



Atlanta
Symphony
Orchestra
Talent Development
Program

IMPACT REPORT

25 | 26



One of the most successful music pathway programs in the country, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's **Talent Development Program (TDP)** provides young musicians with the highest levels of musical training and wraparound support.

**Atlanta
Symphony
Orchestra**
Talent Development
Program

For 32 years, the **Talent Development Program (TDP)** has served as a model among arts organizations nationwide, helping more than 150 young musicians secure places at the country's top music schools and conservatories.

25 | 26 AT A GLANCE



**TDP alumni
secure top
positions in the
field.**

Lindsey Sharpe (TDP '15) was named Principal Cello of the

Chicago Sinfonietta, and Mekhi Gladden (TDP '17) became oboist for GRAMMY®-nominated quintet Imani Winds.

Current students are earning national recognition.

3 students and 3 alumni passed rigorous national auditions to perform at Equity Arc's National Pathways Festival, while ArtsATL and the AJC named Waverly Alexander (TDP '26) an artist to watch.

Students are sought out for high-profile stages.

Myron Leonard (TDP '26) performed at the Atlanta Committee for Progress's Holiday Dinner alongside Mayor Andre Dickens, and Tristan Lewis (TDP '26) performed at the 100 Black Men of Atlanta Gala.



**TDP's founder and mission
continue to be honored.**

Azira Hill received the Impact and Legacy Award at the Black Orchestral Network's annual conference.



BY THE NUMBERS

900+

hours of private
music lessons by
ASO musicians

\$2.3M+

in college
scholarships
awarded to the nine
graduating seniors

18

TDP students
attended prestigious
summer music
programs

\$45,218

in summer
music program
scholarships through
the Azira G. Hill
Endowment Fund

TDP SPARK ALUMNI AWARD WINNER



Stanford Thompson

Class of 2005 |

Trumpet

Stanford Thompson is the Executive Director of the Equity Arc and was the Founder and

Executive Director of Play On, Philly!, an organization that provides music education to children in underserved communities. About his time in TDP, Stanford shared:

"TDP shaped so much of my musical journey, and I carry its lessons, values, and community with me every day. I'm especially inspired by the next generation of TDP musicians—brilliant, determined, and ready to lead."

2026 TDP GRADUATES



Waverly Alexander | Violin

College Decision:

Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

Intended Major:

Violin Performance



Tristan Lewis | Violin

College Decision:

Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University

Intended Major:

Violin Performance



Kalea Walker | Violin

College Decision:

University of Pennsylvania

Intended Major:

Law



Sonayon Ayeni | Viola

College Decision:

Hugh Hodgson School of Music at University of Georgia

Intended Major:

Music Performance



Sean Mouzon | Horn

College Decision:

Southern University and A&M College

Intended Major:

Music Performance



Brielle Brown | Horn

College Decision:

School of Music, Theater, and Dance at the University of Michigan

Intended Major:

Music Performance



Myron Leonard | Harp

College Decision:

Manhattan School of Music

Intended Major:

Harp Performance



Amber Nelms | Harp

College Decision:

Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University

Intended Major:

Harp Performance



Alexandra Price | Harp

College Decision:

Bard College Conservatory of Music

Intended Major:

Music Performance

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE TDP!

The Talent Development Program is possible thanks to generous community support.

A Friend of the Symphony

ALSTON & BIRD

BLUELINX
DELIVERING WHAT MATTERS



**Buckhead
Village**

DISTRICT
ATL



THE *Coca-Cola* COMPANY



Georgia-Pacific

