



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 14, 2022

CONTACT: Samantha Byles
sbytes@bellevuepr.com
857-869-0822

Play On Philly Launches the Marian Anderson Young Artist Program with Call for Applications

Applications for the inaugural class of POP's new, tuition-free music development program will be accepted until April 20.

PHILADELPHIA – March 14, 2022 – Play On Philly (POP) is seeking applications for its first cohort of students for the Marian Anderson Young Artist Program, a new, tuition-free musical studies program for students in grades 3-11 who live or go to school in Philadelphia and have shown strong interest in musical performance. **The deadline to apply is April 20, 2022.**

Created in memory of the world-renowned contralto and Philadelphia daughter, Marian Anderson, the Marian Anderson Young Artist Program continues her legacy of mentorship and advocacy for young artists who did not have access to training or performance opportunities. The program aims to serve young people in communities that have been historically excluded from the highest levels of musical professions due to the structural barriers in our country by providing resources and support for individual and professional development. Program participants, also known as Anderson Artists, will receive tuition-free access to high-quality music instruction, mentorship and networking with professional musicians, and opportunities to sharpen their skills for music and for life.

The Marian Anderson Young Artist Program is part of POP's recent acquisition of the Marian Anderson Award, which recognized artists who have positively impacted society through humanitarian work or philanthropic support and featured a grant program for young students across Philadelphia. Under the leadership of POP, the Marian Anderson Award in its new format will focus on renewing the award's commitment to young artists, with the Marian Anderson Young Artist Program leading the effort.

Accepted students (Anderson Artists) will receive individualized support plans that reflect their specific interests and talents. They will also be provided with weekly private lessons, instrument loans, group and solo performances, additional music instruction, and college and career counseling. An annual participation fee of \$115 is required.

The program is open to students with experience in instrumental or vocal performance (classical and jazz), piano, composition, and conducting. Interested students will apply to be either an Apprentice, students in grades 4-8 who are interested in deepening their musical skills, or a Scholar, students in grades 8-12 who have committed to pursuing a music-focus program in college.

The program will begin in June. Applications should be completed online at www.playonphilly.org/andersonartist.

ABOUT PLAY ON PHILLY

Play On Philly (POP) provides high-quality music education to students, who would typically lack access, as a vehicle for life skills and academic achievement. During a typical year, we provide 2 hours of music instruction and ensemble practice every day after school and over 25 performance opportunities throughout the year. Students range from pre-Kindergarten to 12th grade and are loaned an orchestral instrument at no cost. POP programming has proven results: our students score ten points higher on standardized tests and have improved behavior and study skills. We cultivate musical excellence, lifelong skills, and confidence. Learn more about POP at our website: www.playonphilly.org.