic institutions with obtaining patents on various cutting-edge medical and pharmaceutical inventions. She also provides strategic counseling and assistance with deals involving intellectual property licensing and acquisitions. Through her work, Vainberg has been involved in various educational and career development initiatives for undergraduate and graduate students. She received her PhD in cell biology and biochemistry from New York University and her law degree from Fordham University School of Law. Music has always been a big part of Vainberg's life. She believes in the power of music education and the importance of it being accessible to people of all ages and incomes. Her daughter has been a piano student at Lucy Moses School's Young Artist Program for the past 12 years.



# OPERATING FINANCIALS

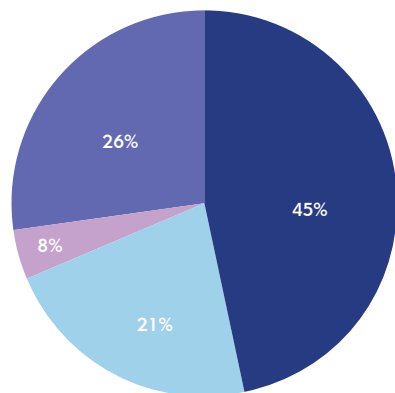
## 2024-25 OPERATING REVENUE

Tuition (Education Programs)	\$3,652,100	32%
* Contributions (Annual Support)	\$4,447,400	39%
Rental Income & Other Earned Revenue	\$2,281,300	20%
Ticket Sales/Theater Revenue	\$461,100	4%
** Distributions from Endowment	\$486,100	5%
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$11,328,000</b>	<b>100%</b>



## 2024-25 OPERATING EXPENSES

Music Education Programs	\$5,113,700	45%
*** Buildings & Facilities	\$2,326,100	21%
Merkin Hall & Theater Programs	\$936,000	4%
Administration/Development/Marketing	\$2,925,400	26%
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,301,200</b>	<b>100%</b>



Expense and revenue numbers as of October 8, 2025.

Numbers are preliminary and unaudited, and reflect direct expenses. Amounts are rounded to the nearest hundred.

\* Represents contributions for annual support on a cash (non-accrual) basis.

\*\* Represents distributions from endowment in accordance with board-approved spending policy. Does not include realized and unrealized investment income and gains/losses.

\*\*\* Does not include depreciation. Also does not include capitalized expenses of approx. \$111,000 for facilities and technology upgrades and refurbishments.

# KAUFMAN FAMILY CHALLENGE

Thanks to the generosity of Elaine and Henry Kaufman —whose unprecedented gift spurred an endowment campaign known as the **KAUFMAN FAMILY CHALLENGE**—the Center has grown its endowment substantially. As of August 2025, the Center has achieved commitments totaling **\$9,480,229** —**95% of our \$10 million goal**. The Campaign has inspired many ‘firsts’, including:

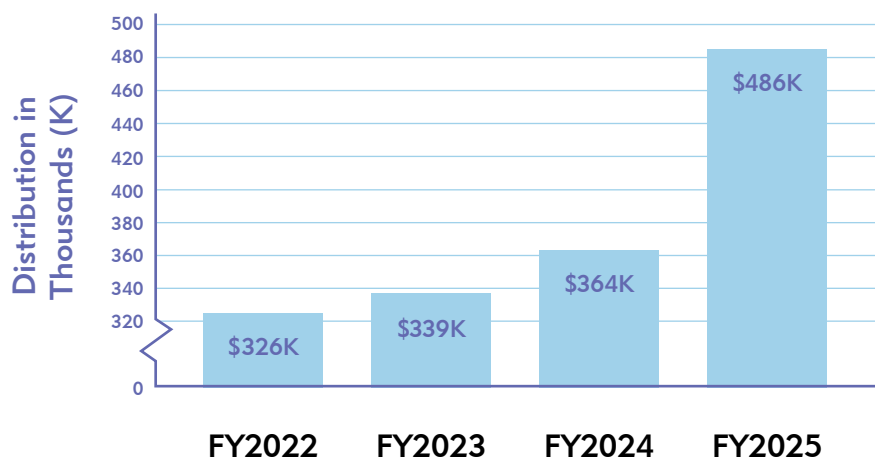
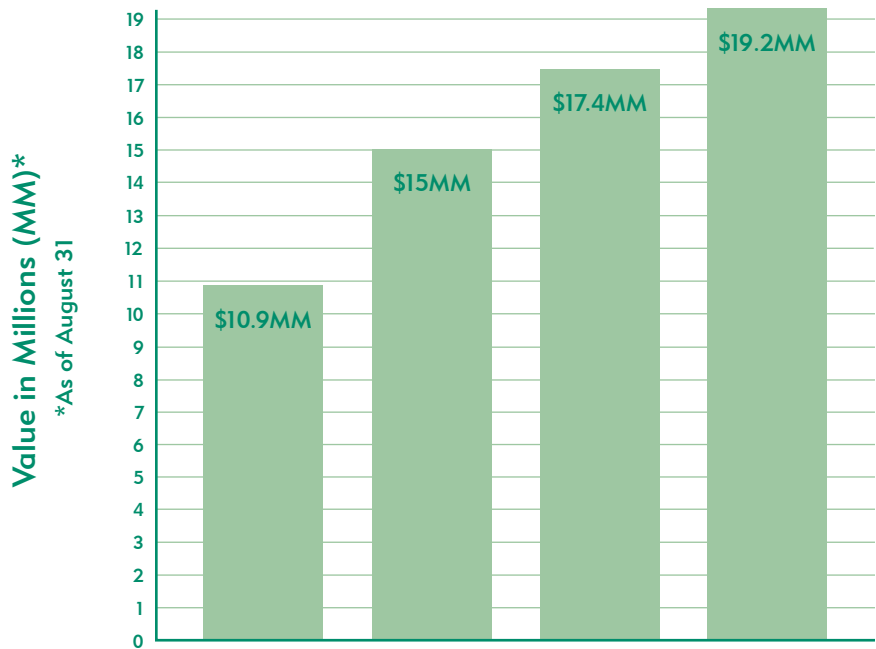
- The first-ever fully endowed student at Special Music School.
- The first-ever fund to support the Artists-In-Residence Program.
- The first-ever fund to support commissions that foster mentorship and collaboration with students and composers.
- The first-ever fund to support Piano Masterclasses for students at Kaufman Music Center.

We are delighted to recognize those who have already made leadership commitments to the Campaign\*.

Bloomberg Philanthropies  
 Joel Beckerman  
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# ENDOWMENT VALUE & DISTRIBUTIONS



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*Kaufman Music Center gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Mollie and Abraham Goodman and the Goodman family.*

**KAUFMAN MUSIC CENTER**  
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All gifts received before June 30,  
2026 will be matched dollar-for-dollar  
by Pershing Square Philanthropies.

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