



Ensemble Connect: Lasting Impact



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"They are
wonderful players ...
at the highest level. It
makes me very optimistic about
the future of music here, when
you have these people who also
have realized that they have to be
evangelists, not high priests. So
they must give out of themselves
because otherwise the art
form is going to die."

—Sir Simon Rattle

#### What is Ensemble Connect?

Ensemble Connect 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, 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.



"A valuable part of New York's musical fabric ... thoughtful, invigorating programs."—The New York Times

Ensemble Connect: Artistry, Education, Leadership, Advocacy

# Artistry and Performance

Ensemble Connect has received accolades for the quality of its performances and its fresh and open-minded approach, performing a wide range of music—from centuries past to works written days before a concert—in a variety of performance venues. The group performs its own series at Carnegie Hall and has regularly appeared at The Juilliard School's Paul Hall and other venues throughout New York City, including (Le) Poisson Rouge in Greenwich Village, Subculture in NoHo, and Galapagos Art Space, National Sawdust, and Roulette in Brooklyn.

Ensemble Connect also performs as part of Carnegie Hall Citywide.





Performance at Weill Recital Hall



"The members of Ensemble Connect were some of the most dedicated, precise, and thorough musicians to ever play my music. I felt like they knew my piece inside and out, and played it as though they had written it themselves."

-Missy Mazzoli, Composer

Ensemble Connect: Vivaldi Sinfonia in B Minor, RV 169, "Al Santo Sepolcro"

Ensemble Connect with Caroline Shaw: Shaw Stucco & Brocatelle

# Partnership with New York City Public Schools

Ensemble Connect's in-school residencies represent one of the largest and most in-depth collaborations between a cultural institution and New York City public schools. Each fellow partners with an instrumental music teacher at a public school for a residency totaling 25 days over the course of the year. Fellows serve as musical resources to schools in all five boroughs of New York City and bring mastery of their instruments as well as a professional performer's perspective to music classrooms. They work alongside their partner teachers to strengthen students' musical skills through a tailored, creativity-focused approach. The two-year partnership culminates in a performance festival at The Juilliard School's Peter Jay Sharp Theater featuring groups from each partner school.



Fellow Catherine Gregory working with students in Harlem



Partner School Performance Festival at The Juilliard School

# Interactive Performances in Schools and Community Venues

Each year Ensemble Connect presents 80 interactive performances in schools and 20 in community venues across New York City. Interactive performances are designed to invite audiences into the exploration and discovery of a piece of music or a musical concept and include listening activities aimed at deepening and enriching the concert experience. Fellows perform these assembly-style for large, schoolwide audiences and also adapt them for community venues such as prisons, senior care facilities, homeless shelters, and organizations working with special needs populations.



Ensemble Connect fellows presenting an interactive performance at MS224 Manhattan East



Interactive community performance at AHRC





## "Ensemble Connect helped me realize the limitless possibilities of an artistic life that is responsive and deeply connected."

-Owen Dalby, Ensemble Connect Alumnus, St. Lawrence String Quartet

Interactive Performances

#### Residencies

Twice annually, the fellows participate in a five-day residency at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. While on campus. the fellows offer master classes, lessons, and class demonstrations, as well as play side by side with students of the Skidmore College Orchestra and read student compositions. Ensemble Connect performs in the Arthur Zankel Music Center's Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall, presenting concert programs that include world premieres commissioned by Carnegie Hall. The commissioned composers collaborate with the fellows during the residency before the world-premiere performances. In addition, the fellows and composers offer interactive demonstrations and informal performances beyond the music department in classes, dormitories, and libraries, as well as in schools and other community venues in Saratoga Springs.



Ensemble Connect rehearsal at Skidmore College



Interactive performance at Dorothy Nolan Elementary School in Saratoga Springs

## Professional Development

Ensemble Connect fellows are supported by a rigorous weekly professional development curriculum aimed at ensuring they have the skills they need to be successful in all areas of the program and to give them the tools they need to shape purposeful, personally rewarding career paths that redefine the role of the musician in the 21st century. The curriculum particularly emphasizes leadership, entrepreneurship, and audience engagement with workshops led by a variety of leaders in the field, including Ensemble Connect alumni.

Fellows also receive coaching sessions with musicians of their choice such as Pamela Frank, Leon Fleisher, and Charles Neidich, along with access to world-renowned composers such as John Adams, David Lang, and Steve Reich.



Professional development workshop



Master class with pianist Leon Fleisher



#### **Ensemble Connect Alumni**

Ensemble Connect's alumni have become leaders in the professional music world, using skills that they developed during the program both in and out of the concert hall. The majority of Ensemble Connect's alumni are active performers as soloists or ensemble members. Many also pursue careers as educators, composers, and founders of independent projects.

Where Are Alums Now?

Ensemble Connect alums have gone on to perform, teach, and engage with communities in 53 countries around the world.

Australia Hong Kong Austria Hungary Argentina Iceland Belgium India Brazil Indonesia Canada Ireland Chile Israel China Italy Colombia Japan Costa Rica Malaysia Cuba Mexico Netherlands Czech Republic Denmark Norway Finland Pakistan France Peru **Philippines** Georgia Germany Poland Greece Puerto Rico Guatemala Qatar

Russia Saudi Arabia Singapore South Korea Spain Sweden Switzerland Taiwan Thailand Turkey United Arab Emirates United Kingdom USA Uzbekistan Venezuela



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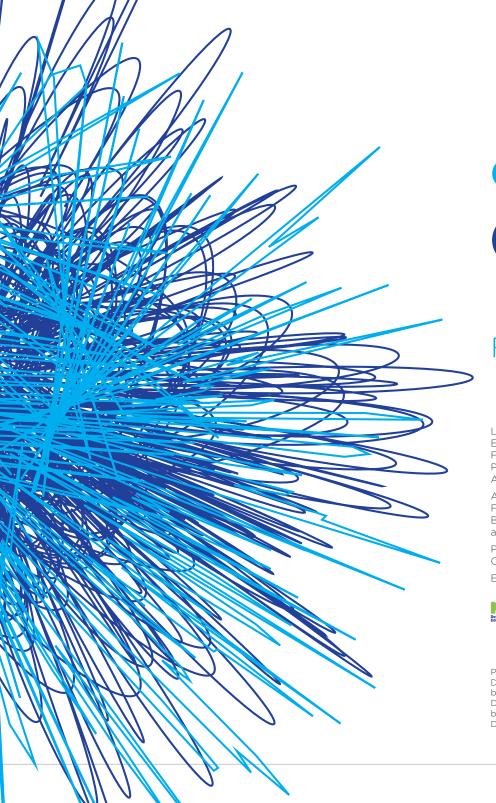


# **In Their Own Words**



Conduct Us with Improv Everywhere

43 Cartoon Theme Song Mashup



# ensemble CONNect

#### Follow us on

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