

CARNEGIE HALL

Weill Music Institute

News Release

CARNEGIE HALL'S WEILL MUSIC INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES 2015–2016 SEASON, WITH MUSIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS, TEACHERS, FAMILIES, YOUNG MUSICIANS, AND AUDIENCES

Large-scale production of *West Side Story* with professional artists performing alongside students and community members to be presented in Queens, NY, conducted by Marin Alsop and directed by Amanda Dehnert in March 2016

40th anniversary of Carnegie Hall's free Neighborhood Concert Series with events in all five New York City boroughs

Resnick Education Wing is home to interactive Carnegie Kids concerts for families, two free Family Weekends, and new afterschool programs designed for NYC teens

WMI's teacher training programs expand, leading up to first national Music Educators Workshop in summer 2016

Link Up program for grades 3–5 expands to 80 partner orchestras, reaching more than 330,000 people worldwide; Musical Explorers for grades K–2 expands nationally

25th anniversary of master classes and workshops, led this season by Kronos Quartet, Mitsuko Uchida, Marilyn Horne, Sir Thomas Allen, and Stephanie Blythe

National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America to tour China in summer 2015

(For Immediate Release: January 28, 2015, NEW YORK)—Carnegie Hall today announced an array of creative and innovative music education and community programs offered by the Weill Music Institute (WMI) throughout the Hall's 2015–2016 125th anniversary season. WMI's programs for students, teachers, families, young musicians, and audiences of all ages—most offered at no cost to participants—feature collaborations with some of the world's finest artists and ensembles, taking place on the stages of Carnegie Hall, in Carnegie Hall's new Judith and Burton Resnick Education Wing, and in schools and community settings. In the new season, WMI is poised to reach more than half a million people at Carnegie Hall, in New York City, across the US, and around the world.

Highlights of WMI's season include a **citywide creative learning project focusing on *West Side Story*** that culminates in a large-scale production of the famed musical at a refurbished factory in Queens with professional singers joining students and community members; the **40th anniversary of Carnegie Hall's free Neighborhood Concert Series** with events in all five boroughs; an expansion of Carnegie Hall's teacher training programs leading to **WMI's first ever National Music Educators Workshop in summer 2016**; and the **25th anniversary of Carnegie Hall's workshops and master classes** for young musicians, led next year by Kronos Quartet, Mitsuko Uchida, Marilyn Horne, Sir Thomas Allen, and Stephanie Blythe.



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“Whether we’re developing programs for children and their families, teens in the justice system, or the next generation of aspiring musicians, Carnegie Hall deeply believes that music can play a significant role in everyone’s life,” said **Sarah Johnson**, Director of the Weill Music Institute. “The recent opening of our new Resnick Education Wing makes it possible for us to invite more people than ever before to Carnegie Hall, allowing us to expand our afterschool programs for teens, interactive concerts for families, and intensive workshops for band, orchestra, and choir teachers from around the country. We’re equally committed to creating inspirational creative experiences beyond the walls of Carnegie Hall, with these wonderful new facilities acting as our home base for programs serving audiences through music in schools, community venues, non-traditional settings, and in the digital space.”

SELECT 2015–2016 WMI SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

◆ **The Somewhere Project: A Citywide Exploration of *West Side Story***

In celebration of Carnegie Hall’s 125th anniversary season, WMI launches **The Somewhere Project**: a citywide exploration of ***West Side Story***. This unique and creative learning project will engage people through events in all five New York City boroughs, anchored by a large-scale production of this iconic work featuring music by Leonard Bernstein. Three performances of the musical—March 4–6, 2016—will take place at the Knockdown Center, a restored factory in Queens, and feature professional artists in lead roles, Jerome Robbins’s classic choreography, and students and community members from around the city on stage. **Marin Alsop**, a former protégée of Bernstein’s and a visionary leader of education projects, will conduct and **Amanda Dehnert**, nationally renowned theater director, will lead the production. Experiencing *West Side Story* as a celebration of community and music will encourage artists and audiences to consider the work’s timeless themes, inviting them to embrace the vision of New York City as a “place for us.”

Throughout the 2015–2016 season, WMI will also support the creation of new works by students and community members, inspired by “Somewhere,” the classic song that forms the affirmative core of *West Side Story*. This original music, created by participants in WMI programs and workshops, will be featured in free Carnegie Hall Neighborhood Concerts in all five boroughs. In addition, arts organizations and other city partners will be invited to join the conversation. Further details about The Somewhere Project will be announced later this year.

The Somewhere Project is the latest in a series of WMI creative learning projects designed to bring New York City students and world-class artists together for musical exploration as they prepare to perform a major work. Past projects have centered on Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring* (2007; in partnership with the Berliner Philharmoniker Education Project), Orff’s *Carmina Burana* (2012), Osvaldo Golijov’s *La Pasión según San Marcos* (2013); and Ellington’s *Sacred Music* (2014; in partnership with Jazz at Lincoln Center). Marin Alsop has led two previous WMI creative learning projects, exploring Bernstein’s *Mass* (2008) and *Too Hot to Handel*, a gospel-influenced re-invention of Handel’s *Messiah* (2010).

◆ **WMI Marks 40th Anniversary of Carnegie Hall’s Free Neighborhood Concert Series**

For 40 years, Carnegie Hall has partnered with local community organizations to bring outstanding main-stage artists as well as exciting rising stars of classical, jazz, and world music to neighborhoods in all five boroughs of New York City. Tapping into the pulse of diverse communities, these free concerts bring together local residents and people throughout the city to share in the joy of music. As part of WMI’s Somewhere Project, performances of original music written by students and community members, inspired by the themes embodied in *West Side Story*, will be featured on Neighborhood Concerts in all five boroughs. Specific dates and artists will be announced later in the year.

◆ Family Events and Expanded Afterschool Programs in Carnegie Hall's Resnick Education Wing

The September 2014 opening of Carnegie Hall's Resnick Education Wing in the upper floors of the landmark building has enabled WMI to expand its offerings for families, students, and young musicians. An increased number of interactive **Carnegie Kids** concerts for families with children ages 3–6 will take place in the Resnick Education Wing's Weill Music Room next season, featuring musicians playing a vast range of music, from classical to indie pop. In the new season, WMI also opens up the entire Resnick Education Wing for families to explore, offering two free **Family Weekends** for ages 3–12, with opportunities to make music on traditional or handmade instruments, write songs, create digital sound samples, build instruments, or kick back and hear music.

Beginning in fall 2015, new afterschool programs designed for New York City teens will be offered in the Resnick Education Wing. Young people from across the five boroughs will be able to connect with their peers and learn from professional musicians affiliated with Carnegie Hall. These afterschool programs will include songwriting and composition projects to nurture creativity, and participants will also produce and perform concerts and work with various forms of digital media.

In addition to family programming in the Resnick Education Wing, the 2015–2016 season also features two large-scale Carnegie Hall Family Concerts (for ages 7–12) in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage. In December, **The New York Pops** and Music Director **Steven Reineke** perform *A Charlie Brown Christmas* in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the iconic TV special. A spring 2016 concert celebrates another important anniversary—Carnegie Hall's 125th—with performances of two Carnegie Hall-commissioned works, including a world premiere by Pulitzer Prize winner **Caroline Shaw** and **Robert Xavier Rodriguez's** *The Dot and the Line: A Romance in Lower Mathematics*, a multi-media work inspired by the classic 1963 book of the same name.

◆ Teacher Training Programs Expand / First National Music Educators Workshop

The opening of Carnegie Hall's Resnick Education Wing has also provided WMI with new facilities to provide a home for expanded teacher training programs. In the 2015-2016 season, WMI's **Music Educators Workshop**—a year-long series of professional training and musical activities for middle and high school ensemble directors at all stages of their career—expands to include a summer intensive workshop this July. Summer 2016 will mark the first national Music Educators Workshop, with teachers from around the country convening at Carnegie Hall for sessions designed to develop their artistry and teaching practices, introducing them to new ideas to bring to classrooms nationwide.

◆ Programs for Elementary School Students Reach Local, National, and International Classrooms

WMI's programs for elementary school students continue to grow, supporting music instruction in classrooms nationwide as well as interactive concert programs at Carnegie Hall and at partner organizations around the world. Now entering its 31st year, the highly-interactive **Link Up** program for grades 3–5 invites students to learn music fundamentals by singing and playing the recorder in their classroom and then performing with a professional orchestra from their seats in Carnegie Hall. During the 2015–2016 season, New York City students participate in *The Orchestra Rocks*, which explores elements of rhythm through a range of orchestral repertoire, including "O Fortuna" from Orff's *Carmina Burana*, "Mars" from Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, the Finale from Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, and *Drumlines*, an original composition by Thomas Cabaniss. Orchestras across the country and around the world are now increasingly taking part in Link Up; WMI expects to share its Link Up curriculum and program materials for free with 80 orchestras (mostly in the US) in the 2015–2016 season, serving more than 330,000 students and teachers.

Musical Explorers, a WMI curriculum developed for grades K–2, is also now being provided to partners across the country. Musical Explorers helps younger children to build basic music skills in the classroom by encouraging them to learn songs from different cultures, reflective of people and traditions found in their own communities. These activities enable them to develop singing and listening skills. During the 2015–2016 season, students in New York City explore Greek folk, Malian traditional, Indian classical, jazz, Southeast Asian classical, and salsa musical styles as part of Musical Explorers.

◆ **2015–2016 Workshops and Master Classes for Young Musicians**

Established during Carnegie Hall's centennial season and celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2015–2016, WMI's series of master classes and workshops for young musicians have offered artists on the rise access to world-class performers and composers who have established themselves on the Carnegie Hall stages. These tuition-free workshops and master classes take place in the new inspirational spaces of the Resnick Education Wing.

2015–2016 workshops and master classes include:

The Song Continues: Recitals and Master Classes for Singers (January 2016)—Founded by iconic mezzo-soprano **Marilyn Horne**, one of America's great artists, this annual celebration of art song nurtures gifted young singers. In the new season, mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Blythe** and baritone **Sir Thomas Allen** join Ms. Horne to lead an intensive weeklong series of coaching sessions and master classes for rising young vocal talents.

Mitsuko Uchida: Workshop for Pianists (February 2016)—The acclaimed pianist Mitsuko Uchida will coach young pianists in the piano concertos of Mozart, repertoire with which she is closely associated. Participating pianists will perform two-piano arrangements of the concertos, working on both the orchestral and solo parts, under Ms. Uchida's guidance.

Kronos Quartet: Workshop for String Quartets (April 2016)—Kronos Quartet, holder of Carnegie Hall's Richard and Barbara Debs Creative Chair for the 2015–2016 season, leads a weeklong workshop open to student, young professional, and adult amateur string quartets to explore new works commissioned as part of *Fifty for the Future: The Kronos Learning Repertoire* project. *Fifty for the Future* is a major initiative of Kronos to expand the repertoire for quartets at all experience levels and is also part of Carnegie Hall's 125th anniversary commissioning project. The workshop will also focus on several signature Kronos works and culminates in a Zankel Hall concert.

Additional master classes in the Resnick Education Wing by some of the world's great artists are to be announced.

◆ **National Youth Orchestra of the USA Tours China with Charles Dutoit and YUNDI in July 2015**

As announced earlier this year, the **National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America** (NYO-USA) will undertake an extensive tour of China with conductor **Charles Dutoit** and pianist **YUNDI** in July 2015. Created by WMI, this remarkable ensemble annually brings together the most talented young musicians from across the United States, ages 16–19, offering a unique opportunity to train at the highest level with some of the world's greatest artists while also serving as cultural ambassadors for their country, connecting with people around the world through their passion for music.

The orchestra will perform nine concerts in the US and abroad from July 10–26, visiting many of China's greatest concert halls in several different regions of the country, including the National Centre for the Performing Arts in China's capital city, Beijing. This historic first visit to Asia by NYO-USA follows acclaimed inaugural year performances in Washington DC, Moscow, St. Petersburg, and London in 2013 and a coast-to-coast US tour in 2014.

The orchestra's 2015 concert program to be performed at all tour venues will include the premiere of a new work from award-winning Chinese composer **Tan Dun**, commissioned by Carnegie Hall especially for NYO-USA as well as Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 ("Emperor") with YUNDI; and Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*.

The orchestra's visit has been designated by the governments of both countries as one of only four Cultural Pillars of the [Consultation on People to People Exchange](#) (CPE) between the USA and China; the Cultural Pillars receive this designation to enhance and strengthen ties between citizens of the US and the People's Republic of China through culture. As part of their travel schedule, the NYO-USA

players will have the chance to tour the cities in which they perform as well as opportunities to interact with local young musicians and participate in informal community performances at stops along the way.

NYO-USA's roster of young musicians for summer 2015 will be announced by Carnegie Hall in early March. The orchestra's concert at Carnegie Hall on [Saturday, July 11](#) will be heard by music lovers worldwide via the *Carnegie Hall Live* broadcast and digital series, created in partnership with WQXR and distributed nationally by WFMT Radio Network. Prior to Carnegie Hall, the NYO-USA's first summer 2015 concert will take place in the Concert Hall at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College on [Friday, July 10](#). Tickets are available now for both New York concerts.

COMPLETE PROGRAMS OF CARNEGIE HALL'S WEILL MUSIC INSTITUTE

For Students and Teachers:

- **Musical Explorers** (grades K–2)—This inventive program builds basic music skills in the classroom as children learn songs from different cultures, reflect on their own communities, and develop singing and listening skills. They also interact with professional musicians featured in the program during culminating concerts each semester at Carnegie Hall. In the past year, organizations around the country have started adapting Musical Explorers for use in their own communities. Partners work with WMI to develop versions of the program that feature artists and cultures from their own areas.
- **Link Up** (grades 3–5)—In this highly participatory program, students learn to sing and play the recorder in the classroom and then perform with a professional orchestra from their seats in the concert hall. Each year focuses on specific concepts, including rhythm, melody, and tempo. Orchestras across the country and around the world are also taking part in Link Up. Partners can utilize the program materials developed by WMI—including teacher and student guides, concert scripts, and concert visuals—in their own communities, free of charge, to engage local students and teachers in musical learning and exploration. During the 2015–2016 season, Link Up will be implemented by approximately 80 partner orchestras, serving more than 330,000 people. These partnerships span the US, from Alaska to Florida, and also have international reach, including organizations in Canada, Spain, and Japan.
- **Count Me In** (grades 6–8)—This afterschool initiative meets the needs of New York City middle school singers, many of whom have never studied music before and whose schools are looking to build strong choral programs. Students from across the city receive instruction and training in Carnegie Hall's Resnick Education Wing, preparing them for auditions to performing arts high schools. Meanwhile, school staff and parents attend informational sessions to learn more about how to support their young musicians. Carnegie Hall also supports the middle schools themselves, providing training and mentorship designed to help these schools establish and build their own programs.
- **Music Educators Workshop** (for ensemble directors)—New York City middle and high school music directors build their capacity for challenging and inspiring their students during this year-long series of professional training and musical activities. Through this intensive program, educators at all stages of their careers enhance their artistry and teaching practices in order to be more effective in the classroom. Directors participate in workshops with student ensembles and visiting faculty; learn from professional artists; set goals and explore rehearsal techniques for their classrooms; connect with peer audiences; and attend concerts at Carnegie Hall.
- **Ensemble ACJW School Performance Residency**—Ensemble ACJW is a two-year fellowship program for the finest young professional classical musicians in the United States that prepares them for careers combining musical excellence with teaching, community engagement, advocacy, music entrepreneurship, and leadership. It offers top quality performance opportunities, intensive professional development, and the opportunity to partner throughout the fellowship with a New York City public school.

Each Ensemble ACJW fellow is partnered with a public school for a residency that totals 25 days over the course of each school year. During the residency, fellows serve as musical resources to schools in all five boroughs of New York City and bring a professional performer's perspective to music classrooms. They also partner with each school's instrumental music teacher to strengthen students' musical skills as well as share their artistry through two assembly-style interactive performances each year.

For Families:

- **Carnegie Kids** (ages 3–6)—The intimate Resnick Education Wing hosts free performances for little ones, featuring terrific musicians playing a vast range of music from classical to indie pop. These concerts are highly participatory, encourage creativity, and can be enjoyed by parents and children alike.
- **Family Concerts** (ages 7–12)—Featuring extraordinary artists from the worlds of classical, jazz, world, and popular music, these performances, presented this season in Carnegie Hall’s Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage, are captivating, educational, and interactive musical experiences designed to create lasting memories for families.
- **Family Weekends** (ages 3–12)—Carnegie Hall celebrates families with free interactive Family Weekends in the Resnick Education Wing. The entire family can join in the fun, with opportunities to make music on traditional or handmade instruments, write songs, create digital sound samples, build instruments, or kick back and hear groups that kids and grown-ups alike will love.

For the Community

- **Neighborhood Concerts**—Carnegie Hall partners with local community organizations to bring outstanding main-stage artists as well as exciting rising stars of classical, jazz, and world music to neighborhoods from the tip of Brooklyn to the top of the Bronx. Tapping into the pulse of diverse communities, these free concerts bring together local residents and people from throughout the city to share in the joy of music.
- **Musical Connections**—This set of community-based projects links people to a variety of musical experiences created in partnership with city agencies, ranging from stand-alone concerts to intensive year-long creative workshops designed to have a powerful impact on participants’ daily lives.

Young people connected with the justice system are invited to express themselves through music by creating, producing, and performing original music in collaboration with Musical Connections roster artists. Projects connect youth to families, refer youth to opportunities when they return home, and are designed to provide school credit. These projects support a shift toward positive youth development alternatives in New York City and New York State.

Also, in WMI’s seventh year of partnership with Sing Sing Correctional Facility, adult inmates engage in a yearlong learning experience. A series of workshops focuses on composition and instrument skills, while several concerts for the facility’s general population feature original works and performances by inmates and professional artists.

- **The Lullaby Project**—Part of Musical Connections, this program creates musical experiences for women facing pregnancy in their teenage years or while homeless or incarcerated. The project invites participants to work with professional artists to write a personal lullaby for their babies, strengthening the bond between parent and child. Now extending across the country, the Lullaby Project enables partner organizations to support families in their own communities.
- **NeON Arts**—This program of the NYC Department of Probation in partnership with Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute offers young people in seven New York City communities the chance to explore the arts through a variety of creative projects at local community-based probation offices called Neighborhood Opportunity Networks (NeONs). WMI facilitates the program’s grant-making process, coordinates citywide NeON Arts events, and works with arts organizations and NeON stakeholders to ensure that each project, including planning and implementation, is a collaboration that benefits the entire community.

For Young Musicians:

- **National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America** (for ages 16–19)—Each summer, WMI brings together the brightest young players from across the country to form the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America. Following a comprehensive audition process and a two-week training residency with leading professional orchestral musicians, these remarkable teenagers embark on a tour to some of the great music capitals of the world and serve as dynamic music ambassadors. carnegiehall.org/nyousa

- **Workshops and Master Classes** (for ages 18–35)—Artists on the rise are given valuable access to world-class performers and composers who have established themselves on the Carnegie Hall stages. Participants are selected after responding to an open call for auditions. Up-and-coming musicians receive coaching and mentoring that assists them in reaching their artistic and professional goals. These tuition-free workshops and master classes take place in the new inspirational spaces of the Resnick Education Wing.
- **Musical Exchange** (ages 13 and up)—In this free global online community, young musicians connect with each other, share their musical performances, and participate in groups and projects led by professional artists. Through creative projects that focus on subjects from songwriting and classical composition to vocal performance, audio production, and more, Musical Exchange offers students new ways to learn and grow as artists, establishing a dialogue with peers who share a passion for music and the desire to learn about cultures from around the world. carnegiehall.org/MusicalExchange

Special Projects:

- **The Somewhere Project**—In celebration of Carnegie Hall's 125th anniversary season, WMI launches The Somewhere Project, a citywide exploration of *West Side Story*. This unique creative learning project will engage people of all ages through events in all five New York City boroughs, anchored by a large-scale production of this iconic musical featuring music by Leonard Bernstein, presented in March 2016 at the Knockdown Center, a restored factory in Queens. As part of this project, WMI will also showcase original music written by participants in WMI programs and workshops and inspired by "Somewhere," the classic song that forms the affirmative core of *West Side Story*, on free Carnegie Hall Neighborhood Concert programs in all five boroughs. Further details about The Somewhere Project will be announced later this year.
- **Afterschool Activities for NYC Teens**—Beginning in fall 2015, new afterschool programs designed especially for New York City teens will be offered in Carnegie Hall's Resnick Education Wing. Young people from throughout NYC's five boroughs will connect with their peers and learn from professional musicians affiliated with Carnegie Hall. These afterschool programs will include songwriting and composition projects to nurture creativity, and participants will also produce and perform concerts and work with various forms of digital media.

Online Resources:

- **Music Educators Toolbox** (grades K–5)—This set of free online resources for music teachers includes lesson plans and activities, summative and formative assessments, video examples, and documented best practices. Designed to be effective and adaptable in a wide variety of music classrooms, the resources were developed through Carnegie Hall's five-year residency in a New York City elementary/middle school.
- **Digital Library**—Carnegie Hall provides a rich collection of multimedia and interactive resources designed for use by educators, young artists, and teaching artists through the Digital Library. These collections are available to users free of charge, extending the reach of WMI's programs around the globe. carnegiehall.org/DigitalLibrary
- **iTunes U**—Carnegie Hall provides videos and digital musical resources on iTunes U, one of the world's largest online catalogues of free education content. Artist interviews, music education and professional development resources, and videos exploring historic themes tied to Carnegie Hall are included on this platform and refreshed periodically throughout the season.

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For more information and videos exploring the wide range of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute programs, please visit carnegiehall.org/Education.