



**Atlanta**  
Symphony  
Orchestra  
Talent Development  
Program

# IMPACT REPORT

24 | 25



One of the most successful music pathway programs in the country, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's **Talent Development Program (TDP)** provides 25 young musicians each year with the highest levels of musical training and wraparound support.



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For 31 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.



## 24|25 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Waverly Alexander** performed as a guest soloist with the ASO at Ebenezer Baptist Church for the return of the much-loved and nationally broadcast King Celebration concert.
- TDP student **Myron Leonard** received national attention with a featured performance on *The Kelly Clarkson Show*.
- After rigorous national auditions, **five** TDP students were selected for the Equity Arc Pathways Orchestra and traveled to Chicago to perform with other students from across the country.
- TDP junior **Sean Mouzon** joined retired military musicians for a rescheduled Equity Arc concert and shared his perspective on the importance of inclusion in the arts during an appearance on CBS's *60 Minutes*.



*"My mother often spoke about how music was a bridge to the beloved community, a way to inspire, uplift, and bring us closer together. Let us celebrate the enduring legacy of programs like the Talent Development Program, which ensures that future generations of artists, dreamers, and changemakers continue to thrive."*

— Reverend Dr. Bernice A. King,  
at the 2025 King Day Celebration Concert

## BY THE NUMBERS

**900+**  
hours of private  
music lessons by  
ASO musicians

**\$1.3M+**  
in college  
scholarships  
awarded to TDP's  
four graduating  
seniors

**24**  
TDP students  
attended  
prestigious  
summer music  
programs

**4**  
masterclasses  
with world-class  
musicians

**\$18,000**  
total awarded  
to three TDP  
students to  
purchase new  
instruments via  
Equity Arc

**14**  
TDP students  
participated  
in Georgia All-  
State Bands &  
Orchestras



## 2025 TDP GRADUATES



### **Jackson Jeffrey** | French Horn

Jackson began playing the French horn seven years ago and has been a TDP member for one year. A member of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra (ASYO), Jackson has performed with the Emory University Symphony Orchestra, as well as other collegiate symphonies. Jackson will attend the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music to study horn performance.



### **Gabriel Silva** | Trombone

Gabriel began studying the trombone at age ten and has been a member of TDP for four years. A member of ASYO and the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony (AYWS), Gabriel has attended the Tanglewood Institute and the Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles National Festival, where he served as principal trombone. Gabriel plans to attend the University of Miami to study trombone performance.



### **Ugo Nwakanma** | Trombone

Ugo has played the trombone for seven years and joined TDP three years ago. Ugo is a member of the AYWS and has joined the GMEA Honor Band annually since 2021. He has participated in a variety of programs including the South Fulton Jazz Camp and the Tanglewood Institute Trombone workshop. Ugo plans to attend Vanderbilt University to study trombone performance.



### **Dylan Gutierrez** | Viola

Dylan began playing viola at age eleven and has been a TDP member for three years. He is a member of ASYO and is involved with the Emory Youth Symphony, the GMEA All-State Orchestra, and has attended Interlochen Arts Camp and Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival. Dylan plans to attend the University of Michigan to study viola performance.

## TDP ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

The Spark Alumni Award celebrates TDP alumni who serve as role models for the next generation of classical musicians. Here are our 2024 Spark Alumni Award winners:



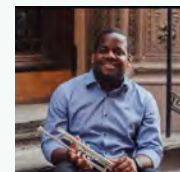
### **Angelica V. Hairston** | Class of 2011 | Harp

Angelica is a renowned harpist, educator, and change-maker, known for her fiery performances and passion for social change. In 2016, she founded *Challenge the Stats*, an organization dedicated to empowering BIPOC artists and amplifying calls for justice on and off the stage. She serves as an Artistic Consultant for the Urban Youth Harp Ensemble and provides free harp instruction to 80 young students in Atlanta.



### **Daniel Tancredi** | Class of 2016 | Double Bass

Daniel is a passionate performer and educator, having attended the Royal College of Music in London and performed with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the English National Opera. Recently he was appointed the principal double bass of The Atlanta Opera and began his role as a double bass professor at Georgia State University.



### TDP alumnus and Equity Arc CEO **Stanford Thompson** received national acclaim for his

leadership after the cancellation of the Equity Arc Pathways Orchestra's planned performance with the U.S. Marine Band. He and his team transformed the setback into a powerful opportunity to advance the issue of equity in music, attracting hundreds of new donors and securing national media coverage on outlets like *60 Minutes*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and *CBS News*.

# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE TDP!



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

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