

# SOUND-OFF

*Quarterly news from Education Through Music*

## ETM Celebrates 25th Anniversary at 2016 Children's Benefit Gala



### *Steinway & Sons Honored for Tremendous Support of Music Education*

ETM held its annual Children's Benefit Gala on Monday, June 13th, 2016 at Cipriani 42nd Street honoring Steinway & Sons. The highly-anticipated event welcomed new supporters and celebrated ETM's impact over the past 25 years. Christine Baranski, Tony and Emmy Award-winning actress and star of the hit show *The Good Wife*, served as the event's Master of Ceremonies. The success-

ful Gala raised over \$900,000 to support ETM's mission to provide quality music education to all students.

ETM partner school students from M.S. 355, M.S. 180, P.S./M.S. 498 and P.S. 76 in the Bronx performed and wowed the audience with their musical talents. These students played pieces including a pop medley, "Awaken the Music," "I Love a Piano" as a nod to Steinway & Sons

and "Thank You" to recognize ETM co-founders Edmund Schroeder and Eldon Mayer.

Talented Grammy Award-winning artists Chris Botti and Joshua Bell captivated the audience with a series of performances, including the breathtaking rendition of "My Funny Valentine" alongside pianist Taylor Eigsti.

*Continued on page 2*



*Steinway & Sons President and CEO Michael Sweeney spoke on behalf of the company, "It's an honor and a privilege for Steinway to support Education Through Music."*



*Students from ETM partner schools performed at the 2016 Children's Benefit Gala. Photos by Eric Westpheling*

Quality music education for all children

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## 2016 ETM Gala


*Continued from front page*

In his speech, Chairman of the Board Richard Bernstein honored Steinway & Sons for its commitment to support music education.

*“Education Through Music has provided a meaningful education to us and our family. To us, it feels like the whole world.”  
- ETM partner school students*

“It’s an honor and a privilege for Steinway to support Education Through Music,” said Sweeney. “We get to work with some of the world’s greatest artists, but the joy that I see on the faces of these children exceeds anything that we see from those top artists.”

ETM Board Member Karen Karlsrud served as Gala Chair, and corporate event chairs for this year’s event were Cushman & Wakefield, Vornado Realty Trust and The Durst Organization.

Two ETM partner school students gave a moving speech about the program’s impact on them and their family. The two girls explained, “Education Through Music has provided a meaningful education to us and our family. To us, it feels like the whole world. So on behalf of all ETM students and from our family in particular, we want to say thank you to Education Through Music for producing music programs for people like me and families like ours.” 

## 2014-15 Evaluation Report Shows Positive Long-Term Impact for Students of All Ability Levels

ETM released its annual Evaluation Report examining parent, teacher and principal survey results from the 2014-2015 school year as well as 3rd to 8th grade students’ New York State Math and English Language Arts test results.

Key findings from the report include:

- Partner schools begin to see student exam scores rise after the third year of adopting the ETM music education program.
- Students attending schools that have partnered with ETM for long enough to meet this threshold show greater academic achievement than their peers at non-ETM schools.
- Students with disabilities at longtime partner schools earned higher Math exam scores than those at peer schools.
- Students, parents and teachers report the positive effects of ETM’s music education program on social/emotional well-being.
- ETM is highly regarded by school personnel.

Visit [www.ETMonline.org/evaluation-reports](http://www.ETMonline.org/evaluation-reports) to read the report. 

# Over 1,000 Students Perform at Largest ETM Festival to Date



*ETM Bronx partner school teacher Diana Lim directs students from the P.S. 87 orchestra.*

Education Through Music held its fourth annual ETM Festival at Lehman College's Center for the Performing Arts. For the first time, this event took place over two days, on June 7, 2016 and June 10, 2016.


"We were very excited to celebrate the end of the school year with a performance that showcases our partner school students' outstanding musical achievements," says ETM Executive Director Katherine Damkohler. "The ETM Festival's extension over two days really shows our organization's growth and impact over the past few years, and the amazing performances at

the Festival are a testament to how music education can foster hard-work, dedication and teamwork."

This year, the Festival gathered over 1,000 ETM partner school students from 22 band and orchestra ensembles. These students, who performed in a professional concert hall in front of supportive families, friends and community members, celebrated their musical accomplishments over the 2015-2016 school year.

United States Congressman Joseph Crowley of New York's 14th District addressed parents, students, teachers and community members

in attendance, stressing the importance of music education in school as part of a well-rounded education. ETM has built strong and talented ensembles in Congressman Crowley's District, including: P.S. 72, P.S. 76, P.S./M.S. 498 and M.S. 566.

All students received a medal to honor their hard work and perseverance at the event and throughout the school year, as well as to keep them motivated in the classroom. In addition, all schools received trophies to honor their dedication and support for music education for all children. 



*Over 1,000 students from ETM partner school bands and orchestras performed at this year's ETM Festival.*

## 2016 ETM Children's Benefit Gala



*Board Member Joshua Bell and Master of Ceremonies Christine Baranski*



*Steinway & Sons CEO Michael Sweeney and Elizabeth Sweeney, Janice Abbott and Chairman of the Board Richard Bernstein*



*ETM partner school students sing "I Love A Piano" at the 2016 ETM Children's Benefit Gala in honor of Steinway's support for music education*

*Photos by Eric Westpheling*





*Music teacher Leah Potteiger with two partner school students and their mother, who discussed ETM's impact during the Gala*



*ETM partner school students welcome supporters to Cipriani*



*Robyn Joseph and ETM Board Member and 2016 Gala Chair Karen Karlsrud*



*Grammy Award-winning musicians Joshua Bell and Chris Botti perform*



*Board Member Katherine Elliott and supporter Richard Abramson with ETM partner school students*



*Executive Director Katherine Damkohler with Co-Founders Eldon Mayer and Edmund Schroeder*

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## Joshua Bell Hosts Private Party to Support ETM



ETM Board Member and Grammy Award-winning artist Joshua Bell hosted a Cinco de Mayo event to benefit Education Through Music. The event featured a performance by Bell, pianist Jeremy Denk and cellist Steven Isserlis. This event was sponsored by Tequila Casa Dragones and catered by the prestigious Michelin-star Mexican restaurant Cosme by Chef Enrique Olivera. 🇲🇽

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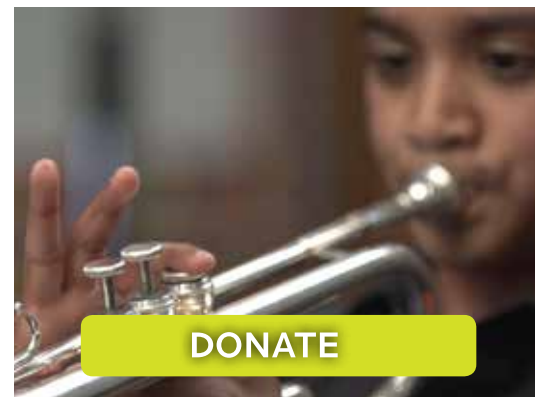
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