37 students from 17 schools received free after-school orchestra programming.

306 hours of in-person instruction delivered over 30 weeks with an additional 925 private lessons.

BUILDING MUSICIANS

77 percent of CAMP students do not have access to in-school band or orchestra programs.

10 performances including orchestra concerts, solo recitals, and collaborations with local artists.
One unique element of CAMP’s programming is a student-driven community theme that informs projects and performances all year long. Students selected "Black Lives Matter" as the theme for the 2021–22 school year.

CREATE

During virtual learning, students completed a group mosaic titled “Black Musicians Matter,” each painting individual ceramic tiles that became part of a larger work of art.

CAMP hosted Say Their Names in December 2021, a full orchestra concert and art exhibition dedicated to Black people who lost their lives to gun violence and police brutality. Students created artwork inspired by contributions of Black artists, including Maya Angelou’s book Life Doesn’t Frighten Me and African basket-weaving.

PERFORM

Each CAMP student performed a solo piece during spring recitals, which were held at four Black-owned businesses near Chicago’s west side.

In May 2022, CAMP string students played alongside violinist Caitlin Edwards and her Black string orchestra as part of her album release concert.

CAMP was invited to perform as a pep band in support of Chicago’s African American Male Wellness Walk in June 2022.

CONNECT

CAMP students participated in a weeklong residency led by musicians of the Chicago Baraat Band on the contributions of Black musicians to New Orlean’s second line music and the celebration of Mardi Gras.

Students enjoyed visits from D-Composed, a Chicago-based Black string quartet, clarinetists of Pershing’s Own Navy Band, and Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra’s high school musicians.