

A “Week in the Life” Carnegie Hall’s Resnick Education Wing

The Judith and Burton Resnick Education Wing will be the new home for many programs created by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute (WMI) and Ensemble ACJW, enabling a variety of music education activities to take place within the aspirational setting of Carnegie Hall’s landmark building for the first time.

A sample week of programs in spring 2015 might include the following.

Saturday

10 AM: Music teachers from New York City middle and high schools gather in an ensemble room for a four-hour professional development session. As participants in the yearlong Music Educators Workshop, they are learning how to bring best practices to their classrooms. Over lunch, they enjoy a little networking and swap ideas about their work.

1 PM: Hundreds of kids and their parents flow into the Weill Music Room and other spaces in the Resnick Education Wing, taking part in engaging musical activities prior to the Carnegie Hall Family Concert in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage. By 3 PM, they are settled in their concert hall seats, ready to enjoy a participatory Broadway Sing that features professional artists from the Great White Way.

Sunday

10 AM: Thirty young professional singers arrive for the start of their weeklong workshop: a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study and perform with Peter Phillips and The Tallis Scholars, the preeminent a cappella vocal ensemble. The singers take part in rehearsal activities in the Resnick Education Wing throughout the week, leading up to a performance in New York City’s Church of St. Ignatius Loyola. After registration and some getting-to-know-you activities, they assemble in the Archives Research Room downstairs to meet with Carnegie Hall’s Archives director and learn more about the history of the Hall.

1 PM: Two hundred pre-school kids file into the Weill Music Room with their family members for a free Carnegie Kids performance. There is plenty of space for the kids to sing and dance with the featured artists. Following the performance, they spill out of the building, singing songs that they learned at the performance and laughing about how much fun they had.

Monday

10 AM: Ensemble ACJW fellows meet in the ensemble rooms to take part in a day of professional development sessions designed to support them in their work, collaborating with teachers in New York City public classrooms. Over lunch in the lounge spaces, they compare notes on activities at their assigned schools and coordinate schedules for upcoming ensemble rehearsals.

3 PM: Fellows from Ensemble ACJW warm up in one of the ensemble rooms, ready to begin rehearsing a newly commissioned string quartet that will receive its premiere the following week in Weill Recital Hall. Later that morning, another group of Ensemble ACJW fellows arrives to run through music featured at an upcoming interactive concert at a New York City elementary school. They discuss methods for teaching music fundamentals to the younger students.



Tuesday

11 AM: Artists from WMI's Musical Connections roster check into an ensemble room to start rehearsing for an upcoming performance at a New York City hospital. They want to make sure that their musical choices and talking points respond to the specific needs of the patients for whom they will be performing.

2 PM: WMI staff members gather to make final arrangements for spring Link Up concerts at Carnegie Hall; more than 15,000 students and teachers will visit the Hall in May, performing with the Orchestra of St. Luke's by singing and playing recorder. Simultaneously, WMI hosts representatives from 35 orchestras around the country who will gather in the wing to learn more about bringing the free Link Up curriculum to their own community.

Wednesday

10 AM: Individual Ensemble ACJW musicians fan out to use the practice rooms to prepare for upcoming performances.

3:30 PM: After school, teens from around the city gather on the 11th floor for a Musical Exchange workshop. The students have been writing their own songs and this opportunity allows them to receive feedback directly from professional artists. They are also connected online with other students from around the world, giving them a global perspective on their music making. All of the teens, from New York City and abroad, have been participating in an online, six-week workshop together.

Thursday

11 AM: A Latin jazz sextet—part of WMI's artist roster—packs up their gear. They've just finished a rehearsal for an upcoming free Carnegie Hall Neighborhood Concert in Flushing, Queens.

4 PM: WMI staff members meet with a group of music teachers from New York City public high schools to discuss next season's Creative Learning Project. In the fall, selected students will come to the Resnick Education Wing to work on a major piece of repertoire—such as *Carmina Burana* or Ellington's Sacred Music—and prepare for an upcoming performance in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage. While in the wing, students also take part in workshops, inviting them to try their hand at writing their own compositions based on the masterwork.

Friday

11 AM: Participants from The Tallis Scholars' workshop spread out in the practice rooms to conclude their stimulating week of rehearsals and training. They've learned so much and want to squeeze in a couple more hours of practice before their culminating concert tomorrow.

6 PM: A sharing performance starts in the Weill Music Room, featuring lullabies written by women in hospitals, shelters, and correctional facilities as part of Musical Connections' Lullaby Project. Families, friends, staff members, and invited guests have come together to celebrate the artistic endeavors of these women. For many, this is their first experience at Carnegie Hall. At a post-concert reception, participants enjoy the city lights from the Weill Terrace and Terrace Room atop the Hall.