



MUSIC FOR ALL SEASONS, INC.

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Professional Performances For Hope And Healing

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Wide World of Music Project Celebrates Successful Pilot Year

Music For All Seasons program brings global music experiences, creativity, and cultural connection to youth across New Jersey.

What started as an ambitious idea to bring global musical experiences to the community of Westfield, NJ and its surroundings, has become a fulfilling reality. Music For All Seasons' *Wide World of Music Project*, made possible with the support of The Westfield Foundation, has successfully accomplished what was promised at the beginning of this initiative: to provide “dynamic and educational programs designed to introduce young people to the diverse world of music through interactive, hands-on learning experiences.”

Throughout thirty programs provided by ten professional Music For All Seasons musicians from a variety of backgrounds, *The Wide World of Music Project* gave young people the opportunity to explore instruments, rhythms, and musical traditions from around the world, all while developing important life skills such as collaboration and problem-solving.

Through these shared experiences, children and young people gained exposure to new cultures, built confidence in participating in music, and discovered their ability to actively create music themselves. They were also able to gather, connect and experience live music in a fun and supportive environment. “*I feel like Music For All Seasons and The Wide World of Music Project has given the opportunity to use my music on the most intimate one-to-one level that I’ve ever been able to in my career. I have left every program feeling that I really touched someone and made a difference, so thank you Music For All Seasons for all the work and all the wonderful experiences*” said David Rimelis, one of the professional musicians who was part of this meaningful project.

But this project wasn’t done alone. In addition to the support of The Westfield Foundation, *The Wide World of Music Project* was also possible thanks to our partner facilities which provided welcoming spaces for youth to come together, connect with others, and immerse themselves in the world of music: Miriam’s Heart in Bound Brook, NJ, a nonprofit that supports adopted and foster youth; Josephine’s Place in

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Elizabeth, NJ, a safe, welcoming space designed to facilitate the empowerment of women and their children in the local, urban area; and the Boys and Girls Club in Union, NJ, an after-school program that inspires and enables all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

We extend our deepest gratitude to The Westfield Foundation and our partner facilities, our professional musicians, and everyone involved in making this project possible from beginning to end. Through this initiative, we were able to reach more than one hundred children, knowing that each one walked away with something new, whether it was a musical skill, a sense of confidence, or broader cultural perspective.

We're also excited to continue building on this success. This year, *The Wide World of Music Project* will return with its music educational programs, while implementing poetry programs, which will be inspiring even more the creativity of the younger generation, helping them to delve deeply into their means of self-expression, and encouraging them to explore their emotions in new and meaningful ways.

To learn more about Music For All Seasons programs and community initiatives, visit MusicForAllSeasons.org.

