



COMMUNITY STRING PROJECT

a case for giving

Our Mission

The Community String Project operates with a mission of providing affordable and accessible orchestral string lessons, transforming lives through an innovative music program.

Our Vision

The Community String Project envisions a community where quality of life is improved through music.

The Need

CSP works to address the lack of student access to string instruments and lessons. We strive to educate the community about the benefits of string music instruction and demonstrate its value as a basic component of education.

CSP addresses the need (as determined by RI Kids Count) for quality afterschool programming for children who need it. String instruction can help children achieve academically in subjects outside of music; builds teamwork skills and fosters creativity. Further, CSP provides a safe, engaging activity for kids after school.

CSP is accessible and affordable, with 36% of youth qualifying for free instruction and the use of CSP-owned instruments, ensuring that every child can participate regardless of ability to pay. All instruction for grades 3-5 is provided in the Bristol Warren school buildings.



“ Honestly the program is just great. I have no words—that’s how excellent the program is. It’s actually the greatest program my son has ever been in. ”

PARENT OF
7TH GRADE VIOLINIST

Why Donate?

We need your donation to provide life-changing arts opportunities for underserved children.

- NEW research on playing a string instrument explains that enhanced sensory connections translate to improved comprehension, language and brain functions.
- PLAYING an instrument is shown to increase academic performance and decrease school drop-out rates. CSP could improve self-esteem and help foster community engagement.
- CSP fills a space in the after-school timeslot to help provide music instructions and maintain participation for many at-risk youths.
- CSP is grateful for a strong partnership with the Bristol Warren Regional School District, however, CSP is not a school program and, therefore, is not funded through the school budget.

FAST FACTS

- CSP serves, on average, 110 students in grades 3-12 and 80 adult students (ranging in age from 16-80), including those studying classical guitar.
- After-school classes for 3rd-5th graders are held in their own school buildings.
- To keep participation at an affordable price point, 100% of lessons are subsidized to some extent. 36% of students receive full scholarships.
- Within three years of participation, CSP students have achieved top ratings at the RIMEA Orchestra Festival.
- CSP students benefit from diverse opportunities, including school and CSP concerts, and community events such as new business openings and Warren Town Stroll.
- CSP has a full-time Executive Director.

Fundraising Goals

Over the next three years, CSP is focused on:

- Hiring and retaining highly-qualified instructors.
- Increasing the number of students who can access the program.
- Providing full scholarships for 10 additional children.
- Providing weekly 30-minute private lessons for each middle and high school student.
- Increase the number of qualities instruments, bows and cases available to our students.
- Ensure secure facilities for office and rehearsal space.

To achieve these core goals, \$70,000 needs to be raised. Reaching these milestones will enable CSP to better serve local musicians.

CSP is fortunate to have varied income streams: 29% of organizational funding is provided by affordable fees charged to adults and youth who can pay. 43% of organizational funds are realized through fundraising efforts (events and annual appeal) and individual gifts.

The remaining 28% of organizational funds are made available through grantors, including, but not limited to, the RI State Council on the Arts, Carter Family Charitable Trust and the Town of Bristol .



Our History

In 2009, The Community String Project was developed in response to a lack of a strings program in the Bristol Warren School District music curriculum and in response to an expressed interest from several students and parents. Partnering with the Bristol Warren Child Opportunity Zone Summer Camp, 40 students signed up for lessons in the first year. CSP offered instruction in violin, viola, cello and bass

How to Donate

To learn more about how you can support our mission, or to make a gift, please contact: Alan Bernstein, Executive Director, at 401- 500-1243, or mail your contribution to:

“ This program is amazing! I can’t imagine my life without CSP. ”

JOAN,
ADULT STRING ENSEMBLE



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