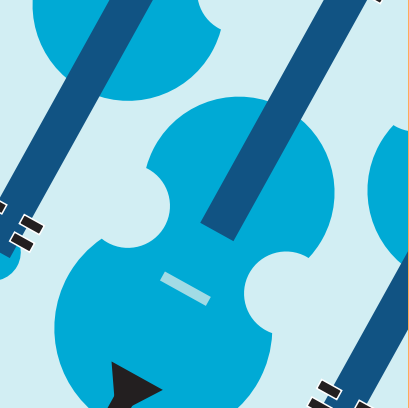
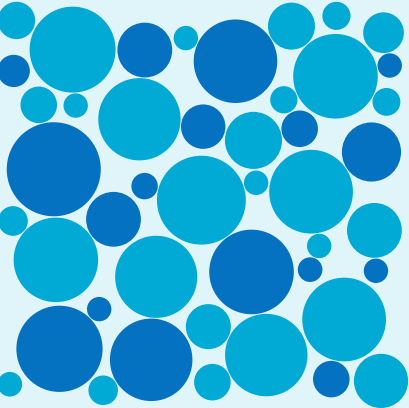
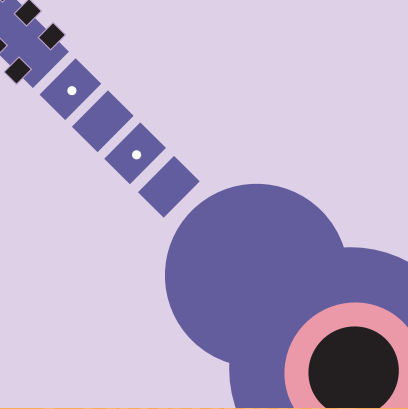
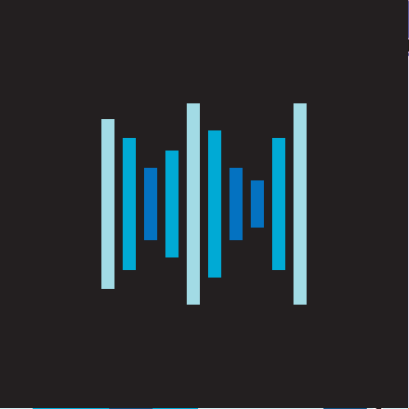
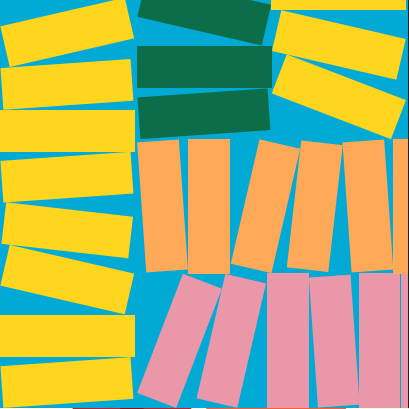
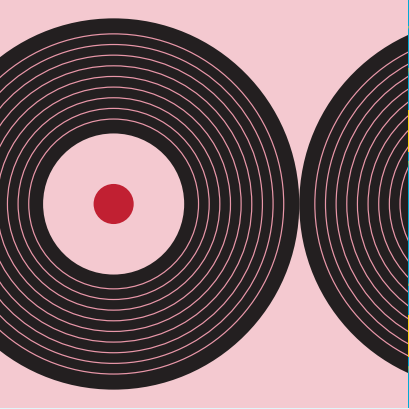
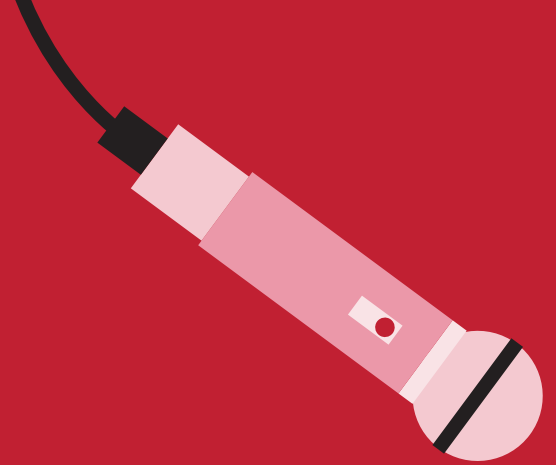


transforming lives through music

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



2022-2023



Community Music Schools of Toronto

Board of Directors

Martin Abel, *Chair*
Chad Aboud
Sharon Barnes-Simmonds
Amy Desjarlais
Steve Greenidge
Dr. Bina John
John McGowan
Hon. Justice Donald McLeod
Jesse Mighton
Jennifer Postelnik
Dr. Marsha Rothstein
Portia-Marie Siegel
Douglas Tames
Jason Tham

Executive Director

Dr. Richard Marsella

Community Music Schools of Toronto Foundation

Board of Directors

Daniel Goldenberg, *President And Chair*
Michael Hickey
Linda Javorski
Jing Lu
Stephanie Nguyen
Irena Petkovic

IN 2023 YOUR SUPPORT ENRICHED YOUNG LIVES AND COMMUNITIES



With a profound sense of gratitude, we extend a warm welcome to you as we celebrate the remarkable achievements of **CMST** students and reflect upon the transformative impact of your contributions.

Your steadfast support of **CMST's** mission resonates beyond our music studios into the very fabric of our communities. Music, transcending its role as a mere instrument of learning, serves as a conduit for self-expression, nurturing emotional intelligence and resilience in our students, and fostering a sense of confidence and fulfillment.

Moreover, your support plays a pivotal role in fortifying the bonds within our communities.

Through **CMST's** dynamic programs and engaging activities, our students actively participate in community concerts, events, and outreach initiatives. These invaluable contributions enrich not only the lives of our students but also elevate the cultural vibrancy of our communities.

Your commitment and dedication inspires and affirms the significance of our mission. Once again, we offer our heartfelt gratitude for your generosity and faith in the transformative impact of music education. Together, we will continue to enrich lives and nurture bright futures for our students and the communities we serve.

Martin Abel
Chair, Board of Directors
Community Music Schools of Toronto

Daniel Goldenberg
Chair, Board of Directors
Community Music Schools of Toronto Foundation

750 students

aged 4-18

received a rich and rewarding music education at our **Regent Park** and **Jane Finch** schools, and through **Kapapamahchakwew - Wandering Spirit School** and **Turning Point Youth Services** at no cost to families.

300+ students

joined the **Student Development Program**, which equips youth with **essential life skills** beyond the **music classroom**, including resume building, study habits, goal setting, meditation and mental health.

In-person recitals are back

and we were thrilled to be able to celebrate students' hard work and accomplishments in person at term-end.

CMST Talks seminar series

open to all CMST students and the community-at-large, explored topics including **accessibility in music**, **managing performance anxiety**, and **'Rock Music—A Black Perspective'**.

You can watch the CMST Talks series on our YouTube channel:
[@communitymusicsofToronto](#)



Student enrolment increased by 13%

We are thrilled that our enrolment increased as we welcomed students back to in-person lessons.

26 students graduated from CMST in 2023

They are going on to study various disciplines, including health sciences, engineering and communications.

Abigail

Abigail, who is pursuing a degree in Dance at York University, shares what her CMST experience meant to her well-being and creative journey.

“Thank you so much for giving me a safe and fun space to expand my creativity and grow.”

My wish for CMST is that you continue to expand and reach youth like me, who have very little exposure to the art of music, not only in my community but all over Toronto. I feel like music is so important in the lives of children today, especially because it’s something we can truly connect to. Studies even show that music is an excellent coping mechanism for young people’s mental health, and gives students a sense of belonging and an outlet for self-expression. I can’t wait to see the greatness and change in the lives of students that you take in in the future.”



MY LIFE



Aleen

Aleen, who is studying Nursing at Toronto Metropolitan University, describes the impact of CMST on her personal and musical life.

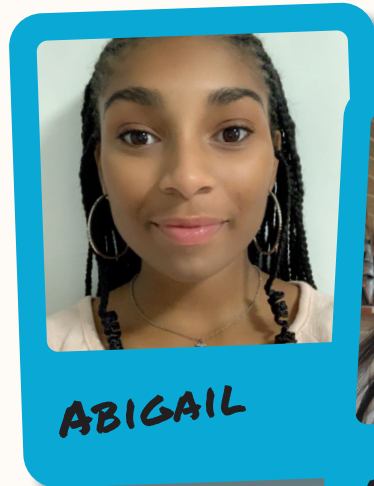
“Without CMST I wouldn’t be the person I am today. Thank you!”

CMST allowed me to become passionate about a musical instrument and have a hobby to look forward to. I was able to learn the alto saxophone—and excel at it—and that gives me the drive to be the best that I can be. What I enjoyed most was the sense of community and it inspired me to be a part of something so great. CMST means so much to me and it continues to impact my life to this day.

IN MUSIC



OUR INCREDIBLE 2022 GRADUATES



ABIGAIL



ALEXANDRA



ANGELINA



MANAAL



MARILYN



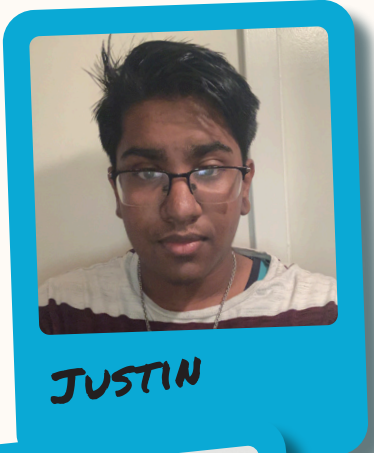
MATEYA



JEFFREY



MELISSA



JUSTIN



RAYMOND



TISHAUNA

Plus:

AGALLU
AHMED
ALEEN
ALIBERTTI
JADE
JADZIA
LA MIYAH

LOBSANG
LOLA
NALANI
RIDWANUL
SARAH
TIFFANY
TRAN
WILLIAM



CMST has helped me become a more confident person, and has made the musician I am today."

The journey of collectively creating something beautiful through music has been immensely rewarding, and I have cherished every moment of it."

Esteemed mentors, talented colleagues, and dedicated staff are just the beginning of what makes CMST great."

My time with CMST has provided me with joy and some of the best interactions I've had in my life. "

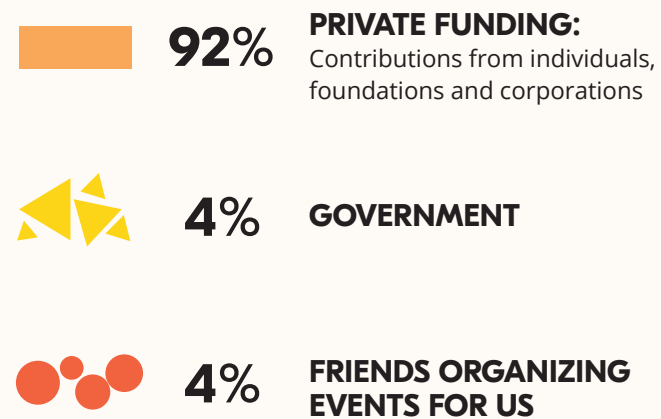
Through my experiences here, I'm more prepared to go out in the world and make a greater community impact—and I feel ready."

Our Graduates are entering postsecondary programs in:

- Dance
- Nursing
- Marketing / International
- Business
- Drama Arts
- Life Sciences
- Environmental Studies
- Chemical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Biochemistry
- Accounting
- Business
- Fine Arts
- Computer Science
- Music Performance - Violin
- Social Services

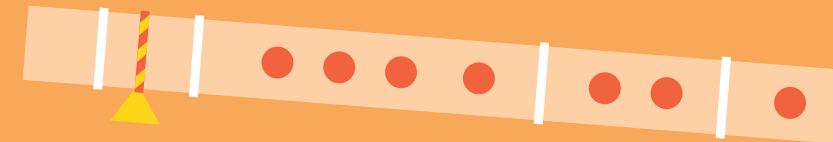
WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Thanks to our remarkable CMST community, over \$2.4 million was raised in the 2022-23 year to ensure that our students are engaged and flourish through CMST's music education and social development programs.



WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Your generous contributions support every aspect of CMST's student activities and success, including:



- Weekly Music Lessons**
in private, group and ensemble settings
- Instruments**
to practice on and to keep upon graduation
- Performances**
Recitals, open mics and public performances
- Enrichment Activities**
Music and skills workshops, seminars and master classes
- Leadership Opportunities**
in a variety of mentorship and volunteer programs
- Song Creation, Composition and Studio Recording**
Students' creative ideas become professionally recorded songs
- Summer Music Programs**
Music Camps and an intensive Summer Recording Arts course

2023 audited financial statements are available online or upon request. Please visit communitymusic.org/publications, or call 416-364-8900 ext. 33.

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING DONORS FROM ALL OF US HERE AT COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOLS OF TORONTO



We are overjoyed to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions, and pledges of \$1,000 or more over the past fiscal year (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023).

\$1,000,000 - \$10,000,000

Carswell Family Foundation

\$250,000 - \$999,999

The Azrieli Foundation
Beacon Scholarship Fund*
The Four Oaks Foundation
Linda Javorski
Listen Communications*

\$100,000 - \$249,999

FigLeaf & Friends
Peter Gilgan Foundation
The Late David E. Howard
and D. Elizabeth Howard

The Lang Family Foundation
R. Howard Webster Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Frederick and Douglas Dickson
Memorial Foundation
Hodgson Family Foundation
Lewitt Family Foundation

Ontario Arts Council
Lucile Pratt Music Award at
Toronto Foundation
Sun Life Financial

Ward Family Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Bell Media
Paul Bronfman Family
Foundation
Canada Council for the Arts
Canada Summer Jobs

The Citrine Foundation of Canada
Aubrey & Marla Dan Foundation
Penny Fine and Hugh Furneaux
Charles H. Ivey Foundation
Estate of Paul Lynch

The Catherine & Maxwell
Meighen Foundation
Power Corporation of Canada
Toronto Arts Council

\$10,000 - \$24,999

J.P. Bickell Foundation
The Bickle-Wilder Foundation
Aaron Brock Foundation
Raymond Chang Foundation
The Connor-Uffelmann
Foundation
Donald M. Cooper
Cullen Family – Dream Big
Do Good Foundation
The Daniels Corporation

J.S. Darville
Diamond Schmitt
Donner Canadian Foundation
Fourth Box
Charitable Foundation
Frischkorn Family Foundation
Patricia Gouinlock
Griggs Family Foundation
at Toronto Foundation
Taanta Gupta

Timothy and Laurie Hicks
The Johansen-Larsen Foundation
Frank Dukes/Kingsway
Music Library
LoyaltyOne
Richard Rooney
Nathan and Lily Silver
Family Foundation
SiriusXM
The Conn Smythe Foundation

TD Bank Group
Tippet Foundation
Dennis Tmej
Universal Music Group
Julian Vardy's CEOL KIDS
Michael Wekerle
Karen and Fred Leitner
(Bernard & Norton Wolf Family
Foundation)
The Lillian Meighen and
Don Wright Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Martin Abel and
Kathleen Flynn
Aston Family Foundation
The Buchan Family Foundation
Gordon Capern
Carpenters and Allied Workers
Local 27
The Lloyd Carr-Harris Foundation
CIBC Foundation
Gerald Connor

Marsha Copp
Dales/Bentley Family
Guild Electric
Charitable Foundation
The Howitt/Dunbar Foundation
Suzy Khoury
The Henry White Kinnear
Foundation
Patrick and Jackie Madigan
Catherine Martin

John McGowan
The McLean Foundation
The Nick Mele Fund
The Mary Jean and Frank Potter
Foundation
David and Jennifer Smith
Smith Family Foundation
McLean Smits Family Foundation
Dawn Tattle Family Foundation
Jason D. Tham and Andrea Chan

Torys LLP
Traquair Family Foundation
Russell Verbeeten
Maple Leaf Sports &
Entertainment Ltd.
Ann Wirsig
The Marjorie & Joseph Wright
Memorial Foundation

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Annie Abdalla
Jack & Blanche Ablett
Charitable Fund
Jocelyne Achat and
Roy MacLean
The Pat & Tony Adams
Freedom Fund for the Arts
Omar Zaibak
Brian Bimm and
Margaret Lynch
Anthony Brathwaite
Jonathan Bronfman
Kathryn and Charles Brown
Andrew and Ann Brown
Kevin Burke
Family Foundation at
Toronto Foundation
Kathleen Burneau
Darrell Burt and
Sheila Beatty *
Paul Caston and
Cathryn Gregor

Mary Anne Chambers
Sara and Richard Charney
CIBC
Ava Cross
Andrew and
Hillary Cumming
Michael Daum
The Duke Ellington Society
Dennis Dussin
Anna D'Uva
Robert and Tracy Elder
Equipment Controls
Company
Stephen Gauer
Mohr and
Daniel Goldenberg
Clayton Gyotoku Fund at
Toronto Foundation
Niall and Katherine Haggart
Pamela Hallisey

Chris Hatley and
Lindy Cowan
Sharon Herman
Trevor Hicks
Judith Hinchman and
Patrick Garver
Natalie Hoffmann *
Sharon Hudson
Isberg Charitable Trust
Jackman Foundation
Paul and Tricia Jemison
Sonia Jog and Patrick Dolan
BK's Hootenanny
Rob Keyes and
Barb Jackson
Martin and Moragh Kusy
Catherine Laframboise *
Leanne Children's
Foundation
The Leonard Foundation
Rachel Levitt
Mai Why and Peter Levitt

Janet Lin
Nancy and William Logan
Marion MacKenzie
Maybank Friesen Family
Alison and Bruce McDonald
Sylvia M. McPhee
Cameron and
Christina Mingay
Mondelez International
Alice J. Morgan
Michael Morten *
Fred and Rhonda Myers
Mary and Milan Nastich
Margaret Newall
Margaret Nightingale
Crystal Penner and
Calvin Dyck
John and Maire Percy
Alex Pettes
Jennifer Postelnik
The Racioppo Family
Foundation

Jason Reynolds
J&L Rogers Family
Charitable Foundation
Marsha and
Martin Rothstein
Roy Russell Memorial Fund
RX Music
Carol Shea and Doug Brady
Helen Sinclair
Leslie Snell
Chris Taylor
John Thorpe
Elaine Turnbull
The Valle Family
Sandra Webster-Cook *
Sue Weedon
Dianne and Nigel White
Jane Williamson
Charles and Marilyn Wright
Cherrilyn Yalin

**In-kind donations and alumnae university scholarships*

We are also extremely grateful to all who donated instruments for our students.

We strive for accuracy in our listings. Please contact us with any errors or omissions: 416-364-8900 x33

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS AS WE REACH 25 YEARS



From our humble beginnings in a church basement nearly 25 years ago, Community Music Schools of Toronto has transformed thousands of lives through the incredible power of music education. With your continuing support and commitment, the coming years will be just as exciting. Here's what we have planned:

- **Brand new 5,000 sq.ft. music school in Jane Finch:** We're excited to announce a purpose-built facility slated to open its doors in 2025, located next to the York Woods Library.
- **Partnerships and research:** Collaborating with institutions such as York University, as well as other academic and community partners, we'll explore the benefits of community music programs and the links between music and learning.
- **Ambitious enrollment growth:** We're committed to the continued growth of our Regent Park School, and we plan to double student enrollment over the next 5 years at our Jane Finch School.
- **A new Strategic Plan:** Four essential pillars—Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI); Student Experience; Organizational Health; and School Expansion—will guide our actions as we move forward, ensuring our programs remain inclusive, our students' experiences are enriched, our organization is robust, and our schools thrive and grow.

**95% of CMST graduates
over the past decade
have gone on to pursue
post-secondary education**



At Community Music Schools of Toronto, we believe music involvement has a profound impact on a child's development. We take a broad perspective, providing abundant opportunities not only for music learning but also for social enrichment, catering to each child's interests and needs at every stage of their growth. Each music lesson, participation in a Tween or Youth Committee, skills development workshop, and mentorship opportunity provides invaluable interactions that form an essential part of the support network a child needs to thrive.

I recently talked to Mahalia, who just started her first year at Osgoode Hall Law School, one of many remarkable CMST graduates who have gone on to excel both personally and professionally. She told me how CMST had impacted her life—

"I can confidently say CMST helped me on my personal and academic journey. Those years impacted me in so many ways that I even included my views on the benefits of music education in my application for law school! It goes well beyond the musical skills and passion that I'm grateful to have developed. Performing in the choir, for example, helped me gain confidence and collaborate with others. Participating for five years on CMST's Youth

Committee helped me build leadership skills. I consider my time at CMST to be one of the best experiences I've ever had. And the friends I made there, I'm still close with them 10 years later!"

As Mahalia attests, the discipline and cognitive abilities developed through music education translate into personal and academic achievements for our students. In fact, 95% of CMST graduates over the past decade have gone on to pursue post-secondary education. CMST is proud to play an instrumental part in the lifelong accomplishments of our students.

As we all gear up to celebrate 25 years of impact next year, I want to thank each of you for your personal support of our school and join you in celebrating the immeasurable impact of music education in their lives.

With heartfelt thanks,

Dr. Richard Marsella
Executive Director,
Community Music Schools of Toronto

DONATE NOW

Make a Gift
Become a Monthly Donor
Make a Gift of Shares
Leave a Legacy Gift
Plan Your Own Event

To donate please call

416-364-8900 x 33

or visit www.communitymusic.org

Community Music Schools of Toronto
585 Dundas Street East, Suite 220
Toronto, ON M5A 2B7

Tel. 416-364-8900

Charitable Registration Number: 87211 6025 RR0001

www.communitymusic.org

Community
Music Schools of Toronto

*Branding, website and annual report design
generously donated by Listen Communications.*

