



THE GRAND FINALE

THE FINAL PHASE OF THE **NOTE BY NOTE**
CAMPAIGN FOR WISCONSIN YOUTH
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

Transforming children's lives through the joy of making music

Music has the power to inspire, motivate, and transcend. Learning to play an instrument builds creativity, self-confidence, and problem-solving skills while fostering teamwork and lifelong friendships—benefits that go far beyond gaining the ability to create beautiful music.

For nearly 60 years, **Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO)** has given children across ethnicities, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds access to the transformative power of being a musician. Our 5000+ alumni have gone on to lead successful, productive adult lives, shaped in part by the discipline, creativity, and camaraderie instilled by their WYSO experience.

Funding a new home for music education

Over the decades, WYSO students lacked a dedicated place to rehearse and perform. Thanks to committed community partners we had access to borrowed spaces—schools, churches, and even parking lots. But we longed for a permanent home to use and share.

In 2021, WYSO launched the **Note by Note Campaign** to fund the new WYSO Center for Music. Thanks to our generous supporters, we raised \$28 million—a fantastic accomplishment. However, rising construction costs pushed the final price to \$33 million, requiring us to take out a loan to complete the project. To fully fund our new home and secure WYSO's future, we must raise \$5 million to retire this debt and sustain our programs.

**\$1.2 million
remaining**

**\$31.8 million
raised**

**\$33 million
goal**



“While I play my violin, I feel as if we are all speaking the same language and it is wonderful. Music, for many, can be just sounds but for me it is art and my dreams, too.”

—Melanie Hernandez, Music Makers Student

Our new building is a **community treasure**

The **WYSO Center for Music** is more than a building—it's a hub for learning, creativity, and connection. It offers young musicians and the broader community a space to thrive, share, and grow.

World-class
performance and rehearsal spaces

Sound-isolated
rooms designed for musical excellence

Sustainable
LEED-certified design

Collaborative spaces
for the arts and community activities



“This new building right in the heart of Madison will change the horizon for WYSO and the community. Young musicians will dream bigger and work harder. They will connect with others who love music and together create a culture of excellence for everyone.”

—Pleasant Rowland



We need your help

We're so close to achieving a decades-long dream of a fully funded, forever home to be enjoyed by our students and the community at large. With your support, we can raise the remaining \$1.2 million and bring our vision for the WYSO Center for Music to its grand finale.

Giving all children access to music education

WYSO by the Numbers

- **59 years** helping children experience the joy and wonder of making music
- **520 students** in WYSO programs
- **5 orchestras** and multiple ensembles
- **32 different languages** spoken by WYSO students
- **Around 30 community outreach performances** at schools, senior living facilities, and public events each year
- **40** new musicians participated in the Music Makers program

Our students come from

- **47 schools**
- **39 cities**
- **14 counties**

Ensuring finances are never a barrier

- **100%** of students pay no more than 30% of program costs
- **70%** of funding comes from generous community support
- **17%** of students receive full-need scholarships



Help us reach the Grand Finale of our Note by Note campaign

We are **96% of the way to our goal**—and we can reach it with your support. Completing this campaign will allow us to focus on what matters most: providing exceptional music education for generations to come and sharing the wonders of music with our neighbors.

WYSO is more than a music education program; it's a place where young people of all backgrounds discover their potential and learn to dream big. By contributing to our campaign, you'll be investing in more than a building; you'll be investing in the futures of young musicians and the vibrancy of our community.

Every great performance deserves a triumphant ending. Be part of our Grand Finale and help us ensure that WYSO continues to inspire, educate, and transform lives.



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