



New
World
Symphony

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20





DEAR NEW WORLD SYMPHONY FAMILY,

What a year we have weathered together. There is much to be proud of—above all the incredible resilience, flexibility and generosity of our community and your ongoing commitment to, and belief in, the power of music especially in these times of uncertainty and unrest.

It seems like a lifetime ago that the 2019-20 season began with our unprecedented Viola Visions festival and continued with many other artistic highlights including the experimental Music of the Spheres space concert and an unforgettable collaboration with Miami City Ballet. This season also marked our 100th WALLCAST® concert and the first with 4K projections. Our Fellows yet again demonstrated their creativity with their entrepreneurial audience engagement projects, ranging from Alma Latina to Beer and Brass. It also was a banner year for our Co-Founder and Artistic Director Michael Tilson Thomas, who brought to a close his transformational 25-year tenure as Artistic Director of the San Francisco Symphony, was a 2019 Kennedy Center Honoree, and was named an Officer in the Order of Arts and Letters by France’s Minister of Culture.

Of course, all our worlds were disrupted by COVID-19 and the resultant economic challenges. In the face of this reality, and without the benefit of public gatherings, music was our antidote. With a resilient spirit, significant technological capability and MTT’s leadership, we continued to share our music through online streaming, including two new series—NWS Archive+ and Live from Our Living Room—in the hopes it would bring all of us solace and perspective. Then, gripped by the ongoing national reckoning around racial injustice, we redoubled our commitment and efforts to support Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging within the NWS community and through our Fellows’ musical platforms.

At NWS we always have had an eye on the future. Embracing the unknown is part of our DNA; being a musical laboratory better prepares us for these moments when traditions are turned on their heads. That focus passes to our Fellows and alumni who continue to transform and connect communities around the globe.

This certainly has been a challenging period, but we are eternally grateful for the loyal support of our entire NWS community, without whom none of this would be possible. Thank you for believing in us and investing in our mission.

As you read through this annual report, we hope you will enjoy reminiscing about the highlights of last season and continue to connect with us online.

Until that day when we will assemble once again at the New World Center to hear the stirring sounds of our amazing young musicians, we wish you and your families health.

With gratitude,

Edward Manno Shumsky
Chairman of the Board



Howard Herring
President and CEO





NEW WORLD SYMPHONY

MISSION

The mission of the New World Symphony is to prepare graduates of music programs for leadership roles in orchestras and ensembles around the world.

VISION

The New World Symphony envisions a strong and secure future for classical music and will redefine, reaffirm, express and share its traditions with as many people as possible. Diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging are high priorities for the New World Symphony. It is critical in the preparation of the Fellows for leadership roles in orchestras and ensembles, and an essential part of the future for classical music.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The New World Symphony is dedicated to the artistic, personal and professional development of outstanding instrumentalists. The NWS fellowship program provides graduates of music programs the opportunity to enhance their musical education with the finest professional training. A laboratory for musical education and expression, the New World Symphony, through a wide range of performance and instructional activities, seeks to develop in its participants the full complement of skills and qualifications required of 21st-century first-class musicians. Under the artistic direction of Michael Tilson Thomas, the program offers in-depth exposure to traditional and modern repertoire, with the active involvement of leading guest conductors, soloists and visiting faculty. The relationships with these artists are extended through NWS's pioneering experimentation with distance learning and performance.



Photo by Siggí Bachmann



2019-20 NEW WORLD SYMPHONY FELLOWS

VIOLIN

Sophia Bernitz
Sergio Carleo
Harry Chang
• Kevin Chen
Jonathan Chern
Autumn Chodorowski
Christina Choi
Brendon Elliott
Alex Gonzalez
Ethan Hoppe
Scott Jackson
Jung Eun Kang
Jesse Kasinger
Katherine Kobylarz
Ka-Yeon Lee
Yada Lee
Margeaux Maloney
Carson Marshall
Zachary Ragent
Tara Lynn Ramsey
Michael Rau
Christopher Robinson
Yefim Romanov
Chelsea Sharpe
Michael Turkell
Dillon Welch
Teddy Wiggins

VIOLA

Ankit Anil
Stephanie Block
Daniel Fellows
Spencer Ingersoll
Gabe Napoli
Jessica Pasternak
• Sam Pedersen
• Yuan Qi
Kip Riecken
Marlea Simpson
Chien Tai Ashley Wang

CELLO

Chava Appiah
Vivian Chang
James Churchill
Drew Comstock
Benjamin Fryxell
Amy Sunyoung Lee
• Nicholas Mariscal
Alan Ohkubo
Emily Yoshimoto

BASS

Douglas Aliano
Andrea Beyer
Kathryn Bradley
Antonio Escobedo
• Michael Franz
Levi Jones
Michael Martin
Eric Windmeier

FLUTE

Johanna Gruskin
Jack Reddick
Leah Stevens

OBOE

Emily Beare
James Riggs
Joo Bin Yi

CLARINET

• Giovanni Bertoni
Kelsi Doolittle
Jesse McCandless
Angelo Quail

BASSOON

Justin Cummings
Amelia del Caño
Bee Ungar

HORN

Dominic Brancazio
Corbin Castro
Roy Femenella
Thea Humphries
Scott Leger

TRUMPET

Gianluca Farina
Aaron Ney
• Rebecca Oliverio

TROMBONE

Guangwei Fan
Arno Tri Pramudia

BASS TROMBONE

Lisa Stoneham

TUBA

Andrew Abel

TIMPANI

• Matthew Kibort

PERCUSSION

Michael Daley
Kevin Ritenauer
Charlie Rosmarin
Marcelina Suchocka

HARP

Chloe Tula

PIANO

Wesley Ducote
Thomas Steigerwald

CONDUCTING

Chad Goodman

LIBRARY

• Alison Verderber

AUDIO ENGINEERING

Johnathan Smith

• Fellows who won jobs in the 2019-20 season

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS

Edward Manno Shumsky,
Chairman
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William M. Osborne III,
Vice Chairman
Mario de Armas,
Vice Chairman/Treasurer
Robert Moss, Secretary

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Richard J. Wurtman
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EX-OFFICIO, NON-VOTING

Howard Herring
Michael Tilson Thomas

TRUSTEES EMERITI

Stanley Cohen
° R. Kirk Landon
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* Judy Weiser
* ° Woody Weiser

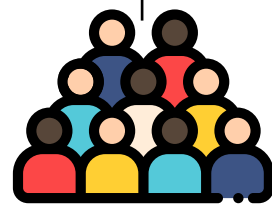
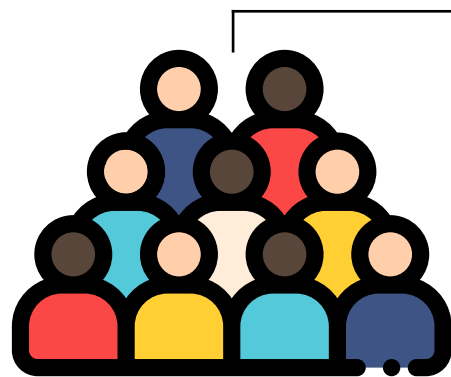
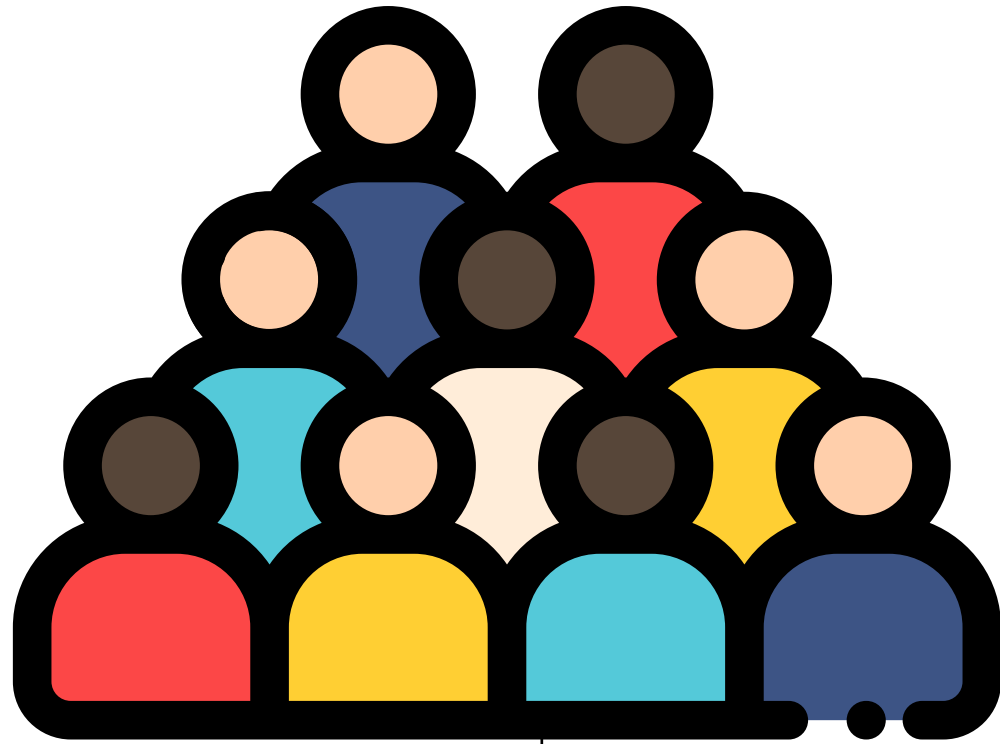
° Deceased
* Indicates Former Chairman

2019-20 SEASON AT A GLANCE

NWS AUDIENCES BY THE NUMBERS*

40,200+

GUESTS ATTENDED EVENTS AT THE NEW WORLD CENTER AND SOUNDSCAPE PARK



23,093

GUESTS AT NWS CONCERTS AND EVENTS, INCLUDING:

- 14,466** GUESTS AT PAID PERFORMANCES
- 6,337** GUESTS AT FREE PERFORMANCES
- 2,114** GUESTS AT TOURS AND NWS-SPONSORED EVENTS
- 176** GUESTS AT FREE YOGA MORNINGS

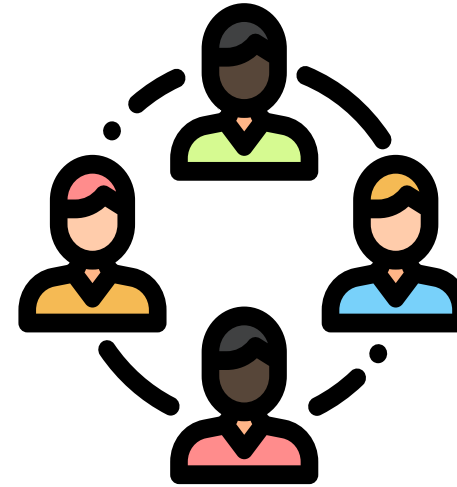
8,838

GUESTS AT PRIVATE RENTAL EVENTS AND CONCERTS

8,300+

GUESTS AT FREE WALLCAST® CONCERTS

* NWS audience numbers are lower than previous seasons due to the cancellation of all public events from March 12 to June 30.

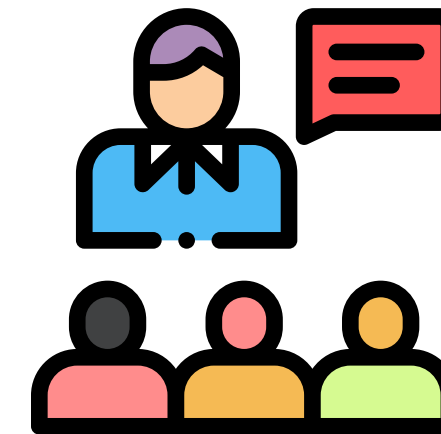


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

12,000+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED THROUGH IN-PERSON AND LIVE INTERACTIONS

500+ HOURS OF TRAINING FOR FELLOWS

3,000+ HOURS OF CE ACTIVITIES



VISITING FACULTY

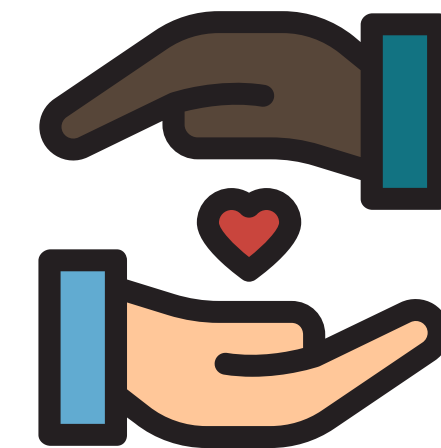
1,674 HOURS OF LESSONS/COACHINGS PROVIDED FOR THE FELLOWS IN THE 2019-20 SEASON

166 TOTAL FACULTY

139 FACULTY TAUGHT IN PERSON

48 FACULTY TAUGHT DIGITALLY

33 ALUMNI SERVED AS VISITING FACULTY



VOLUNTEERS

65 VOLUNTEERS

2,242 HOURS

\$57,014* VALUE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTED HOURS

* Value of volunteer hours calculated by IndependentSector.org



Michelle Bradley



Juanjo Mena and Jean-Yves Thibaudet
Photo by Siggi Bachmann



Jonathan Vinocour performs Berio's *Chemins II* during Viola Visions
Viola Visions photos by Rui Dias-Aidos, REDAV, Inc.

2019-20 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

GUEST ARTISTS AND COMPOSERS

NWS Fellows rehearsed and performed with the following artists, among others, during the 2019-20 season.

GUEST CONDUCTORS

-  Kazem Abdullah
-   Joshua Gersen
- Paul Goodwin
-  HK Gruber
- Steve Hackman
- Miguel Harth-Bedoya
-  Cristian Măcelaru
- Juanjo Mena
- Jeffrey Milarksky
- Edwin Outwater
-  Joseph Peters
- Carlos Miguel Prieto
-  Osmo Vänskä
- Eric Whitacre
- Xian Zhang

SOLOISTS AND CHAMBER MUSIC ARTISTS

-  Andrew Bain
- Nicola Benedetti
- Michelle Bradley
-  Gautier Capuçon
- Roberto Díaz
- James Ehnes
-  Mahan Esfahani
-  Katalin Károlyi
- Jeffrey Kahane
- Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio
- Kim Kashkashian
- Matthew Lipman
- Demarre McGill
- Nicholas Phan
- Cynthia Phelps
- Gil Shaham
- Nadia Sirota
- Synergy Vocals
- Jean-Yves Thibaudet
- Daniil Trifonov
- Jonathan Vinocour
-  Joyce Yang
- Tabea Zimmermann

COMPOSERS

-  Andy Akiho
- Timo Andres
-  Nils Bultmann
-  Anthony DiLorenzo
- Orlando Jacinto Garcia
-  HK Gruber
- Steve Hackman
- Jennifer Higdon
- Texu Kim
- Jordan Kuspa
- Steven Mackey
- Nico Muhly
- Andrew Norman
-  Nathaniel Stookey
- Augusta Read Thomas
- Eric Whitacre
-  NWS alumni
-  Appearance canceled due to COVID-19 closure

VIOLA VISIONS [READ MORE](#)

In October NWS hosted Viola Visions—a week-long summit that explored the past, present and potential future of the viola. The event brought today's leading violists together with young artists at the New World Center and online participants around the world for a series of master classes, seminars and performances.

“I’ve long been interested in finding ways to showcase orchestral instruments that haven’t traditionally been in the limelight. So many of these instruments have incredible repertoire written for them—from solo pieces to chamber works to concerti—and one of our goals is growing the audience for this music. In addition, the 21st century has seen composers revisit and rethink some of these instruments to find new and creative ways of expressing their unique voices, including through the use of cutting-edge technology. I hope that by showcasing the best of each instrument’s past and present we can demonstrate the breadth of its musical potential, while also helping to forge connections between musicians and music lovers around the world.”

— Michael Tilson Thomas, NWS Artistic Director and Co-Founder

Viola Visions was sponsored in part by Art Mentor Foundation Lucerne; NWS Fund for New Ventures and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Knight Foundation and New World Symphony: Reimagining Classical Music in the Digital Age.



Cynthia Phelps performs Feldman's *The Viola in My Life 4* during Viola Visions.



Kim Kashkashian and NWS alumnus Anthony Parce during Viola Visions seminar



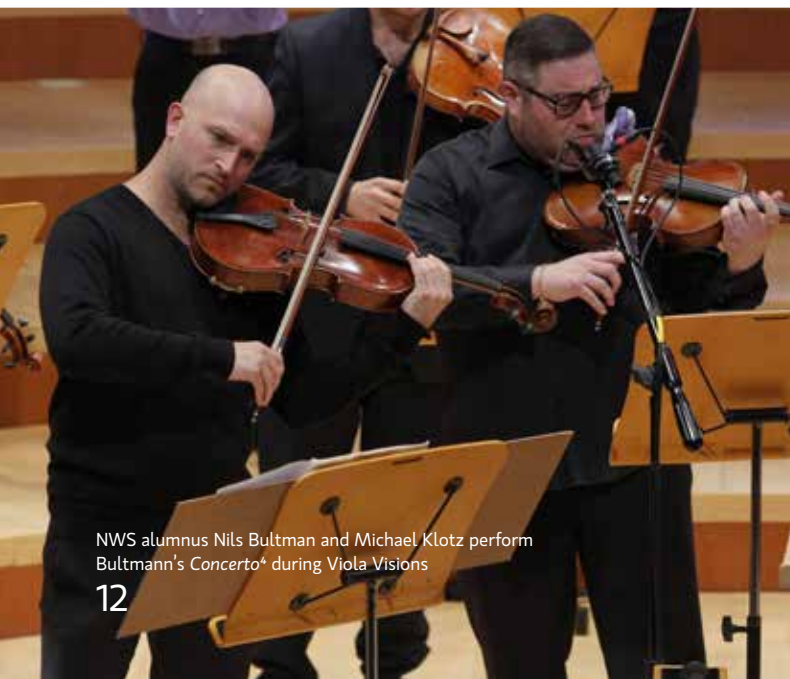
Viola Visions guest artists, conductors, composers, NWS alumni, Fellows and staff gather with MTT at his home



Steven Mackey, Tabea Zimmermann and MTT at Viola Visions finale



Nadia Sirota performs Muhly's *Keep in Touch* during Viola Visions



NWS alumnus Nils Bultman and Michael Klotz perform Bultmann's *Concerto* during Viola Visions



MTT with Viola Visions Young Artist Competition winners Mikel Rollet, Teresa Mejias and Alec Luna, and NWS staff members Cassidy Fitzpatrick Carlson and Felice Doynov

VIOLA VISIONS BY THE NUMBERS

[READ MORE](#)

5 DAYS | 3 CONCERTS | 2 MASTER CLASSES | 1 SEMINAR | 6 GLOBAL BROADCASTS
103,000+ VIEWERS OF EVENT LIVESTREAMS

7 GUEST VIOLISTS

Roberto Díaz | Kim Kashkashian | Matthew Lipman | Cynthia Phelps | Nadia Sirota | Jonathan Vinocour | Tabea Zimmermann

4 CONDUCTORS

Michael Tilson Thomas | Michael Linville | Nico Muhly | Christopher Rountree

6 GUEST ARTISTS

Michael Beattie | Jason Ferrante | Michael Klotz | Ljubinka Kulisic | Caroline Nicolas | Arnie Tanimoto

1 LUTHIER

Samuel Zygmuntowicz

6 COMPOSERS (who joined in-person or online)

[🎓](#) Nils Bultmann | Jennifer Higdon | Steven Mackey | Nico Muhly | Andrew Norman | Betty Olivero

2 WORLD PREMIERES

*Concerto** by Nils Bultmann | New version of Berlioz' *Harold in Italy* by Steven Mackey

13 PAST AND CURRENT NWS VIOLA FELLOWS

Stephanie Block | Daniel Fellows | Spencer Ingersoll | Gabe Napoli | [🎓](#) Anthony Parce, Nashville Symphony | Jessica Pasternak Sam Pedersen | Yuan Qi | Kip Riecken | [🎓](#) Erik Rynearsen, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra | [🎓](#) Madeline Sharp, Atlanta Symphony Marlea Simpson | Chein Tai Ashley Wang

3 YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION WINNERS

Alec Luna | Teresa Mejias | Mikel Rollet

17 YOUNG VIOLISTS FROM SOUTH FLORIDA

Julianna Bramble | Govanny Brown | Nicolas Bussalleu | Branden Cabrera | Alexandra D'Amico | Robert Fornos | Miguel Misa | Mia Murdocco Alexandra Perez | Helena Pilipovic | Raul Rodriguez | Francesca Rossi | Adam Savage | Caroline Senko | Kinza Subzwari | Genny Triana Jada Walker

[🎓](#) NWS alumni



Captain Winston E. Scott and conductor Edwin Outwater

MUSIC OF THE SPHERES

In February NWS presented *Music of the Spheres: A Space Concert*—an extraordinary journey through the cosmos. The concert featured music by Gustav Holst, John Williams, Mason Bates and Kaija Saariaho, among others. NWS Fellows were joined by conductor Edwin Outwater, astronaut Winston E. Scott and conductor/composer Eric Whitacre, who led a performance of his own *Deep Field*. By downloading an app, audience members joined the *Deep Field* performance by triggering ethereal electronics that filled the performance hall. The work also featured the MDC Kendall Chamber Singers led by Misty Bermudez and imagery from the Hubble Telescope in a film by 59 Productions.

In addition to the concert, audience members were treated to a meet-and-greet with Captain Scott, where they could watch footage of his spacewalks and view his collection of space artifacts. Frost Science provided interactive activities like *Fingerprints of Light* and a pop-up planetarium experience.



MDC Kendall Chamber Singers



Miami City Ballet Board Chair Kristi Jernigan, MTT, Lourdes Lopez, Edward Manno Shumsky and Susan D. Kronick
Photo by Gregory Reed



Miami City Ballet in choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust.
Photo by Alexander Iziliaev



STRAVINSKY + BALANCHINE [READ MORE](#)

Two of South Florida's preeminent cultural institutions—NWS and Miami City Ballet—joined forces in their first large-scale collaboration to honor choreographer George Balanchine and composer Igor Stravinsky. In an early 2020 performance hailed as “exhilarating and artistically fulfilling” by *South Florida Classical Review*, the two institutions highlighted the fruitful partnership of the 20th-century titans by performing their first collaboration—*Apollo*—and one of their last—Stravinsky’s *Violin Concerto*, performed by James Ehnes.

Miami Beach's own connections to Stravinsky and Balanchine were also center stage. NWS Co-Founder and Artistic Director MTT worked with Stravinsky in Los Angeles during the later years of the composer's life and Miami City Ballet Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez was a member of the New York City Ballet under Balanchine and later served as Executive Director of the George Balanchine Foundation. Together they honor their mentors' legacies and empower a new generation of musicians and dancers in Miami Beach.

The program also included Stravinsky's *Circus Polka: For a Young Elephant*, originally choreographed for circus elephants and ballerinas by Balanchine on commission from Ringling Bros. *Circus Polka* was performed in its orchestral concert version, accompanied by immersive visuals by video artist Emily Eckstein.

The performance was made possible by the generosity of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, whose Vice President of Arts, Victoria Rogers, said: “This is a wonderful example of collaboration between two long-term Miami institutions recognized internationally for artistic excellence and innovative approaches to their respective classical art forms.”

Miami City Ballet in choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust.
Photo by Alexander Iziliaev



16 James Ehnes performs Stravinsky's Violin Concerto
Photo by Alexander Iziliaev

Lourdes Lopez and George Balanchine



MTT and Igor Stravinsky
Photo by Arnold Newman





NWS staff with Miami HEAT mascot Burnie



MIND, BODY AND MUSIC



On November 23, NWS joined its Community Partner Baptist Health to present Mind, Body and Music—an afternoon of free and fun music and wellness activities at the New World Center and SoundScape Park. Activities included health screenings by Baptist Health, a Life Cube Project installation connecting arts and community, and an instrument and nutrition zoo, inviting guests to learn more about their favorite instruments, fruits and vegetables. Additional activities continued throughout the day including Miami HEAT trophy and mascot photo opportunities, NWS rehearsal observations, Zumba with the Lincoln Road BID, and NWS tours and library demonstrations.



Photos by Rui Dias-Aidos, REDAV, Inc.



Director of Video Production/Resident Projection Designer Clyde Scott shares WALLCAST® concert process with donors



NWS DOWNTOWN

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

NWS launched a new series of musical experiences with its three-concert series at the Adrienne Arsht Center. NWS Downtown provided themed, multi-sensory experiences that drew on the power of the evening's music. Audiences could arrive early for complimentary beer sampling, themed food pairings by Chef Brad Kilgore and an opening act by talented South Florida performers.



NWS Downtown photos by Rui Dias-Aidos, REDAV, Inc.

100TH WALLCAST® CONCERT – THE FIRST IN 4K!

[READ MORE](#)

On October 12 MTT officially launched NWS's 32nd season with the 100th WALLCAST® concert—the first of its kind in full 4K Ultra High Definition (UHD). The milestone event marked eight years of NWS presenting the world's leading classical artists, musical works, films and cultural content for free to the South Florida community via cutting-edge sound and video technology. The unveiling of NWS's 4K upgrade was the result of a three-year, end-to-end upgrade of its infrastructure. The upgrade was made possible in part through the City of Miami Beach's G.O. Bond, voted on by residents of Miami Beach in 2018. Additional partners include Enlighten Digital, FOR-A, Hitachi, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

Known for its efforts to integrate state-of-the-art technology with music performance and education, NWS began its transition to 4K UHD in 2016. This video format offers sharper images, more realistic color, and higher frame rates than usually observed even in today's feature films. In transitioning to 4K, NWS not only takes a leading role in bringing this new technology to the world of classical music, but also becomes one of the first cultural institutions in any field to fully adopt the format across all its major programming.

“Serving the South Florida community has always been at the center of NWS's mission, and WALLCAST® concerts have been one of our most successful tools in reaching new audiences that otherwise might never be exposed to symphonic classical music. When you can bring sophisticated art to a community with no barrier, no ticket admission, and everything out in the open, it's going to make a huge difference to everyone in the community.”

— Howard Herring, NWS President and Chief Executive Officer



Conductor and Composer Steve Hackman



Violin Fellows Yefim Romanov and Brendon Elliott



Skull & Bones: Late Night at NWS
Photos by Rui Dias-Aicops, REDAV, Inc.



SKULL & BONES

[READ MORE](#)

This season's Late Night at the New World Symphony was a symphonic-showcase-meets-Halloween rave, featuring works by classical music's own Dr. Frankenstein, Steve Hackman. The visionary artist had previously mashed Brahms with Radiohead, Tchaikovsky with Drake, Beethoven with Coldplay and Bartók with Björk. For Skull & Bones, he blurred the lines of classical and pop music with this new program devoted to all things Halloween.

EDUCATION CONCERT

In November NWS welcomed over 2,600 students from 30 Miami-Dade and Broward county schools to the New World Center for Spark: How Composers Find Inspiration. The one-hour informational concert featured works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Jessie Montgomery, hits from Disney's *Frozen* and more. Each year, NWS creates and distributes a study guide in advance for teachers to prepare their classes, and provides round-trip bus transportation and tickets free of charge.

The NWS Education Concerts are designed to be an inspirational experience outside the classroom for grades 4-12. NWS Fellows participate in the planning and execution of the Education Concerts, and assist NWS staff with musical programming, scripting, visual and audio elements and act as hosts for the concerts.

VISITING FACULTY

“As an NWS alumna and now visiting faculty member, I have always connected to the wonderful NWS Fellows and deeply enjoy our work together. MTT’s forward-thinking energy, which is so evident here, remains inspiring, even igniting, to me. Now, during the toughest global crisis of our lifetimes—one in which the stillness that classical music provides is needed more than ever—I look to today’s talented, passionate Fellows with hope and optimism, for I believe they will lead us to the new spaces in which our beloved music can and will thrive.”

— Isabel Trautwein, Violin, The Cleveland Orchestra



VIOLIN

- 🎓 Raushan Akhmedyarova, San Francisco Symphony
- 🎓 Scott Flavin, University of Miami Frost School of Music
- 🎓 Erin Keefe, Minnesota Orchestra
- Alexander Kerr, Dallas Symphony
- Lisa Kim, New York Philharmonic
- Zoya Leybin, San Francisco Symphony (retired)
- Steven Moeckel, Phoenix Symphony
- 🎓 Philip Payton, Freelance Artist
- Gabriel Pegis, Cincinnati Symphony
- 🎓 Rebecca Reale, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Stephen Rose, The Cleveland Orchestra
- 🎓 Isabel Trautwein, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Kathleen Winkler, Rice University Shepherd School of Music
- Nancy Wu, The Metropolitan Opera

VIOLA

- 🎓 Choong-Jin Chang, The Philadelphia Orchestra
- Joan DerHovsepian, Houston Symphony
- 🎓 Stephen Fryxell, Cincinnati Symphony
- Edward Gazouleas, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music
- Neal Gripp, Montreal Symphony (retired)
- Michael Klotz, Amernet String Quartet
- 🎓 Stanley Konopka, The Cleveland Orchestra
- 🎓 Anthony Parce, Nashville Symphony
- 🎓 Erik Rynearson, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra
- 🎓 Madeline Sharp, Atlanta Symphony
- Stephen Wyrzynski, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

CELLO

- 🎓 Kari Jane Docter, The Metropolitan Opera
- 🎓 Ross Harbaugh, University of Miami Frost School of Music
- Joseph Johnson, Toronto Symphony
- 🎓 Mihail Jojatu, Boston Symphony
- Eric Kim, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music
- Alan Rafferty, Cincinnati Symphony
- 🎓 Brinton Averil Smith, Houston Symphony
- 🎓 Susie Yang, Kansas City Symphony

BASS

- Jeffrey Beecher, Toronto Symphony
- 🎓 Kristen Bruya, Minnesota Orchestra
- 🎓 Joseph Conyers, The Philadelphia Orchestra
- 🎓 Brendan Kane, The Metropolitan Opera*
- Leigh Mesh, The Metropolitan Opera
- David Allen Moore, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Timothy Pitts, Rice University Shepherd School of Music
- Rex Surany, The Metropolitan Opera

FLUTE / PICCOLO

- Mary Kay Fink, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Aaron Goldman, National Symphony
- 🎓 Henrik Heide, Freelance Artist
- 🎓 Lorna McGhee, Pittsburgh Symphony
- Demarre McGill, Seattle Symphony
- Cynthia Meyers, Boston Symphony
- 🎓 Matthew Roitstein, Houston Symphony
- 🎓 Elizabeth Rowe, Boston Symphony

OBOE / ENGLISH HORN

- 🎓 Pedro Díaz, The Metropolitan Opera
- John Ferrillo, Boston Symphony
- 🎓 Eugene Izotov, San Francisco Symphony
- Frank Rosenwein, The Cleveland Orchestra
- 🎓 John Upton, The Florida Orchestra
- Robert Walters, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Richard Woodhams, The Philadelphia Orchestra (retired)

CLARINET

- Boris Allakhverdyan, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- 🎓 Todd Levy, Milwaukee Symphony
- Andrew Marriner, London Symphony (retired)
- Anthony McGill, New York Philharmonic
- Michael Rusinek, Pittsburgh Symphony
- Joaquin Valdepeñas, Toronto Symphony
- Michael Wayne, Boston Symphony

BASSOON

- 🎓 Gabriel Beavers, University of Miami Frost School of Music
- Richard Beene, Colburn Conservatory of Music
- 🎓 Whitney Crockett, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Nancy Goeres, Pittsburgh Symphony
- 🎓 Judith LeClair, New York Philharmonic
- Richard Ranti, Boston Symphony
- 🎓 Michael Sweeney, Toronto Symphony

HORN

- 🎓 Andrew Bain, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Javier Gándara, The Metropolitan Opera
- Jennifer Montone, The Philadelphia Orchestra
- Jason Snider, Boston Symphony
- William VerMeulen, Houston Symphony
- Gail Williams, Chicago Symphony (retired)
- Sarah Willis, Berlin Philharmonic

TRUMPET

- 🎓 Ethan Bensdorf, New York Philharmonic
- David Bilger, The Philadelphia Orchestra
- Barbara Butler, Rice University Shepherd School of Music
- 🎓 Mark Inouye, San Francisco Symphony
- 🎓 Paul Merkelo, Montreal Symphony
- 🎓 Craig Morris, Chicago Symphony (retired)
- 🎓 Mark Niehaus, Milwaukee Symphony
- Michael Sachs, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Bill Williams, Concert Artist

TROMBONE / TUBA

- 🎓 Ian Bousfield, Vienna Philharmonic (retired)
- Warren Deck, New York Philharmonic (retired)
- Megumi Kanda, Milwaukee Symphony
- 🎓 Dennis Nulty, Detroit Symphony
- Weston Sprott, The Metropolitan Opera
- Amanda Stewart, St. Louis Symphony
- Jennifer Wharton, Freelance Trombone

PERCUSSION / TIMPANI

- 🎓 Marc Damoulakis, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Christopher Deviney, The Philadelphia Orchestra
- 🎓 Matthew Howard, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- 🎓 Jacob Nissly, San Francisco Symphony
- 🎓 Joseph Petrasek, Atlanta Symphony
- Leonardo Soto, Houston Symphony
- Edward Stephan, San Francisco Symphony
- 🎓 Shannon Wood, St. Louis Symphony

HARP

- Nancy Allen, New York Philharmonic
- Douglas Rieth, San Francisco Symphony

PIANO

- Jeffrey Kahane, Concert Artist
- Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Concert Artist
- Daniil Trifonov, Concert Artist
- 🎓 John Wilson, Concert Artist

AUDIO ENGINEERING

- 🎓 Carl Beatty, Berklee College of Music

ORCHESTRA LIBRARY

- Karen Schnackenberg, Dallas Symphony
- Lawrence Tarlow, New York Philharmonic

MASTER CLASSES

- Zuill Bailey, cello
- Roberto Díaz, viola
- Kim Kashkashian, viola
- Cynthia Phelps, viola
- Jonathan Vinocour, viola
- Tabea Zimmermann, viola

INSTRUMENT REPAIR

- Joan Balter, Balter Violins
- Kristin Bertrand, Woodwind Workshop
- Charles Winters, Miami String

WELLNESS

- Noa Kageyama, Performance Psychology, The Juilliard School (2)
- Aaron Heller, University of Miami
- Sarah Hoover, Peabody Institute

- 🎓 Heather Malyuk, Musician Audiologist, Soundcheck Audiology
- 🎓 Jarrett McCourt, Crisis Intervention
- Nicole Newman, Yoga for the Arts
- Nicholas Pallesen, Mental Performance
- Lori Schiff, Alexander Technique, The Juilliard School (2)
- Jeffrey Steiger, Florida International University
- AWED Theater

- 🎓 Hagit Vardi, Feldenkrais Method, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 🎓 Uri Vardi, Feldenkrais Method, University of Wisconsin-Madison

LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 🎓 Katherine Bormann, The Cleveland Orchestra Branches, Inc.
- Larry Dressler, Blue Wing Consulting
- Lisa Husseini
- Justin Kerr
- Adriana Oliva, The AO Insight Group
- Marysol Quevedo, University of Miami
- Edward Manno Shumsky, New World Symphony Chairman
- Rochelle Skolnick, American Federation of Musicians
- John Michael Smith, Regional Orchestra Players Association
- Meredith Snow, International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians/ Los Angeles Philharmonic

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Joseph Conyers, The Philadelphia Orchestra/Project 440
- Debbie Devine, The Colburn School
- Sammy Gonzalez, Young Musicians Unite
- Justin Jay Hines, New York Philharmonic
- Sara Lee, Irene Taylor Trust and Chicago Civic Orchestra
- 🎓 Anthony Parce, Nashville Symphony

FINANCIAL PLANNING

- Matthew J. Ferrara, Northwestern Mutual

DIGITAL AND REMOTE COACHING FACULTY

- Alexander Barantschik, violin, San Francisco Symphony
- David Bowlin, violin, Oberlin College and Conservatory
- 🎓 Alexander Kerr, violin, Dallas Symphony
- 🎓 Lisa Kim, violin, New York Philharmonic

- Sheryl Staples, violin, New York Philharmonic
- Claire Stefani, violin, Volute Service
- 🎓 Isabel Trautwein, violin, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Eric Wyrick, violin, New Jersey Symphony
- 🎓 Joan DerHovsepian, viola, Houston Symphony
- 🎓 Joy Fellows, viola, San Francisco Opera
- Vivek Kamath, viola, New York Philharmonic
- Lynne Ramsey, viola, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Benjamin Karp, cello, University of Kentucky College of Fine Arts
- Brian Manker, cello, Montreal Symphony
- 🎓 Alan Rafferty, cello, Cincinnati Symphony
- 🎓 Kristen Bruya, bass, Minnesota Orchestra
- Ira Gold, bass, National Symphony
- 🎓 David Allen Moore, bass, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Ali Kian Yazdanfar, bass, Montreal Symphony
- Nadine Asin, flute, The Metropolitan Opera (retired)
- 🎓 Mary Kay Fink, flute, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Karen Jones, flute, Royal Academy of Music
- 🎓 Cynthia Meyers, flute, Boston Symphony
- Pedro Díaz, oboe, The Metropolitan Opera
- Anne Marie Gabriele, oboe, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Linda Strommen, oboe, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music
- 🎓 Anthony McGill, clarinet, New York Philharmonic
- 🎓 Michael Wayne, clarinet, University of Rochester Eastman School of Music
- Michael Sweeney, bassoon, Toronto Symphony
- Andrew Bain, horn, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Stefan Dohr, horn, Berlin Philharmonic
- 🎓 William VerMeulen, horn, Houston Symphony
- 🎓 David Bilger, trumpet, The Philadelphia Orchestra
- 🎓 Michael Sachs, trumpet, The Cleveland Orchestra
- Martin Schippers, trombone, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra
- Colin Williams, trombone, New York Philharmonic

- 🎓 Jacob Nissly, percussion, San Francisco Symphony
- Jason Haaheim, timpani, The Metropolitan Opera
- 🎓 Duncan Patton, timpani, The Metropolitan Opera (retired)
- 🎓 Noa Kageyama, performance psychology, The Juilliard School
- 🎓 Nicholas Pallesen, Mental Performance Coach
- Eric Wallace, UNT Texas Center for Performing Arts Health
- 🎓 Nicole Newman, Yoga for the Arts

NWS alumni

- 🎓 Taught both digitally and in-person
- 🎓 NWS Concerto Competition judge
- 🎓 Postponed visit due to Hurricane Dorian
- 🎓 Postponed visit due to COVID-19



NWS BLUE PROJECTS

NWS BLUE is a combination of leadership and entrepreneurship training and hands-on experimentation for Fellows to gain a comprehensive skill set, alongside their artistic training and orchestral experience.

Standing for **B**uild, **L**earn, **U**nderstand and **E**xperiment, NWS BLUE projects allow all Fellows to pursue musical activism and/or entrepreneurship based on their personal interests. This type of training fosters essential and comprehensive skill sets, putting Fellows at a competitive advantage beyond their time at NWS. Each project begins with a Fellow's vision and is driven by their original ideas, from concept to execution. These projects are part of their fellowship training and development as a musician.

This season's 23 NWS BLUE projects fell into four main categories: Fellow-led recitals, community-based collaboration, new audience development and projects by Fellows for Fellows.

The 2019-20 season marked the following firsts for NWS BLUE projects:

- All Fellow-designed NWS programming (Inside the Music, Solo Spotlight and Musicians' Forum) are now NWS BLUE projects.
- The College Track Mentorship Program (CTMP) was added to NWS BLUE Projects. CTMP is made possible with support from NWS Trustee Dorothy Terrell, who made a significant leadership commitment to fund the program for three years, ensuring that musicians from backgrounds underrepresented and underserved in classical music will enjoy access to lessons and funding provided by NWS to pursue a college education in music.
- A mentorship program was added to the NWS fellowship curriculum. Fellows were paired with NWS staff and local experts who served as mentors. Each mentor provided individualized coaching related to NWS BLUE projects and professional development. Fellows received additional leadership training through a series of workshops.

Due to social distancing orders, projects scheduled for the end of the season were postponed for the upcoming 2020-21 season, except for Beer and Brass. Read on page 33 about how they pivoted their project to a virtual space.

NWS BLUE projects and all Fellow-led programs were made possible with support from The Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation.

 [READ MORE](#)



Fellows Kevin Chen, Sophia Bernitz, Martea Simpson and Nicholas Mariscal
Photo by Daniel Azoulay



Fellows Spencer Ingersoll and Thomas Steigerwald
Photo by Rafael Baldwin



Fellow Michael Daley with substitute musicians Carley Yanuck and Colin Williams
Photo by Rui Dias-Aidos, REDAV, Inc.



Fellow Lisa Stoneham

NWS BLUE PROJECTS

ALMA LATINA

Cello Fellow Nicholas Mariscal and Bass Trombone Fellow Lisa Stoneham shared the richness and fascinating diversity of influences found in Latin American music with their concert *Alma Latina*. The full-orchestra concert featured music by Osvaldo Golijov, Paquito D’Rivera, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Tania León, Angélica Negrón and Silvestre Revueltas. Nicholas was joined on stage by Conducting Fellow Chad Goodman, soprano Megan Barrera and—in a pre-concert chat—Dr. Marysol Quevedo, Assistant Professor at the Frost School of Music. “As musicians and listeners alike, we are incredibly fortunate to have all the rich and vibrant music that has come from Latin America,” said Nicholas and Lisa. “Where else in the world can we find art that so colorfully melds the classical traditions of Europe, the rhythms and songs of Africa, and the native folk traditions of the Americas? Throughout Latin America, musicians and composers have taken these influences shared throughout the continent and turned them into reflections of both their country’s distinct culture as well as their own unique voices. We hope to share some of the most powerful music from some of Latin America’s boldest musical voices.” *Alma Latina* was additionally sponsored in part by Friends of New World Symphony and Knight Foundation. Knight Foundation and New World Symphony: Reimagining Classical Music in the Digital Age.

VIOLAS FOR VETS

Viola Fellows Jessica Pasternak and Spencer Ingersoll curated and presented a chamber music concert at the Miami Veterans Hospital on December 8 to benefit the hospital’s Music Therapy program. The concert included songs performed by the Miami Veterans Hospital Jam Session and was followed by a reception with the Music Therapy staff. The Miami VA Healthcare System serves more than 57,000 Veterans in Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Programs such as Music Therapy are available for all enrolled Veterans and have been shown to be extraordinarily effective in helping Veterans express themselves therapeutically and find healthy relationships while engaged in positive activities. Veterans in outpatient and inpatient programs, residential and nursing care have the opportunity to find relief and meaning in the creativity offered by the music therapists at the Miami VA and with the camaraderie afforded through the bond of playing and listening to music.

FACE OFF: BATTLE OF THE INSTRUMENTS

Equal parts *American Idol*-style contest and classical music concert, *Face Off: Battle of the Instruments* was a live voting competition with the audience as judge and instruments of the orchestra as competitors. Now in its second year, *Face Off* was hosted by DJ A Fly Guy with six instruments (violin, cello, flute, bassoon, trombone and percussion) vying for the audience’s votes. After rounds of voting by text, the cellos were named this year’s *Face Off* champions. *Face Off* was designed and produced by Clarinet Fellow Angelo Quail and Horn Fellow Corbin Castro. The concert format was conceived in the 2018-19 season by Bass Fellow Andrea Beyer.

 [READ MORE](#)

SHATTERING THE BRASS CEILING

Bass Trombone Fellow Lisa Stoneham curated and performed *Shattering the Brass Ceiling*, a recital of solo and chamber works by living female composers, who also shared video statements about their experiences in classical music. Lisa commissioned a work for bass trombone and flute by Johanny Navarro called *Dos Almas (Two Souls)* and gave its world premiere alongside Flute Fellow Johanna Gruskin. “*Shattering the Brass Ceiling* is a project that aims to uplift female voices in classical music,” said Lisa. “The higher I go in music, the fewer women I encounter, especially in brass playing and composition. My project served as a platform to celebrate works by living female composers, as well as to start a conversation about what it is like to work in a male-dominated field.”

 [WATCH VIDEO](#)



NWS FACES HISTORIC PANDEMIC

[READ MORE](#)

On March 12 NWS announced the closure of the New World Center for all public events over the following month. The closure affected 17 events at the New World Center and one at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach. Following the recommendations of the CDC and City of Miami Beach, NWS extended its public closure of the New World Center, cancelling the remaining concerts of its 2019-20 season.

“This societal disruption is unique, even for those of us accustomed to hurricanes. Though it is disappointing to make this difficult decision, and there will be a financial stress on our organization, we believe it is the responsibility of each of us to do whatever is necessary to protect the safety and well-being of our community.”

— Howard Herring

“It’s been a great season at New World Symphony this year. The orchestra has played with consistent joyous artistry. There’s a special joy that comes from making music like this, that both players and audience share. I’m so sad that we will not be able to complete the season. I wish that all our Fellows, staff and supporters be safe and productive during these uncertain times. I look forward to the gathering of our community again as soon as possible.”

— MTT

[NWS DIGITAL READ MORE](#)

“The New World Symphony has, for more than 30 years, offered our listeners individual transformations in communal settings. We hope that our online musical offerings will foster communal transformations in our individual settings.”

— Howard Herring

Beginning March 22 NWS debuted a web-based series called NWS Archive+. The eight-episode series featured MTT in discussions with NWS Fellows, alumni, guest artists and visiting faculty about recorded performances from NWS’s own archives. Their personal reflections offered unique insights into the streamed concerts.

The day of NWS’s extended closure announcement, Fellows launched Live from our Living Room, a weekly series of live, informal chamber music concerts from their homes in Miami Beach. Live from our Living Room was curated, produced and performed by the Fellows for 15 continuous weeks.

NWS, in collaboration with streaming partners IDAGIO and Medici TV, also curated a series of online performances and other content available from a number of sources. It also made available seven past Education Concerts with their accompanying study guides for students now studying at home during the pandemic.



Zach Buttrick, son of Trustee Matthew Buttrick



Staff member Lona Palmero and Travis Strong



Fellows Arno Tri Pramudia, Andy Abel and Rebecca Oliverio
Photo by Aaron Ney



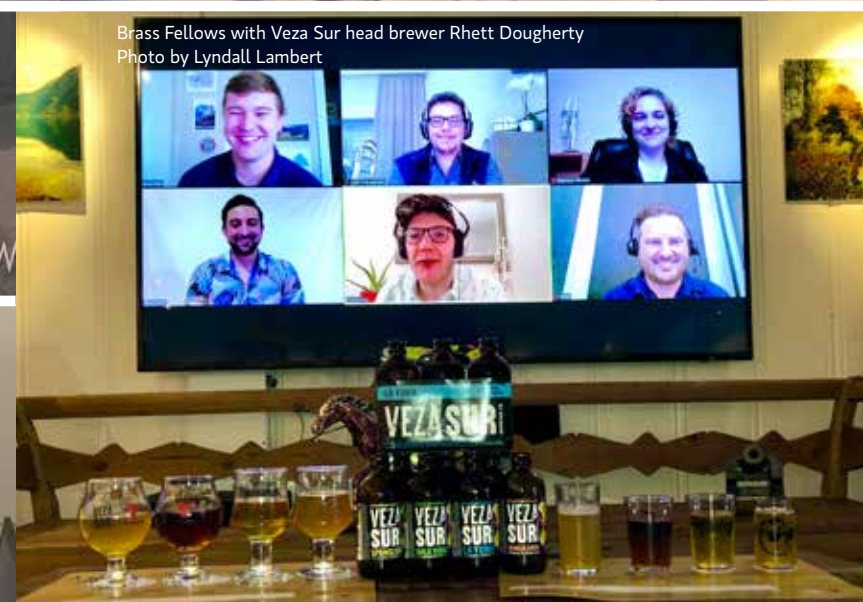
Trustee Will Osborne with son Mac



Meals for Heroes Miami



Staff member JT Kane



Brass Fellows with Veza Sur head brewer Rhett Dougherty
Photo by Lyndall Lambert



Fellow Corbin Castro
Photo by Lyndall Lambert

SYMPHONY IN PLACE SERIES

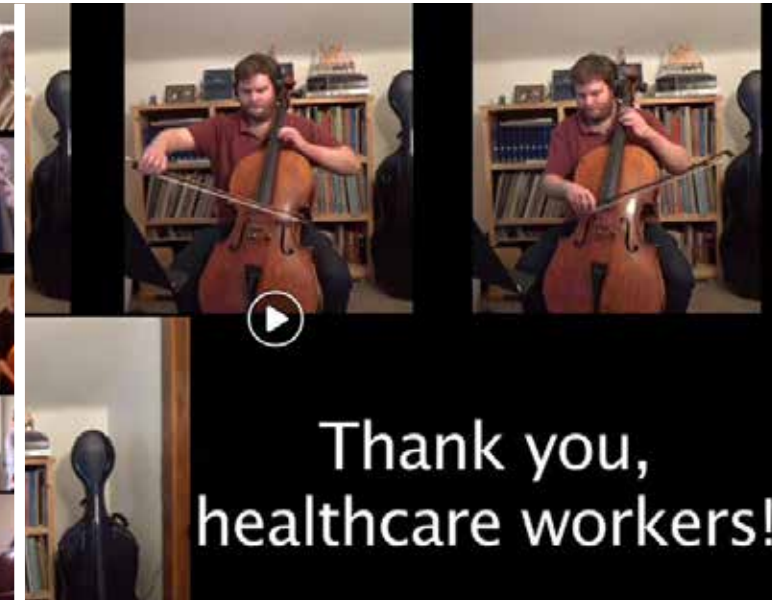
[READ MORE](#)

NWS chronicled the happenings of NWS Fellows, alumni, Trustees, volunteers, staff and partners during the COVID-19 crisis in its Symphony in Place blog series. From podcasts and online symphonies to virtual lessons and meals for frontline workers, see how the NWS family spent time during the pandemic.

New York Philharmonic with NWS alumni



Fellow Benjamin Fryxell



BEER AND BRASS GOES VIRTUAL

[READ MORE](#)

On June 6 five Brass Fellows welcomed a virtual audience to Beer and Brass—a NWS BLUE project that paired a concert of brass quintet music with beers from Miami brewery Veza Sur. Beer and Brass was originally scheduled for March 27 at the New World Center; due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Fellows adapted their concert design to take place in a digital space, reaching audiences in their own homes.

While the Beer and Brass concert format was developed last season, this year's event marked NWS's first experiment with a ticketed online event. Aided by NWS staff, Fellows faced the challenges of transitioning their project's format to be online with curiosity and excitement. Their work was rewarded with an engaged audience, whose numbers increased by 60% compared to last year's in-person concert.

“During these confusing and unsettling times, art reminds us there is good happening in world. Just because we cannot experience art together does not mean that it isn't being created. We wanted virtual Beer and Brass to be a way for our audience to get away from the world for one hour and enjoy good music and good beer. It is our job as artists to share what we have and we figured out a way to do that.”

— Rebecca Oliverio, Trumpet Fellow

NWS BLUE projects were made possible with support from the Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation. Beer and Brass was sponsored by Veza Sur, Telemundo and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Knight Foundation and New World Symphony: Reimagining Classical Music in the Digital Age.



DIGITAL EXPLORATIONS

Throughout the 2019-20 season NWS experimented with online platforms to further expand and engage audiences, from Miami Beach to around the world.

“The New World Symphony desires to strengthen its connection with current patrons and donors, and seeks to build new audiences by extending its reach globally with a systematic and coordinated approach to distributing digital products that are both artistic and educational. These partnerships with premiere institutions, along with NWS’s world class content, will realize these goals. Additionally, the Fellows’ presence on these global stages will enhance their careers, broaden their understanding and perspective, and expand the practical experiential curriculum.”

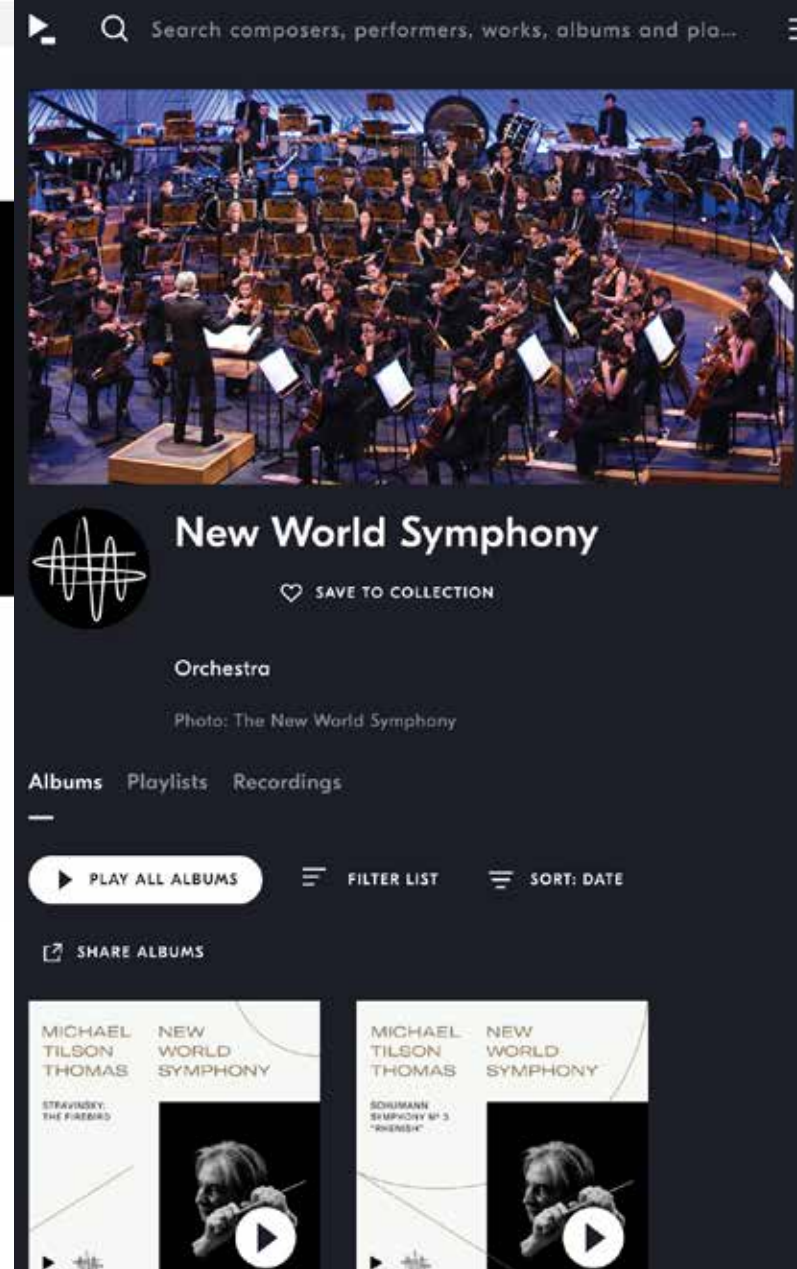
— John Kieser, NWS Executive Producer of NWS Media

MEDICI.TV [READ MORE](#)

NWS has partnered with Medici.TV, the world’s leading classical music channel, since May 2019. The platform now hosts a library of NWS concerts available to stream on demand, including some of this season’s most exciting artistic collaborations: Viola Visions and Stravinsky + Balanchine with the Miami City Ballet. Medici also hosts selections of NWS’s educational master classes with the world’s greatest artists. During the pandemic, Medici.TV made some of its content available for free, including the NWS broadcast “Michael Tilson Thomas Conducts Michael Tilson Thomas.”

In the 2019-20 season, NWS’s master classes received over 28,000 views, with most engagement in the United States, France and Turkey, but also reaching viewers in Spain, Hong Kong, Mexico, Colombia, South Korea and more.

Medici.TV, along with The Violin Channel, hosted six global broadcasts of Viola Visions events. It also hosted a NYO2 concert broadcast from the New World Center that had over 12,000 live views and over 43,000 replays.



IDAGIO [READ MORE](#) [READ MORE](#)

In February NWS announced its partnership with IDAGIO, naming it The Official Audio Streaming Partner of the New World Symphony. As part of this partnership, IDAGIO—the first global streaming service for classical music—will regularly feature new NWS concert recordings, as well as additional content like playlists curated by NWS, and artist profiles featuring music by individual Fellows.

In the 2019-20 season, IDAGIO hosted audio recordings from four of the season’s concerts, along with nine of NWS’s commercial recordings from 1993-2010.

In May, Fellows released their first NWS Mix Tape playlist, sharing the music that inspired them to pursue classical music.



MIT’s Eran Egozy and Juan Carlos Garcia at the New World Center



CONCERTCUE [READ MORE](#)

Throughout its 2019-20 season NWS partnered with Eran Egozy of the MIT Music Technology Lab to offer its audiences ConcertCue, which streams synchronized program notes during a live musical performance. These program notes include text, images and other rich media, precisely timed to important events in the music itself. NWS’s use of the platform marked the first time it was used for a complete concert and offered in both English and Spanish. “The idea of using mobile phones inside the concert hall might seem strange,” said Egozy. “But at MIT, much like at NWS, we like to experiment with new ideas. Our goal is to create a better and more engaging concert experience for the audience by using technology carefully and thoughtfully. We are very excited to be partnering with a forward-thinking organization like the New World Symphony.” Egozy was awarded a Prototype Fund Award by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to develop the web application. Awards were given to projects that are designed to harness the power of technology to engage people with the arts, and uncover replicable strategies that allow cultural organizations to thrive in the digital era.



Fellows Brendon Elliott, Thomas Steigerwald and Yada Lee perform in Live from our Living Room

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

 [READ MORE](#)

On June 1, a week after the murder of George Floyd, NWS pledged to stand in solidarity with all who are fighting systemic racism and racial violence, and committed to pursuing a more accessible, inclusive and equitable community through its leadership, curriculum and artistic expression.

In an open letter to the NWS community, MTT, NWS President and Chief Executive Officer Howard Herring and Chairman of the Board Edward Manno Shumsky said:

The New World Symphony has always stood for dynamic change and this is such a moment. We are listening. We recognize that it doesn't matter if our past mistakes and omissions were unintentional and that we could have created a more inclusive and equitable institutional culture. What matters now is that we take action to do so.

On the road ahead, we must continue to diversify our administrative and board leadership; include Black and other underrepresented voices in our artistic programming—including our mainstream subscription series; deepen our examination of our recruitment and audition processes for Fellows; provide training and commit to our Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (EDIB) goals regardless of whether dedicated funding has been secured; and actively create and pursue an anti-racist institutional vision that becomes an example for our society.

NWS commits to change through action steps in the following areas: Training and Analysis, Dialogue and Brainstorming, Programming, Recruitment, Planning and Engagement.

DIALOGUE

On June 10 NWS hosted a voluntary Town Hall for its Fellows, staff, Trustees and Alumni Committee, creating a space where attendees could hear from and support each other, ask and answer questions, and discuss how we can come together to create meaningful change. The conversation was moderated by Leigh-Ann Buchanan, founding Executive Director of Venture Café Miami.

The following week, in acknowledgment of Juneteenth, NWS staff were invited to set aside all other work to reflect on the Town Hall, NWS's EDIB action steps and the role each can play in helping NWS become a fully inclusive institution.

EDIB COMMITTEE

Staff, Fellow and Board volunteers created NWS's first-ever committee dedicated to EDIB work. The committee allows NWS to seek the diverse perspectives it needs to become equitable and inclusive in its policies and procedures. The committee's charter members number over 40.

TRAINING

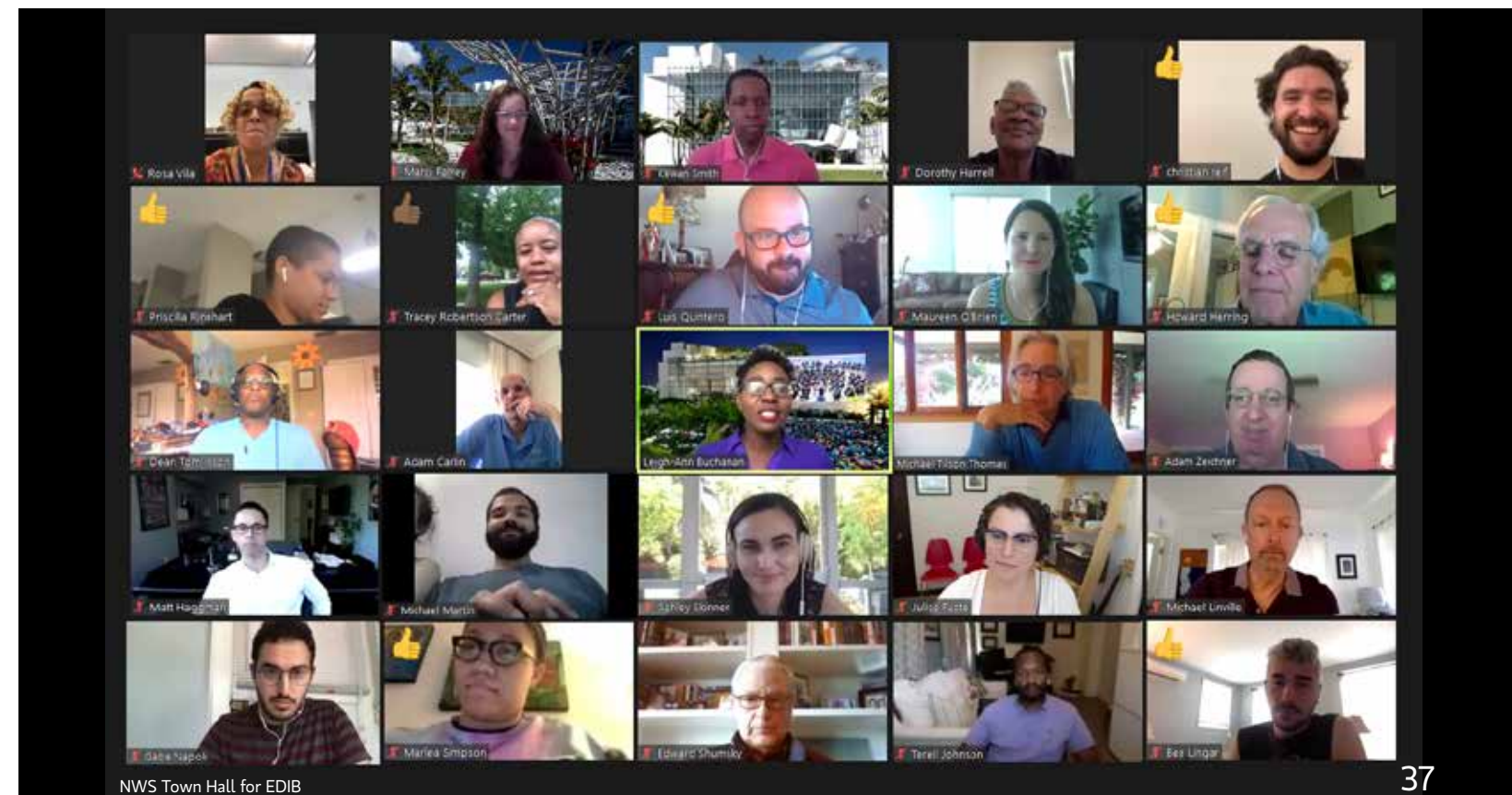
During the 2019-20 season NWS collaborated with The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond (PISAB), a national and international collective of anti-racist, multicultural community organizers and educators dedicated to building an effective movement for social transformation. In October PISAB facilitators Alan Colón, Diana Dunn and María Reinat Pumarejo led Undoing Racism®, a 2.5-day workshop for about half of NWS's staff. The workshop challenged participants to analyze the structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity, preparing them to be effective organizers for justice through dialogue, reflection, role-playing, strategic planning and presentations. PISAB's second session for remaining staff was scheduled for April 2020, but was later postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

 [WATCH VIDEO](#)

On June 5 Fellows dedicated their Live from our Living Room performances to the innocent Black victims of racism and police brutality in the United States. Before each piece, Fellows shared about the lives and tragic deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tamir Rice and Atatiana Jefferson.

NWS Fellows and alumni around the world also used their voices and platforms to bring attention and comfort to those fighting injustices, and for publicly declaring their support of Black Lives Matter.





NWS alumni orchestra backstage at the Kennedy Center Honors



NWS donors celebrate with MTT and Joshua Robison in Washington, D.C.
Photo by Elman Studio



Photo by Scott Suchman, The Kennedy Center



38 MTT at SFS's Davies Hall in 1995
Photo by Terrence McCarthy, courtesy of NWS Archives



2019 Kennedy Center Honorees
Photo by John P. Filo/CBS



Audra MacDonald performs with NWS alumni orchestra at Kennedy Center Honors
Photo by Gail Schulman/CBS

MTT'S SEASON TO REMEMBER

KENNEDY CENTER HONORS

[READ MORE](#)

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

MTT was named a 2019 Kennedy Center Honoree for his lifetime artistic achievements. "The Kennedy Center Honors celebrates icons who, through their artistry, have left an indelible stamp on our collective cultural consciousness," stated Kennedy Center Chairman David M. Rubenstein. Joining MTT in the 42nd class of honorees is actress Sally Field, singer Linda Ronstadt, R&B collective Earth, Wind & Fire and *Sesame Street*.

Performing as part of his tribute was an orchestra composed entirely of NWS alumni. The 42 musicians, whose fellowship years range from NWS's first season to today, now play in the country's top orchestras and are transforming the communities in which they live. Other artists who joined MTT's tribute include singer/actress Audra McDonald, pianist Yuja Wang, actress Debra Winger and Metallica's Lars Ulrich.

The NWS alumni orchestra performed under the baton of former Conducting Fellow Teddy Abrams, who, as part of the KCH festivities, also led a Michael Tilson Thomas tribute concert on the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage.

NWS celebrated MTT's honor with the Miami Beach community by hosting a free viewing party in SoundScape Park, emceed by CBS4 Entertainment Reporter Lisa Petrillo. Attendees watched the ceremony's telecast projected onto the 7,000-square-foot façade of the New World Center.

"In this class of honorees, we are witnessing a uniquely American story: one that is representative of so many cultural touchstones and musical moments that make our nation great. When I look at this class, I see the hopes, aspirations, and achievements not just of these honorees, but of the many generations they have influenced and continue to influence. We're not just looking back; these honorees are urging us to look forward as well."

— Deborah F. Rutter, President of the Kennedy Center

"The life of an artist, or of an arts institution, has essentially two moments. The first is inventing yourself which takes vision and gumption. The second is going the distance, sustaining the vision and sharing it. I am honored that the Kennedy Center, which is a living center of both arts and ideals, has chosen to recognize my work. I hope that I can be thought of as a representative for all American classical musicians at this remarkable event."

— MTT



San Francisco Symphony's 2019-20 Gala
Photo by Drew Altizer



MTT and Joshua Robison with Beach Blanket Babylon's Jennifer Morrison, and SFS gala co-chairs Nicole Lacob and Rachael Bowman.
Photo by Drew Altizer



Thomas Campbell, Nancy Bechtle, Sakurako Fisher, Thomas E. Horn, Michael Tilson Thomas, London Breed, Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens, Joshua Robison, Mark C. Hanson, and Juliette Donadieu at the Legion of Honor

25 YEARS AT SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

The 2019-20 season marked MTT's 25th and final year as Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony (SFS). From launching with a blockbuster gala and collaboration with Metallica to a digital send-off during the COVID-19 pandemic, the San Francisco community and beyond celebrated his incredible legacy.

Assuming the position in 1995 as the first American to hold the post in 80 years, MTT was vocal with his excitement, saying "This is an orchestra that takes chances. There's an electricity in this town and in this audience that has always brought me back. Being here has always been a secret dream and it is an honor to be entrusted with leading this great ensemble into the 21st century."

MTT's leadership of SFS has been recognized worldwide for building an orchestra that consistently displays artistry of the highest level in its home at Davies Symphony Hall, on over two dozen national and international tours, and through media and recording projects. During his tenure, over 50 musicians have joined the orchestra, including nearly 20 NWS alumni.

In June SFS hosted MTT25—a global online event accompanied by a year-by-year digital tribute to its MTT era. The orchestra honored MTT through exclusive archival content, personal memories and virtual events.

"Looking back over these decades I am filled with gratitude for the extraordinary artistic partnership I have had with the members of the Orchestra and for the warm and generous style of music making we have shared with all of our audiences."

— MTT

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[WATCH VIDEO](#)

FRENCH L'ORDRE DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

On June 22 MTT was named an Officier (Officer) in the French l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters), the second of three grades awarded to distinguished artists who have made significant contributions to furthering the arts in France and throughout the world. Previously a Chevalier (Knight) in the l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres of France, this promotion to Officer recognizes MTT's continued contributions to global culture and the vast impact he has had during his 25 years as Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony.

The Award Ceremony was generously hosted by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco at the Legion of Honor's outdoor Court of Honor and included a medal pinning by Consul General Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens and congratulatory remarks by San Francisco Mayor London Breed, San Francisco Symphony President Sakurako Fisher, former SF Symphony President and CEO Nancy Bechtle, Director and CEO of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Thomas Campbell, and President of the War Memorial Board of Trustees Thomas E. Horn. The ceremony also featured musical accompaniment by organist Jonathan Dimmock on the Legion of Honor's Spreckels Organ.

"Today, we are awarding the Arts and Letters to a dear friend. A friend of the arts, a friend of France. We are celebrating someone who has continually supported artistic exchanges, relentlessly expanding cultural horizons, and supporting new generations of musicians and music lovers."

— Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens, Consul General of France, San Francisco



Dior's Latin America Product Training Seminar



Chefs from Once Upon a Kitchen



Suze Orman in the Performance Hall - Photo by Francisco Moraga



42 Kehinde Wiley and Swizz Beatz
Photo by Daniel Boczarski



AFRIKIN 2019: Art of Conversation



City of Miami Beach Mayor Daniel Gelber's State of the City Address

NEW WORLD CENTER EVENTS

In the 2019-20 season, the Business Development team executed public and private events at a robust pace until the New World Center closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thirty-nine guest events, of which 17 were presented by returning event planners and clients, occurred. If the season had continued uninterrupted, the department was poised to meet or exceed 2018-19 figures in both number of events booked and income generated.

Season highlights include the return of Maven Rising, a half-day workshop in training and advocacy for and by LGBTQ people of color; the United States Air Force Band and Singing Sergeants' performance; luxury brand Dior's Latin America Product Training Seminar; a PBS broadcast recording of Suze Orman; artist Kehinde Wiley and music producer Swizz Beatz in conversation during Miami Art Week; Once Upon a Kitchen featuring four Michelin-rated chefs; and City of Miami Beach Mayor Daniel Gelber's State of the City Address.

At the start of the season, the Business Development team worked with NWS's Digital Media Storyteller, Rafael Baldwin, to produce a new video encompassing the breadth of possibilities when envisioning an event at the New World Center.

[READ MORE](#)

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



Maven Rising Workshop on Rooftop Garden



2019-20 FELLOW AND ALUMNI SUCCESSES

Pascal Archer, Principal Clarinet, New Jersey Symphony (one-year)

■ **Giovanni Berton**, Principal Clarinet, Jacksonville Symphony

■ **Kevin Chen**, Violin, Atlanta Symphony

Jennifer Choi, Cello, Dallas Symphony

Julia Coronelli, Principal Harp, Milwaukee Symphony

Dima Dimitrova-Davis, Assistant Principal Second Violin, Bern Symphony

■ **Michael Franz**, Principal Bass, Pacific Symphony

Jeff Garza, Principal Horn, Oregon Symphony

George Goad, Principal Trumpet, Grand Rapids Symphony

Kevin Gobetz, Principal Bass, Phoenix Symphony

Mark Grisez, Principal Trumpet, Columbus Symphony

Andrew Johnson, Percussion, Winnipeg Symphony

Blake-Anthony Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Chicago Sinfonietta

Ran Kampel, Assistant Professor of Clarinet, Baylor University

Kerry Kavalo, Annual Giving Manager, Oregon Symphony

Stephen Kehner, Assistant Principal Percussion, Oregon Symphony

■ **Matthew Kibort**, Timpani, Glimmerglass Opera

Kelton Koch, Trombone, Vienna Philharmonic

Ann Lanzilotti, Curator of Music, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Peiming Lin, Violin, National Symphony

■ **Nicholas Mariscal**, Assistant Principal Cello, Milwaukee Symphony

Jarrett McCourt, Tuba, Winnipeg Symphony (one-year)

■ **Rebecca Oliverio**, Trumpet, Lyric Opera of Chicago

■ **Sam Pedersen**, Viola, Lyric Opera of Chicago (partial-season)

Joseph Peterson, Director of Operations and Artistic Planning, Reno Chamber Orchestra and Nevada Chamber Music Festival,

Second Trombone, Reno Philharmonic

■ **Yuan Qi**, Associate Principal Viola, Utah Symphony

Priscilla Rinehart, Second Horn, Sarasota Orchestra

Abhijit Sengupta, Director of Artistic Planning, Carnegie Hall

Jenny Snyder Kozoroz, Program Director, Brevard Music Center

Daniel Stewart, Music Director, San Francisco Symphony Youth Symphony

Ebonee Thomas, Second Flute, Dallas Opera

Kurt Tseng, Associate Principal Viola, North Carolina Symphony

■ **Alison Verderber**, Principal Librarian, Austin Symphony

Marguerite Lynn Williams, Principal Harp, Minnesota Orchestra

Evan Zegiel, Tuba, Ann Arbor Symphony (one-year)

Nina Zhou, Assistant Vice President of Advancement, The Colburn School

■ Started the 2019-20 season as a Fellow



Alumnus Philip Payton with Percussion Fellow Kevin Ritenauer
Photo by Ezekiel Williams/Moment77.com



Photo by David Ramos



Gala Chairs Chanin and Adam Carlin
Photo by Ezekiel Williams/Moment77.com



Alumnus Brendan Kane and Gina Despres
Photo by Ezekiel Williams/Moment77.com



Howard Herring, Kristin Podack, Susan D. Kronick and Edward Manno Shumsky
Photo by Ezekiel Williams/Moment77.com

A WORLD of DIFFERENCE

NEW WORLD SYMPHONY
THIRTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY GALA

NWS celebrated its anticipated annual gala titled "A World of Difference" on February 8. The event, chaired by Chanin and Adam Carlin, honored the more than 1,100 NWS alumni who are making a difference in orchestras, ensembles and educational institutions in over 30 countries around the world.

The gala concert led by MTT saw the return of 12 alumni, who performed alongside current NWS Fellows. A special performance of Camille Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* featured the world premiere of accompanying poetry by O Miami Poetry founder P. Scott Cunningham, commissioned by NWS and narrated by writer and filmmaker Jamie Bernstein. The piece was brought to life with animated projections by NWS's Clyde Scott and Michael Matamoros based on artwork by Miami-based Colombian artist Federico Uribe. A selection of Mr. Uribe's art was available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting NWS. The event raised \$2.1 million.

2020 GALA ALUMNI

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- Philip Payton, Violin, Freelance Artist (New York City)
- Rebecca Reale, First Violin, Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Steven Fryxell, Viola, Cincinnati Symphony
- Susie Yang, Associate Principal Cello, Kansas City Symphony
- Brendan Kane, Bass, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra
- Henrik Heide, Flute, Freelance Artist (Nashville)
- John Upton, Principal Oboe, The Florida Orchestra
- Todd Levy, Principal Clarinet, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra & Santa Fe Opera
- Paul Merkelo, Principal Trumpet, Montreal Symphony
- Mark Niehaus, President and Executive Director, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
- Joseph Petrasek, Principal Percussion, Atlanta Symphony
- John Wilson, Regular Keyboardist, San Francisco and San Diego symphonies



Art by Federico Uribe
Photo by David Ramos

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



National YoungArts Foundation Vice President of External Relations & Communications
Dejha Carrington with Bismarc and Francine Carrington and artist Jared McGriff
Photo by Manny Hernandez





Photo by Ezekiel Williams/Moment77.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

NWS is a dynamic, unique and Fellow-centric educational program that prepares musicians for a challenging future. NWS is resilient, strategically honing its ability to bounce back from crises, learn from them, and achieve transformation as a result.

Never have these tenets been tested so thoroughly than in NWS's current circumstances. The COVID-19 pandemic has touched every facet of life, everywhere, and NWS is no exception. The coming year will see major changes in how NWS programs are executed and experienced by Fellows, audiences and patrons, while the organization navigates fluid government emergency orders designed to keep people safe. NWS is extraordinarily fortunate to be addressing this challenging future from a strong financial base. A clear certainty is the need to move even more programs online. We believe that our strong history of investment in technology and innovation positions us well to adapt to new delivery methods for both instruction and performance. NWS's resilience is demonstrated in its ability to quickly leverage its human, physical and financial assets to reinvent its programs for what promises to be a unique season.

Some highlights from the last season:

- Thanks to early and sustained commitments from NWS's many generous donors and strong fundraising leadership on the board and staff, confidence was high the annual fund would exceed its goal. Despite the pandemic, the FY20 annual fund closed at \$10.6 million—an all-time high and 10% higher than the previous year.
- Total giving (annual gifts plus other short- and long-term pledges) increased by 86% over FY19. In addition to their gifts for FY20, 18 individuals, foundations and corporations made new commitments for the next one to five years totaling \$13 million. Major multi-year commitments are the result of a deliberate fundraising strategy. They allow NWS to make plans with a higher degree of confidence.
- Subscribers and single-ticket buyers donated one-third of the tickets they purchased for concerts that were canceled and another third was retained for FY21. This helped mitigate the loss of revenues after the cancellation of all NWS and third-party events from March 12 to June 30.
- In February NWS made a scheduled principal payment of \$1.762 million on the New World Center construction loan, leaving a balance of \$10.37 million at June 30, 2020.
- Investments were subject to significant volatility starting in February but careful stewardship and a history of prudent decisions by the investment committee and its professional advisors resulted in a small positive return of 1.59%, net of fees, for the fiscal year. Total investments declined slightly due to approved spending for the operating and capital budgets.
- Finally, NWS was able to increase its reserve fund to \$7.7 million, the highest amount in the 27-year history of the fund. This is sufficient to cover the deductible on NWS's windstorm insurance in the event of hurricane damage, plus certain other unforeseen needs.

To prepare for the possibility of severe pandemic-related impacts on future donations, earned revenue and program activities, NWS took several important actions:

- Commencing June 1 and until further notice, certain full and part-time staff were furloughed and compensation for all remaining staff was reduced on a sliding scale. Some staff were reassigned to other critical roles to mitigate individual impacts, and NWS hopes these measures are only temporary.
- The number of annual fellowships was reduced from 87 to 77.
- A work-from-home order was imposed for the majority of staff, and a cross-departmental team began the careful process of developing procedures and protocols to ensure the health and safety of staff and others that need to do their work on-site, and for future audiences. To date and with permission from the appropriate government authorities, NWS has been able to host several small and carefully controlled events as it experiments with the best way to showcase its programs in the coming season.
- The board designated \$1 million to underwrite an upgrade and expansion of NWS's distance-learning systems and infrastructure to ensure appropriate stability and capacity for what will be a near total online experience for Fellows and audiences in FY21. This investment allows for even greater capacity to deliver online instruction in response to changes impacting our programs.
- NWS secured a new \$20 million line of credit. With a two-year term and interest at one-month LIBOR + 100 basis points, this credit facility is not intended for daily operations but will instead provide liquidity, if needed, to address pandemic and other emergencies.

For more information, you may request a copy of NWS's audited financial statements or visit our website at nws.edu/financials.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the administrative staff and the Fellows, I thank all our donors, patrons and other supporters for their deep generosity and commitment to this unique and vibrant institution as we collaborate to ensure the future of classical music and embrace an unpredictable future with resilience.

Mario de Armas
Treasurer and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees

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THE  OF NWS

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Most Volunteer Hours in the 2019-20 Season!

SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS*

(in thousands of dollars)

REVENUE, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

Operating Activity	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Contributions	\$8,236	\$14,789	\$7,108	\$11,618	\$21,660
Program Revenue	1,889	1,638	1,709	1,982	1,362
Special Events and Gala (net)	1,250	1,470	2,628	2,029	1,594
Business Development (Rentals) and Misc Income	1,467	1,570	1,216	1,426	1,048
Subtotal	12,842	19,467	12,661	17,055	25,664
Income and Gains on Investments	-4,075	10,493	7,671	5,860	1,957
Total Revenue, Gains and Other Support	\$8,767	\$29,960	\$20,332	\$22,915	\$27,621

EXPENSES

Operating Activity	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Program Services	\$10,337	\$10,838	\$10,900	\$10,795	\$10,728
Marketing and Fundraising	2,965	2,990	3,187	3,129	2,988
General and Administrative	1,867	1,883	1,833	1,971	2,027
Facilities Rentals	659	664	719	736	641
Subtotal	15,828	16,375	16,639	16,631	16,384
Depreciation and Non-Operating Activity	6,137	5,774	6,049	6,682	6,167
Total Expenses	\$21,965	\$22,149	\$22,688	\$23,313	\$22,551
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	-\$13,198	\$7,811	-\$2,356	-\$398	\$5,070

* Summarized consolidated data from audited financial statements. Per GAAP requirements, contributions include new multi-year pledges secured in each fiscal year.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT JUNE 30, 2020

ASSETS

(in thousands of dollars)

Cash	\$63
Investments	
Endowment Gifts	80,816
Investment Gains	20,375
Total Investments	101,190
Accounts and Contributions Receivable	11,066
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	766
Property and Equipment, Net of Depreciation	144,262
Total Assets	\$257,347

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$794
Deferred Revenues	562
Loans and Lines of Credit	16,300
Total Liabilities	17,656
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	132,960
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	106,731
Total Net Assets	239,691
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$257,347

A STRONGER FINANCIAL PLATFORM TO GROW CORE PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT INNOVATION AND EXPERIMENTATION BECOMES MORE URGENT

As discussed in previous annual reports, NWS's endowment fund needs to grow significantly with new support. While the annual fund continues to grow in absolute terms, its share of operating revenue—as much as 61% in recent years—needs to be reduced. Raising more than half of the budget annually is a high bar to achieve year after year. Anticipated loss of support in the coming year due to the pandemic vividly illustrates the point. As highlighted in the Treasurer's Report, multi-year commitments from donors are extraordinarily important.

Operating expenses have increased an average of 1% annually for the last eight years. Opportunities for funding program expansion by redirecting existing resources are exhausted. As NWS works to shape the future of classical music, many programs can grow faster, and new programs will be developed that need to be funded. NWS certainly hopes a pandemic-induced reduction of 15% in its total operating budget for FY21 will be an aberration in the long term.

As the New World Center reaches the end of its first decade in January 2021, critical technical systems have reached their natural end of life, while annual maintenance needs continue to grow into necessary capital improvements. NWS estimates that capital investment over the next 20 years will cost at least \$30 million over and above the annual operating budget. More than 60% of this is for replacing and upgrading elements of NWS's groundbreaking video infrastructure (currently underway, and to be repeated at least once more over a 20-year period), increasing local and cloud-based storage capacity for digital assets, and next-stage distance learning and IT infrastructure. Other needs include new musical instruments and all the usual building improvements that will keep New World Center and the Fellows' housing site in excellent condition.

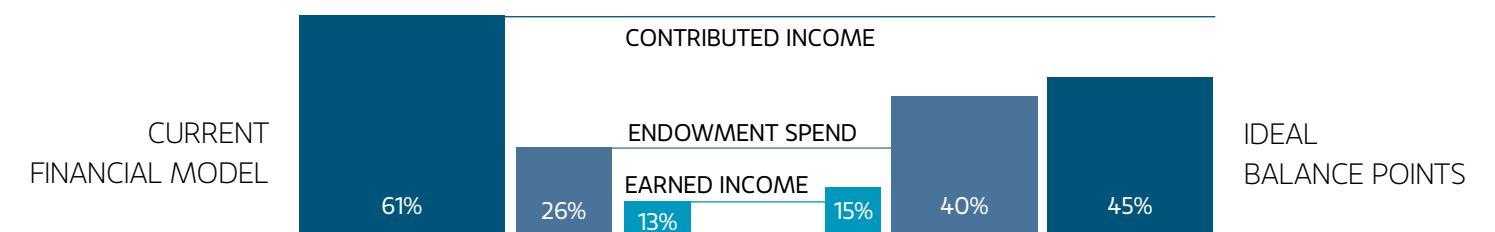
Since 2011 the endowment has generated about 25% of annual operating support. A larger endowment that supports at least 40% of the operating budget is our goal to fund the institution's future growth and programs. An increasing share of the annual budget supported by the endowment will provide a more stable base upon which to plan for these developments and ensure the innovative and experimental nature of NWS programs.

In the meantime, NWS is gradually lengthening the smoothing period in calculating the amount of annual endowment spend in order to ensure the fund's sustainability in perpetuity. The smoothing period is currently 24 quarters and may be lengthened. This will better insulate the institution from extreme market volatility, and in the long term it will produce a larger pool of assets that will generate more cumulative budget support.

Discounting, for now, the significantly reduced budget for Fiscal 2021, if the operating budget were to grow at an average annual rate of 3% the budget in 2030 could look as follows:

Contributed income (45%)	Endowment spend (40%)	Earned income (15%)	Total budget
\$9,900,000	\$8,800,000	\$3,300,000	\$22,000,000

If the current investment pool can grow at an average annual rate of 3% after distributions to support the budget, then new paid-in gifts to the endowment will need to be at least \$60 million to bring the total endowment to just shy of \$200 million in order to support 40% of the operating budget in 2030. This is in addition to what is required to fund capital improvements.



WE THANK OUR DONORS

We are pleased to recognize the following donations made between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

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DR. JUDITH RODIN REVOLUTIONARY RESILIENCE

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In response to the devastating impact of both COVID-19 and the consequences of systemic racism on the performing arts field and its audiences, NWS Trustee Dr. Judith Rodin founded the NWS Resilience Fund to help NWS address the complex challenges of our time. She seeded the Fund with a \$500,000 lead gift over several years, the first \$100,000 providing immediate support for the earliest phases of recovery.

Dr. Rodin, who has written extensively on the impact of resilience on long-term success in *The Resilience Dividend* explains, "Resilience is the capacity to bounce back from crises more quickly and effectively, to learn from them, and to transform as a result. Today, more than ever, our important institutions must develop and use this capacity to flourish in the face of the significant crises we are experiencing. This investment is intended to enable the New World Symphony to do just that by responding nimbly to these challenges with vision and creativity and using their extraordinary capacity for innovation in new ways."

Dr. Rodin hopes that the establishment of the Fund will inspire others, both individual and institutional, to join her in investing in this concept, ultimately providing a robust stream of resilience capital that will enable NWS to be agile and adaptive, seizing on opportunities that will ensure a strong and secure future.

AMANDA AND JORGE MEJIA FOR LOVE OF MUSIC AND MIAMI

For nearly ten years, people have come to the New World Center to be inspired, moved and to connect with culture and community. For Amanda and Jorge Mejia, it is where their love of music, Miami and each other has blossomed.

NWS even helped Jorge, a decades-long Miamian, woo Amanda to leave New York for South Florida. "NWS is what changed my mind about Miami," said Amanda. "I found like-minded people who were interested in the same things I was; NWS was the first place for me to feel like Miami could be my home." Together they are helping shape and support Miami's cultural landscape—a forward-thinking view that took root in the New World Center's own Rooftop Garden, where Jorge proposed.

For Jorge—a composer, pianist and Steinway Artist, author, Latin Grammy Award nominee, and President and CEO of Sony/ATV Music Publishing Latin America and U.S. Latin—NWS has always been a part of his periphery while growing up in Miami, surrounded by music. He and Amanda—a women's rights advocate and Chief Financial Officer and Senior Director at the AHA Foundation—support the causes that are near and dear to their hearts, including education. "Music education is one of the key areas of education – period," said Jorge. "It's a necessity for a better world. We see NWS as the embodiment of what Miami is and can be, and by extension what we would like other places to be."

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Photo by Laura Coppelman

CONCERTMASTER'S CIRCLE \$5,000-\$14,999

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YESICA SCHAAF RUNNING CLUB TO CULTURE CLUB

The first time Yesica Schaaf entered the New World Center, she had just completed a weekly 5K run with the South Beach Run Club. As she and the other runners stretched in SoundScape Park, NWS President Howard Herring greeted the runners and invited them to enjoy a concert. “I was so impressed by the invitation to a group of sweaty runners to come inside a concert hall,” said Yesica. “NWS felt like a place that put community and music first. I have always had a passion for music – growing up playing the viola in my school and community orchestras through college. The evening when my passion for exercise and orchestral music collided was meant to be!”

Yesica soon joined Friends of NWS, where she found a group of like-minded professionals who love to mix fun with music, philanthropy and friendship. She now serves on its Executive Committee. “Since becoming a Friends member in 2013, I have learned that NWS is truly one of the most unique organizations in Miami, combining community and music with unique experiences, from Late Night at NWS, gatherings after the Holiday Concert, galas and a trip to Medellín to witness NWS’s musician exchange program with the Iberacademy.” “A few years ago, I made it a financial goal to increase my gift to NWS to give back to the community and organization. As my career has grown, I’ve been able to meet that goal to give back monetarily to an organization that has added a lot of value to my life.”



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THE HEARST FOUNDATIONS SUPPORT WHEN CRISIS STRIKES

At the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis, The Hearst Foundations announced over \$50 million in special grants for American nonprofits impacted by the pandemic. In mid-April NWS received \$250,000 of this emergency-response fund.

The Hearst Foundations are national philanthropic resources for organizations and institutions working in the fields of Education, Health, Culture and Social Service. Its goal is to ensure that people of all backgrounds have the opportunity to build healthy, productive and inspiring lives. The charitable goals of the Foundations reflect the philanthropic interests of William Randolph Hearst.

Ligia Cravo, Senior Program Officer for the Hearst Foundations, notes that “after enjoying an especially rewarding partnership with NWS over the years, it was enormously gratifying to provide relief funds at such an urgent and unprecedented moment.”

The Hearst Foundations support well-established nonprofit organizations that address significant issues within their major areas of interests. NWS and its mission to prepare graduates of music programs for leadership roles in orchestras and ensembles around the world represents two of the Hearst Foundations’ bedrock interests:

Culture: The Hearst Foundations fund cultural institutions that offer meaningful programs in the arts and sciences, prioritizing those which enable engagement by young people and create a lasting and measurable impact. The Foundations also fund select programs nurturing and developing artistic talent.

Education: The Hearst Foundations fund educational institutions demonstrating uncommon success in preparing students to thrive in a global society. The Foundations’ focus is largely on higher education, but they also fund innovative models of early childhood and K-12 education, as well as professional development.



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If we have inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name, please contact Emily Greene at emily.greene@nws.edu or 305.428.6787.



Photo courtesy of Sebastian Spreng

WALTER ENGLEBRECHT ALUMNI HONOR A SPECIAL FRIEND

When coming to an NWS event, Walter and Maria Englebrecht loved to connect equally with the music and the Fellows on stage. In 2012 Walter struck up a post-concert conversation with NWS cello alumna Rosanna Butterfield. It ended with an invitation to dinner that started a tradition of large family meals at the Englebrecht home with Walter playing host and chef. Over the years, the Englebrechts hosted over 100 Fellows in their home. Family friend Sebastian Spreng said, "Walter loved music and food with the same intensity. And he loved NWS and the Fellows; he felt an obligation to feed them like a father, to make them feel at home in Miami and he did."

When Walter passed away in 2018, the Fellows and alumni he and Maria hosted at their table for so many years made donations in his honor for a commemorative seat plaque at the New World Center Performance Hall. The inscription was unveiled to Maria at the Pre-Season Concert in September 2019.

Donors include the following NWS alumni: Joseph Brown, Rosanna Butterfield, Alexa Ciciretti, Maya Cohon, Lauren Densinger, Caroline Gilbert, Hilary Glen, Kevin Haseltine, Ran Kampel, Stephen Kehner, Alexander Lee, Sean Maree, Jane Mitchell, Sarah Peters, Joseph Peterson, Christian Reif and Foster Wang.

“Those of us who knew and loved Walter know that his usual way of being in the world included forming a connection and then offering to cook for everybody! Walter and Maria’s friendship and generosity have meant so much to us all. Foster and I miss Walter dearly, and we treasure our memories of happy times spent with him surrounded by friends and music.”

— Rosanna Butterfield, cello

“Parties at Walter and Maria Englebrecht’s were an oasis—a true ‘home away from home.’ Walter cherished the time he spent amongst his young, musical friends and told me once that spending time with us was the joy of his life. It was important to me to have a chair dedicated in his honor to forever signify his incredible support for us as Fellows, not just in the music hall, but as people outside of our musical careers.”

— Lauren Densinger, violin

“The sense of community and social dining is what made dinners at Walter and Maria’s home so special. His dinners were a great opportunity to get to know Fellows from other sections that we may have not had the chance to know as well. NWS commemorating a plaque in his memory was so important to all of the Fellows because of how supportive Walter and Maria were for the orchestra members and how he welcomed us into his family.”

— Joseph Peterson, trombone



Skull & Bones VIP Party



Casino Real



Casino Real



Skull & Bones VIP Party



58 Holiday Toy Drive
Friends of NWS photos by David Ramos

FRIENDS OF NWS



In the 2019-20 season Friends of NWS hosted six of its 10 planned events and concerts before closing during the COVID-19 pandemic. These events exposed its members to a broad range of programming both on and off the stage. Some of the highlights included:

CASINO REAL

Friends of NWS kicked off the season at the New World Center with casino games sponsored by former Friends of NWS President Chad Turner, LPL Financial, and Vicky's Bakery. Light bites and libations were provided by Thierry Isambert Culinary & Event Design and Keel Vodka. Guests had the opportunity to win prizes, such as Friends of the NWS gala tickets, a Salvador Dalí lithograph, a two-night stay at the Epic Hotel, an ostrich shrug by Madame Helene and more.

VIP LATE NIGHT AT NEW WORLD SYMPHONY

Friends of NWS enjoyed a VIP Costume Party in the New World Center's Rooftop Garden ahead of NWS's Late Night event Skull & Bones. Guests enjoyed specialty cocktails from Keel Vodka and appetizers by Thierry Isambert Culinary & Event Design. After the concert, Friends joined other ticketholders at the official after-party at the National Hotel, which was decorated for Día de los Muertos.

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Friends of NWS celebrated the holiday season with a toy drive benefitting patients at Nicklaus Children's Hospital.

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Fellow Marcelina Suchocka with NAB Board Member Anthony Bain and former Executive Director Anna Christensen



Photo by Rui Dias-Aidos, REDAV, Inc.



Photo by Rui Dias-Aidos, REDAV, Inc.

FELLOW, ALUMNI AND STAFF PROFILES

MARCELINA SUCHOCKA AND CHLOE TULA BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE BAHAMAS

On September 15 NWS Fellows took to Lincoln Road for a two-hour benefit concert for Miami’s neighbors in the Bahamas, whose lives were completely upended by Hurricane Dorian. Spearheaded by Percussion Fellow Marcelina Suchocka and Harp Fellow Chloe Tula in partnership with the National Association of the Bahamas—a South Florida-based non-profit organization affiliated with the Bahamian consulate—and the Tourism Office of the Bahamas, the musical marathon raised over \$500.

 [READ MORE](#)

BLAKE-ANTHONY JOHNSON FELLOW TO CEO IN 365 DAYS

In June NWS cello alumnus Blake-Anthony Johnson became the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Sinfonietta, whose mission is to champion diversity, equity and inclusion by creating community through bold symphonic experiences. Blake-Anthony completed his NWS fellowship in May 2019 and moved to Kentucky to serve as the Louisville Orchestra’s Director of Learning and Community before assuming his new role in Chicago.

“Blake-Anthony’s musical journey, from accomplished professional cellist to orchestra administrator, his understanding of both the performance and business sides of an orchestra, and his love for the art, ideally position him to guide this one-of-a-kind ensemble into the next chapter of its history,”

— **Mei-Ann Chen**, Chicago Sinfonietta Music Director

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Iberacademy students at the New World Center



Photo by Siggj Bachmann



Fellow Drew Comstock in Colombia

IBERACADEMY + NWS A UNIQUE GLOBAL COLLABORATION

Since the 2011-12 season, NWS has enjoyed a unique collaboration with the Iberacademy in Medellin, Colombia. During the 2019-20 season, NWS sent two groups of Fellows to Colombia to offer instrumental coaching, private lessons, master classes and side-by-side performances with the young musicians of Iberacademy. In October 2019, five Iberacademy musicians traveled to the New World Center in Miami Beach for lessons and a performance led by MTT. The season's remaining three residencies were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but that did not stop the Fellows, who connected with their Latin American colleagues for 130 hours of free virtual lessons.

“NWS continues to be a great inspiration to our organization, both for our students and for those of us who work with them daily.”

— Iberacademy Founder and Artistic Director Alejandro Posada and
Co-Founder and Executive Director Maria Helena Tamayo-Tobón

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Alumni Katie Wyatt, Gary Ginstling, Katherine Bormann, Gregory Miller, Kristen Bruya, Nicholas Platoff and Christian Reif
Photo by Siggj Bachmann



ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE 10 VOICES RETURN TO STEER CHANGE

This season NWS announced its first ever Alumni Advisory Committee. The 10-person group consists of alumni of varying ages, instruments, geographic locations, ethnicities and career paths. Its goals are to celebrate the stories of NWS alumni; create and design initiatives involving the alumni, with input from the membership; and encourage alumni engagement with the New World Center, the current Fellows and each other. The committee is chaired by alumna Katherine Bormann, a violinist with the Cleveland Orchestra who also serves as a trustee on NWS's Board. "From my perspective it has been a true pleasure to see the creativity and devotion to NWS from this intelligent and diverse group of alums," said Katherine. "The many NWS alumni spread across this country and the world are contributing to their respective communities in meaningful ways. The connection between current Fellows and NWS alumni is important because it offers an opportunity to share perspectives, experiences, innovation and insight among the current and future leaders of classical music."

THE COMMITTEE'S OTHER MEMBERS INCLUDE:

- **Kristen Bruya**, Principal Bass at Minnesota Orchestra (NWS 2000-04)
- **Gary Ginstling**, Chief Executive Officer, National Symphony (NWS 1992-96)
- **Billy Hunter**, Principal Trumpet, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra (NWS 2000-03)
- **Gregory Miller**, Horn Professor, University of Maryland and Lynn University (NWS 1991-94)
- **Nicholas Platoff**, Associate Principal Trombone, San Francisco Symphony (NWS 2014-16)
- **Christian Reif**, Former Resident Conductor, San Francisco Symphony (NWS 2014-16)
- **Alberto Suarez**, Principal Horn, Kansas City Symphony (NWS 2002-06)
- **Ebonee Thomas**, Second Flute, Dallas Opera (NWS 2004-08)
- **Katie Wyatt**, Executive Director, El Sistema USA (NWS 2004-06)



Beth Boleyn
Photo by Eduardo Garcia



JT Kane
Photo by Siggi Bachmann



Yvette Loynaz
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Elyse Marrero
Photo by Ian Cabrera

NWS STAFF CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS STEWARDS OF CLASSICAL MUSIC'S FUTURE

This season, four NWS staff members were selected to participate in competitive leadership programs across the nation.

Beth Boleyn—NWS's Assistant Vice President and Board Liaison—was chosen as one of seven awardees of the Miami Leaders program. Through a grant from The Miami Foundation, Beth will participate in the Developing Leaders Program for Nonprofit Professionals through Columbia Business School. The program was delayed due to COVID-19.

JT Kane—NWS's Dean of Visiting Faculty and Orchestra Manager—was one of only 12 orchestra professionals nationwide selected for the League of American Orchestras' Emerging Leaders Program, the field's prime source for identifying and cultivating the leadership potential of talented orchestra professionals.

Yvette Loynaz—NWS's Director of Individual Giving—and **Elyse Marrero**—Director of Musician Advancement—are two of nine arts leaders chosen for the Sphinx Organization's second LEAD cohort. Standing for Leaders in Excellence, Arts and Diversity, the Sphinx LEAD program is a two-year professional empowerment program designed to evolve the landscape of arts leadership. Joining them in this second cohort is also NWS alumnus Blake-Anthony Johnson.

[READ MORE](#)



MTT with Steven and Benjamin Fryxell at NWS Gala
Photo by Ezequiel Williams/Moment77.com

NWS'S FIRST GRANDCHILD FELLOW FATHER AND SON HIGHLIGHT NWS'S 32-YEAR LEGACY

In the 2019-20 season, NWS welcomed the first child of an alumni to its fellowship ranks—its first “grandchild” Fellow. Benjamin Fryxell, as a young cellist from Cincinnati, grew up hearing stories about NWS from dad Steven, who was a Viola Fellow from 1990-92. Father and son were able to share the NWS stage at this season's annual Gala, where Steven was one of 12 alumni invited for the performance.

[READ MORE](#)



Steven Fryxell and MTT during NWS's 1991 tour in Japan



Steven and Benjamin Fryxell



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