2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT
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Hello JazzED Friends!

What a time we find ourselves in! With so little clarity on what the world would look like on the other side, it’s been hard to know how to navigate this global pandemic. But there have certainly been glimmers of hope that light our path forward, and at JazzED, these glimmers come in the form of our resilient staff and educators, our ever-eager students, and our generous donors, all of whom continue to show up despite the confines and restraints of our current world.

In fact, for JazzED over the last year, confines and restraints seemed a small thing in light of the big work that inspired us. We didn’t let this restricted world stop our classes, cancel our gala, or limit the possibilities for our students.

Instead, we dreamt up new possibilities and created new opportunities, and as a result, beautiful, bold growth occurred at JazzED despite what was happening all around us.

At JazzED, we remained focused on the fact that the very nature of jazz music is a light to the world born out of a tradition of resilience and strength. It is my hope that this tradition will continue to light the path forward for our JazzED students, their families, and the whole community.

With gratitude,

Laurie de Koch
Seattle JazzED, Executive Director

"...for JazzED over the last year, confines and restraints seemed a small thing in light of the big work that inspired us. We didn’t let this restricted world stop our classes, cancel our gala, or limit the possibilities for our students."
Online Learning

At the core of resiliency is the capacity for flexibility and self-reflection, two qualities that quickly became core competencies for JazzED. With our capacity to serve students limited by the lock down, we had to re-define what success looks like in the year of COVID-19.

A quick pivot to online learning enabled us to keep students learning and our educators employed, all while developing new technological capacities. Limited programming meant that we couldn’t reach as many students as we normally reach, but with virtual learning, we were suddenly able to reach students across the nation.

From Annabella B, 17, tpt, Denver: What advice would you give to women who are told that they need to market their body to get attention and views when putting their music out?

From Ingrid, 15, sax, Vancouver BC: What type of long tone technique do you use?

From Addisyn J, 12, sax, Edmonds: In jazz band at my school over Zoom we listen to a jazz song everyday and we listened to your new song.

Annabella B: And thank you for hosting this event - I’m glad things worked out so I could attend from Denver.

From Sarah, 18, tpt, Kelowna BC: What mic do you use for your horn?

Girls Jazz Day Goes Virtual!

Thanks to Zoom’s chat feature, Girls Jazz Day participants were able to ask questions, share advice, and make friends from all over the country.
Music teachers from as far flung places as France and Ghana made use of the Teacher Tool Kit that we developed, and students from all over the world attended our online classes.

Virtual Resources
JazzED’s library of virtual resources doubled in size during 2020-2021!

Students thinking about life beyond high school could still attend our College Fair and Audition Workshop from the comfort and safety of their living room.

And our beginning students learned to play an instrument for the very first time on Zoom.
Program Pivot

During this time, we also carved out space for introspection. JazzED has always centered our commitment to racial justice in the work that we do, but a year of tremendous racial unrest forced us to take a deeper look. We asked ourselves hard questions about whether we were seeing enough movement towards equity within our organization.

With guidance from our community, the JazzED staff and board made organizational and programmatic shifts, each with the goal of building a just and inclusive community.

While we will continue to enrich the life of young musicians in all stages of their growth, we know it is tailored instruction and one on one support at the start of one’s musical journey that ensures matriculation through progressive jazz study.

We also know the marginalization students face in general education access plays out in music education, too. Even at JazzED, the diversity of program participants decreases as the experience level of the ensemble increases.

It is with this knowledge that we spent the last year reviewing our programs, and revising them to increase offerings and enrollment at the foundational levels, with the long term goal of increasing matriculation of BIPOC students toward explorational study. These offerings will be realized in our 2021-2022 programming, and beyond.
As we usher in JazzED’s second decade, we have entered into a partnership with Community Roots Housing and will soon break ground on a project that includes 18,000 square feet of rehearsal and performance space for JazzED students, with 5 floors of affordable housing on top.

We show our students their value by the spaces we put them in and the opportunities we provide, and this project exemplifies our deepest commitment to our students.

Ultimately, we know that jazz music is a communal art form, and we are especially excited to be playing in person again because we will soon be able to gather in our new home.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Goal: $13.7M

Pledged as of November 2021: $6.5M

Funding Partners:
- Office of Arts & Culture
- 4Culture
- WA State Dept. of Commerce
- M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Financial Summary
Fiscal Year July 2020 - June 2021

We know music is meant to be played together, and while we kept youth connected to one another and their instruments through Zoom, it was simply no comparison for the learning and music making that occurs in person. This is reflected in both the difference between our in-person and online attendance numbers, as well as the decreasing enrollment rates we experienced over the 20 months of this pandemic.

Despite this decrease in earned revenue, we were buoyed by the increase and diversity of contributed support, garnering nearly $19,000 more in contributed revenue than budgeted and a bevy of COVID related support, including another Paycheck Protection Program loan, ARTS WA COVID CARES Relief, 4Culture COVID CARES Relief, School’s Out Washington COVID 19 Relief, and an ArtsFund Nonprofit Community Recovery Grant.

Questions? Email Executive Director Laurie de Koch at laurie@seattlejazzed.org.

Contributed Revenue: $486,177
Earned Revenue: $357,532
TOTAL REVENUE: $843,709

Earned 42.4%
Contributed 57.6%
Financial aid 28.8%
Wages 51.6%
Other 19.6%

Wages: $488,330
Financial Aid: $273,162
Other Expenses: $185,536
TOTAL EXPENSES: $947,028
Seattle JazzED Donors - Thank You!
July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021

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