

Our Mission:

WYSO Music Makers exists to enrich and develop the music skills of children from all backgrounds in an inclusive and non-competitive environment. We provide financial support for instruments, lessons, and performance opportunities, making music education accessible for all children.

- Founded in 2007 as Madison Music Makers by Bonnie Green with the hopes of providing the opportunity to learn music to families in the Madison community who otherwise would not have been able to afford it.
- The initial 11 students learning violin quickly grew to 50 students within three years and to 80 students within seven years.
- Guitar lessons and classes as well as Piano and Hand Drumming classes were quickly incorporated into the program that initially began with only violin.
- Locations where classes were held over the years have included: Centro Hispano, Bayview Community Center, Goodman Center, Zion City, Sosonic and most recently Memorial United Church of Christ.
- The partnership with the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO) began in 2015 with the Music Makers Honors ensemble. Selected students were invited to participate in a group class that culminated in a concert that included performing alongside a WYSO orchestra.
- In July 2017 WYSO acquired Madison Music Makers.

Some of the impacts of the WYSO Music Makers program include:

- Inspiring motivation
- Building community
- Providing one-on-one attention
- Creating meaningful connections between students, families, mentors, and teachers.
- Helping pave the way for more focused students.

With shared experiences in music-making, our program brings together a truly diverse group of families, from all across the racial, ethnic, and socio-economic spectrum. The WYSO Music Makers creates a joyous coming together that welcomes all, regardless of ability to pay.

www.facebook.com/wysomusicmakers
www.wysomusic.org/wysomusicmakers

Increasing Access & Removing Barriers

The WYSO Music Makers program has the opportunity to affect thousands of children over the years and change the course of their lives, strengthening our community in ways that benefit everyone.

Facts:

91 Music Makers students receive private and group lessons

75% of Music Makers students qualify for free-and-reduced lunch

69% of students speak a language at home other than English

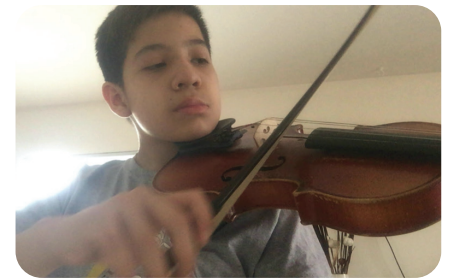
2,000 online lessons & classes provided during COVID-19

12 Teachers, **5** Teen teachers, **5** WYSO mentors

Actual program cost per student per year is **\$2,650**

Students are ages **5-17**

Families pay what they can, suggested monthly tuition **\$40**



"Music Makers always finds a positive way to meet the requirements and the needs of their students"
— WYSO Music Makers Parent

