

**ICYONY**



**INNER CITY YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF NEW YORK**

**MEDIA KIT 2026**





The **Inner City Youth Orchestra of New York (ICYONY)** is proud to stand as Bed-Stuy's first youth orchestra—a transformative musical home where accomplishment, pride, camaraderie, confidence, and respect are not only taught, but lived. Designed for inner-city youth ages 14 to 22, our program offers free, high-quality orchestral instruction and mentorship that empowers young people to grow as musicians, leaders, and human beings.

At ICYONY, we believe that music is a force for personal and communal transformation. It challenges students to strive for excellence, encourages them to take pride in their progress, and cultivates the discipline and confidence needed to stand tall in any setting. Whether a young musician plans to perform on the world's great stages or to find their strength through song, ICYONY invites young musicians to grow with us—to be part of something bold, beautiful, and bigger than yourself.

## OUR MISSION

To provide inner-city youth with access to professional music training that develops their artistic gifts, nurtures personal growth, and builds a lasting foundation of self worth and community respect.

## WHAT WE OFFER

- Weekly rehearsals led by dynamic professional conductors and teaching artists.
- A diverse repertoire that includes classical masterworks, contemporary compositions, and works by Black and underrepresented composers.
- Public performance opportunities across New York City
- Soloist features to celebrate individual talent and musical accomplishment
- Access to a network of mentors, musicians, and guest artists, including collaboration with members of the **New York Philharmonic**

Through this holistic approach, students experience the power of camaraderie—learning to collaborate, listen, and lead within a musical community that thrives on mutual respect and shared purpose.

More than just an orchestra, ICYONY is a movement. We are creating a space where young people from Brooklyn and beyond can build confidence, pursue their passions, and feel proud of who they are and what they can achieve.

By engaging with the rigor of music and the joy of performance, our students are not only becoming strong musicians—they are becoming articulate, empowered citizens equipped with the tools to excel in life.

Whether your goal is to perform on the world's great stages or to find your strength through song, ICYONY invites you to grow with us—to be part of something bold, beautiful, and bigger than yourself.

# BACKGROUND

ICYONY is not a conservatory or a traditional music school. It is a performance-driven community where young musicians learn discipline, collaboration, and confidence through shared responsibility to the ensemble.

## OUR BEGINNINGS

ICYONY was founded in April 2025, growing out of a shared belief that young musicians in our community deserve access to high-quality ensemble performance without unnecessary barriers. From the start, the orchestra was designed to be free, performance-focused, and rooted in community—a place where students could develop musically while learning what it means to belong to something larger than themselves.

ICYONY is closely connected to ICYOLA, sharing a common commitment to access, excellence, and opportunity through music. While each organization serves its own community, the connection reflects a broader vision: building strong, supportive pathways for young musicians to grow, perform, and thrive.

## 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



### SUMMER (INAUGURAL) PERFORMANCE

In July, ICYONY musicians closed out the summer with a performance that showcased both musical growth and ensemble maturity. For many students, this performance marked an important milestone—a moment of realizing how far consistent effort can take them. The **St. Philip's Sanctuary** was packed with family, friends and the community at large.

[Lift Every Voice and Sing](#)



### HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE

In December, Christmas in Harlem was an amazing event at the renowned **Abyssinian Baptist Church**. ICYONY was invited to participate in the *Annual Christmas at Aby event*. This year our students had the honor to accompany acclaimed soloists Brandie Sutton!

[Carol of the Bells](#)

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

As the new year progresses, the season continues—and so does the momentum. In 2026, ICYONY will expand performance opportunities across Brooklyn and NYC, deepen community partnerships, and continue building meaningful musical experiences for our students. The Orchestra will also be expanding to include wind and brass sections.

We will also be:

- Performing with the world-renowned cellist [Sujari Britt](#)
- Conducting ICYONY In-studio Sessions
- Presenting a Year-End Concert Series

Please visit our [website](#) and [Instagram](#) for more details on upcoming performances.

# FINANCIALS

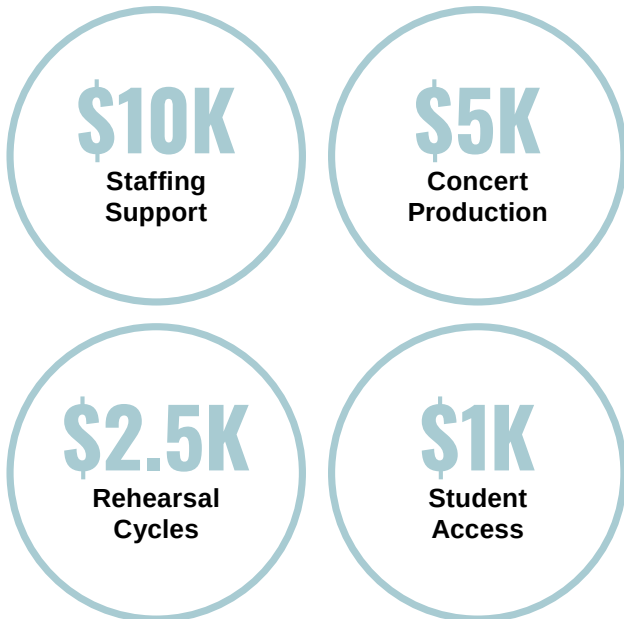
Community investment keeps ICYONY tuition free, performance-driven, and accessible to young musicians across New York City. ICYONY is building a serious ensemble home for young musician in Brooklyn and beyond. Your support helps fund rehearsals, performances, coaching, equipment, and the student support systems that make consistent participation possible.

## \$300,000

Annual Impact Goal

40% Staffing & Artistic Leadership .....	\$120,000
20% Music Instruction & Development.....	\$60,000
15% Concert Production & Guest Artists .....	\$45,000
10% Facility & Rental Space .....	\$30,000
10% Instruments & Equipment.....	\$30,000
5% Sustainability & Reserve .....	\$15,000

A **\$300,000 annual investment** sustains a fully functioning, tuition-free youth orchestra-supporting professional artists, students, and performances across New York City.

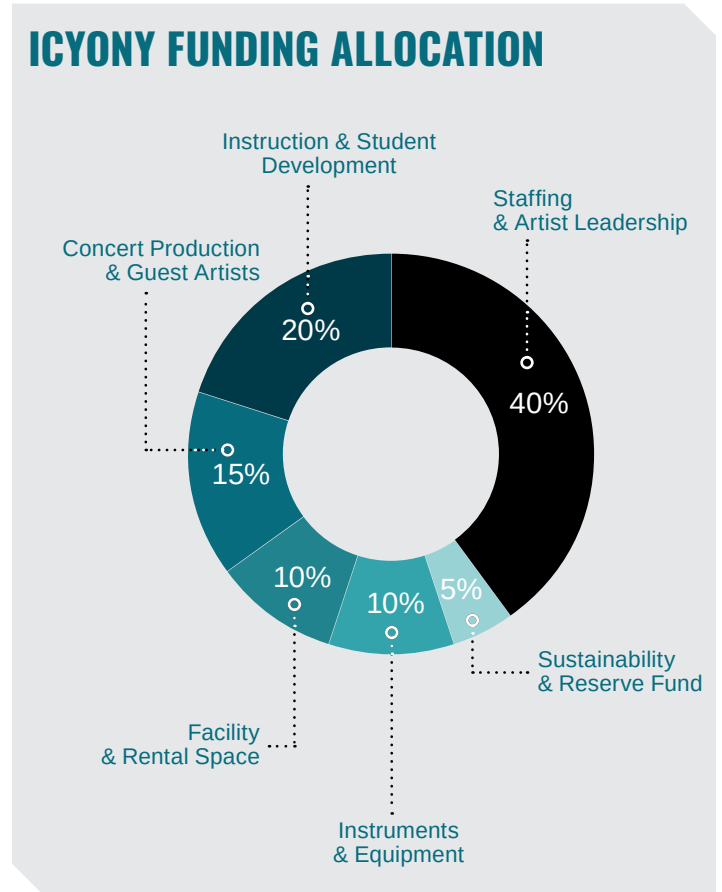


## WHERE THE MONEY GOES

**Program & Instruction:** weekly rehearsals, conductors, sectional support, and artistic development.

**Concert Production:** performances, guest artists, production support, and venue execution.

## ICYONY FUNDING ALLOCATION



# DONORS



## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

**Purpose: Stability, continuity, community buy-in.**

Friends of ICYONY.....	\$50 – \$249
Supporting Donors.....	\$250 – \$999
Patrons.....	\$1,000 – \$2,499
Major Donors.....	\$2,500 – \$4,999



## BENEFACTORS

**Purpose: Growth, resilience, long-term impact**  
**Season-level or strategic initiative support**  
*(often multi-year).*

Benefactor .....	\$10,000 – \$24,999
Lead Benefactor .....	\$25,000 – \$49,999
Founding.....	\$50,000 – \$99,999
Legacy Benefactor .....	\$100,000



## SPONSORS

**Purpose: Underwrite programs, performance, equipment or instruments.**

Community Sponsor .....	\$2,500 – \$4,999
Program / Section Sponsor .....	\$5,000 – \$9,999
Performance Sponsor.....	\$10,000 – \$19,999
Presenting Sponsor.....	\$20,000 – \$39,999
Presenting Sponsor.....	\$40,000 – \$59,999



## IN-KIND SUPPORT

**Instruments, venue access, production services, and professional expertise.**

# FAQs

## WHO IS ICYONY?

The Inner-City Youth Orchestra of New York (ICYONY) is a free, community-based youth orchestra dedicated to providing young musicians with meaningful ensemble performance and mentorship. Our focus is access—removing traditional barriers so students can grow through real orchestral experience.

ICYONY is not a traditional conservatory or a music school. We are a stage. Students learn by doing—rehearsing together, listening deeply, and performing as a unified ensemble.

## WHO IS SUITED FOR ICYONY?

ICYONY welcomes motivated NYC student musicians who:

- Play a string or orchestral instrument
- Can read music at a basic to intermediate level
- Are interested in an authentic ensemble experience
- Are ready to commit to rehearsals and performances

## WHAT CAN YOUNG MUSICIANS EXPECT TO EXPERIENCE AT ICYONY?

Young Musicians can expect to:

- Rehearse weekly in a structured orchestral setting
- Learn the discipline of ensemble playing
- Develop focus, listening, and accountability
- Participate in workshops and masterclasses with professionals & guest experts
- Build lasting relationships
- Perform in concerts

## ARE THERE OPENINGS FOR SPECIFIC INSTRUMENTS RIGHT NOW?

ICYONY is growing, and we are currently seeking string players, particularly double bass players, brass, and woodwind musicians ages 13 to 22.

## HOW LONG IS YOUR PERFORMANCE SEASON?

The ICYONY season runs September through July, with performances throughout the year at community venues, cultural institutions, and partner organizations. Students gain real-world performance experience in settings that value preparation, collaboration, & excellence.

## HOW CAN I JOIN THE ORCHESTRA?

If you are interested in becoming part of ICYONY, please sign up by completing the registration form using the button below or on our website at [icyony.org](https://icyony.org).

## HOW CAN I SUPPORT ICYONY?

ICYONY is made possible through community support and donations.

Your contribution helps provide:

- Instruments & music materials
- Rehearsal space & mentorship
- Performance opportunities for students

To volunteer or make a donation, please contact us at [info@icyony.org](mailto:info@icyony.org).



*A Performance Driven Youth Organization*