

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

MISSION: To inspire underserved youth through world-class music instruction and support their development as self-aware leaders.



PHYSICAL LOCATION
200 SW Langston Road
Renton, WA 98057

MAILING ADDRESS
PO Box 16787
Seattle, WA 98116



keytochangestudio.org



info@keytochangestudio.org



(425) 970-3540

“Key to Change can really change someone’s life. It’s changed mine.”

-MASON NGUYEN



YOU HELD US TOGETHER DURING THE MOST CHALLENGING YEAR TO DATE AND BECAUSE OF SUCH, OUR STUDENTS HAD THE MOST IMPACTFUL AND AMAZING YEAR TO DATE. THANK YOU.

The frantic rush to secure COVID self tests, creating safety procedures—sometimes at the last minute to provide in-person activities for our students, and the never ending conversations with our board and staff on how we can continue to provide world-class music instruction safely. Like many of you who work and have families, the continuous changing and adjustments were at times very uncomfortable. Even when there were moments of feeling like the chain of unpredictable events was insurmountable, you were a constant source of refuge and strength for our organization. Because of such effusive care, our students excelled and thrived because of your support. Truly, you are what has held us together.

Owing to your generous care and support, our students have reached incredible heights this year. They have thrived not only in their weekly lessons and academic studies, but made amazing strides presenting professional debuts as soloists with regional orchestras, presenting lectures for governmental agencies, matriculated to undergraduate programs, and received awards and honors for their achievements as musicians and leaders. All of this has occurred because you’ve modeled the care for our students through your generosity. While we’re constantly tasked with developing best practices and processes that keep our students safe, through your continued investment in Key to Change, we’ve created a safe community where they know you will continue to show up for them. Our staff, board, and community members all came together this year to ensure our students could flourish despite the difficulties presented by COVID. On their behalf, we thank you for making this fantastic year possible.

This past April, we celebrated our 5th anniversary and it’s simply amazing that we made it! We have grown so much as an organization and it is all because of you. Without your support and belief in our mission, we would never be able to reach so many students and build such a broad, lasting community. In such tumultuous and uncertain times, being able to rely on your faith and encouragement has been invaluable. We have all had to learn new ways to be open and accountable, how to provide access to and meet the new and challenging needs of our students. None of our work would be possible without you. Thank you so much for supporting Key to Change and helping to lift our students up.

Dr. Quinton Morris
Executive Director & Founder

Susan Smith-Leland
Board President



Students performed Rushen's original compositions Dollhouse Dances and Blues In Our Bones at the annual Spring Salon Fundraiser at Seattle Opera. The Spring Salon marked the fifth anniversary of Key to Change.

\$56K

**AWARDED
IN GRANTS &
CORPORATE GIFTS**

\$143K

**RAISED FOR OUR STRING STUDIO AT
RECORD BREAKING SPRING SALON**

\$219,000

AWARDED IN INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$36K

**AWARDED FROM
FOUNDATIONS**

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE



Lynn Terao and Alena Kang are seniors at Tyee High School and became fast friends after joining Key to Change. These two students are inseparable and study and practice together constantly. We're thankful that you support their friendship through our studio!

“Practice like you’re the worst player in the world and perform like you’re the best player in the world”

-LYNN TERAO

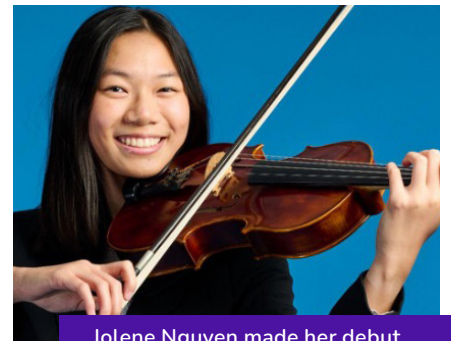
91%

OUR STUDENT
RETENTION
REMAINED AT
91% AS WE
TRANSITIONED
FROM VIRTUAL
BACK TO IN-
PERSON LESSONS

2 STUDENTS DEBUTED WITH REGIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS



Madison Wooley made her debut with Northwest Symphony Orchestra. She was also a finalist in Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra's Don Bushell Concerto Competition. She joined Key to Change as an 8th grader and graduated this past June.



Jolene Nguyen made her debut with Tacoma Community College Symphony Orchestra. She joined Key to Change as a 9th grader and graduated this past June



40

OVER 40 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN OUR ANNUAL SOLO STRING FESTIVAL

They performed for judges who are professional musicians and professors at respected music conservatories and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

13 STUDENTS

received honorable mention prizes, which included music supplies and gift certificates.

10 STUDENTS

received superior & excellent ratings in their local Solo & Ensemble Contest on Saturday, February 5th after performing their solo pieces for a judge.

4 STUDENTS

received top prizes, including college scholarships, instruments and performance opportunities at our annual Solo String Festival.

3 STUDENTS

PERFORMED AND WERE FEATURED ON UNMUTE THE VOICES, A RADIO SHOW AND VIDEO SERIES AND NORTHWEST FOCUS LIVE, BOTH SPONSORED BY CLASSICAL KING FM.



**GIVING
BACK**

MUSIC MAKING AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE

\$120,000

**PROVIDED IN SCHOLARSHIP AID TO HUNDREDS
OF STUDENTS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.**

Because of you, our amazing donors, who made this possible!

PROVIDED OVER

150 MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

in the Highline School District weekly music
lessons, masterclasses & classroom visits



DEREK NGUYEN

current violin student,
performed at the
annual "Celebrate"
fundraiser for the
Renton Regional
Community Foundation

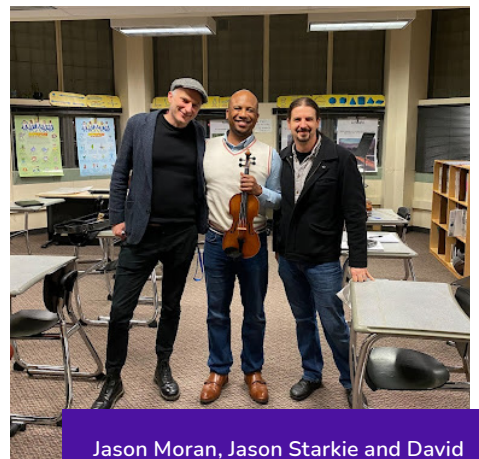


JOLENE NGUYEN

performed & lectured
at 4Culture's executive
board meeting



Anthony Roberts, Jr. receives
a need-based scholarship to
continue his viola group lessons



Jason Moran, Jason Starkie and David
Van Zandt (*not pictured*) with Dr.
Quinton Morris holding the newly
crafted violin the trio made

3

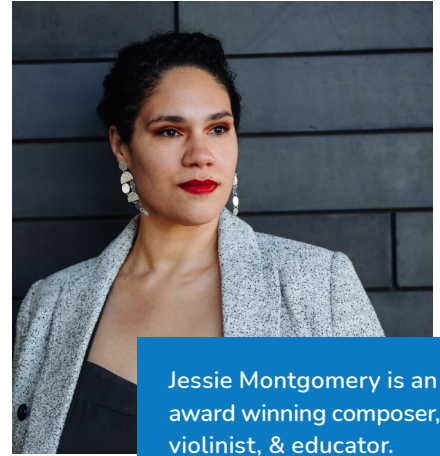
renowned violin
makers donate
an original
instrument,
valued at
\$17,000 to the
string studio

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPACT



ESTABLISHED NEW PARTNERSHIPS

with Northwest Symphony Orchestra, United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the Rotary Club.



Jessie Montgomery is an award winning composer, violinist, & educator.

BETH GUTERMAN CHU

the principal violist of the St. Louis Symphony, joined our music faculty.



“Everyone is committed to learning their instrument and super supportive. Whenever I am nervous about playing in a concert, everyone always cheers for me and supports each other. Everyone at the studio is friendly and funny, and we all help each other learn. It's a really safe and supportive environment.”

-MADDIE COLE

RENAMED

the Solo String Festival
Competitive Division
after Composer Jessie
Montgomery



HEARTWORK
COLLECTIVE

FINALIZED OUR ANTI-RACISM
PRACTICES WITH HEARTWORK
COLLECTIVE WITHIN THE
BOARD, STAFF AND STRING
STUDIO CURRICULUM

THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FOR 2023



Emeraude Tshidibi (right)
pictured with best friend
Cherlanda Laguerre (left).

“Key to Change and Dr. Morris really care. We make progress and they encourage us to continue to come to lessons so we can continue to get better.”

—EMERAUDE TSHIDIBI



Key to Change entered a

MULTI-YEAR PARTNERSHIP

WITH SEATTLE SYMPHONY,

enabling students to perform and work with orchestra musicians, attend free public concerts, and attend workshops at the symphony hall.



WE MOVED INTO OUR NEW SPACE IN AUGUST 2022!

We now have a headquarters to teach our students—thanks to your amazing support!



NOAH GELLER, the concertmaster (*first chair of the first violins*) of the Seattle Symphony, has joined the music staff.

CURTIS STEWART named new Composer- in-Residence

CLASSICAL
KING FM 98.1

(Sponsored by
Classical King FM)



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Your gift today provides a deep and transformative impact to underserved students in South King County by securing their access to weekly string lessons. These lessons have been an incredible boon to the emotional and mental health of our students. Your gift today lets our students know they are cared for and that the community has their back.



DONATE BY MAIL **COME VISIT US & SAY HELLO!**
Key to Change
P.O. Box 16787
Seattle, WA 98116
Key to Change
200 SW Langston Rd
Renton, WA 98057



"BE A KEY" BY HOSTING A STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

If you would like to host a fundraiser to raise money for student scholarships, please contact Dr. Quinton Morris at info@keytochangestudio.org



INDIVIDUAL DONATION

Be the "key" to "change" the life of a student with a recurring or one-time investment: www.keytochangestudio.org/support



DONATE THROUGH AMAZON

www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2ZJIV0DPG6BPU

MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM

If you are interested in our matching gift program, corporate sponsorship, giving a gift of stock or including Key to Change in your estate plans, please click below for more information.

IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD)

If you are 70 ½ or older and own an IRA, you may make a direct transfer of up to \$100,000 annually from your IRA to Key to Change without having to include the withdrawal in your adjusted gross income for income tax purposes.*



PLANNED GIVING

If you wish to include Key to Change in gifts outside of wills, including gifts such as a charitable lead trust, charitable lead annuity trust, bargain sale and retained life estate, all avoid probate, as well as gifts of assets like appreciated securities, retirement plans, insurance policies and real estate, please contact Dr. Quinton Morris at qmorris@keytochangestudio.org

STOCK

If you wish to donate stocks or other securities, please use the following information:

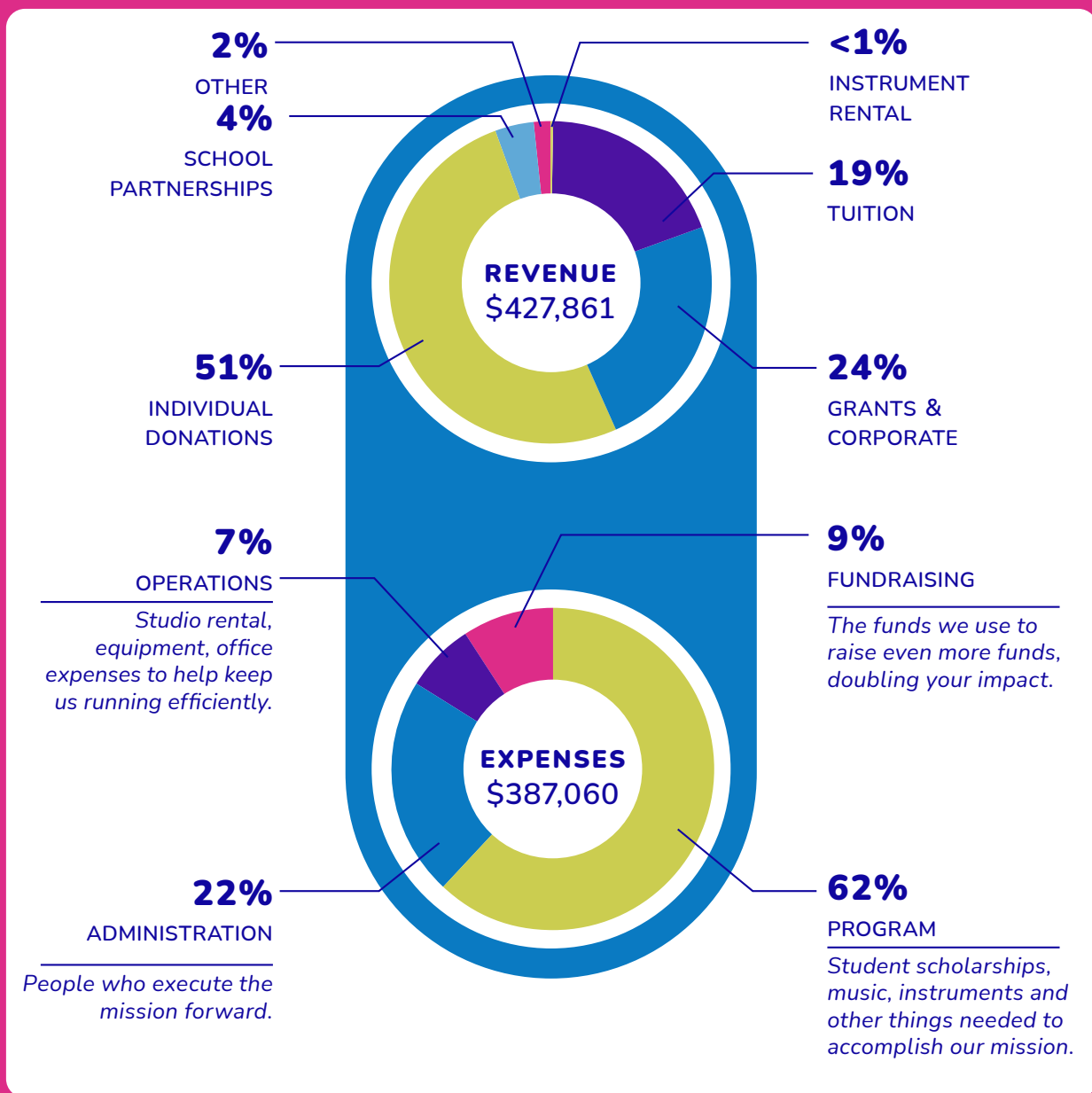
Empowering Youth for Change Fund
Renton Regional Community Foundation
Attn: LeAnne Moss
Executive Director
(425) 282-5199
lmoss@rentonfoundation.org



*Donor must be 70 ½ or older. Donation must come from a traditional or inherited IRA. The maximum annual gift transfer is \$100,000 per donor. Transfers must go directly to a recognized charitable organization such as the Key to Change (be careful—the money cannot go to you first). Donation counts towards satisfying donor's required minimum distribution but is not included in adjusted gross income.

THANK YOU!

Your financial investment helps make everything possible. We raised a record-breaking \$143,000 for our String Studio during our Annual Spring Salon this past April and we couldn't have done it without you.



2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR INDIVIDUAL DONORS, GRANTORS, & SPONSORS

*All donations go directly to supporting
Key to Change scholarships,
programming, and operational*

*expenses. By removing the cultural and financial barriers that prevent
many students in our region from picking up an instrument, we can ensure
that music education is accessible to students all over South King County.*

\$50,000+

Anonymous
City of Seattle

\$25,000+

Anonymous
The Dale & Leslie
Chihuly Foundation
Douglas Smith &
Stephanie Ellis-Smith
4Culture

\$10,000+

Children Count Foundation	Renton Municipal Arts Commission
Anonymous (x3)	US Bank
Maurer Family Foundation	Classical King FM 98.1
Highline School District	Jason Moran
	Jason Starkie
	David Van Zandt

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous	John Hill
Bassetti Architects	Horizons Foundation
Inman Foundation	Stacie and Garrett Kang
Dr. Quinton Morris	Tulalip Cares
First Security Bank	

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Aaron Wiley	David Malliband
Alex Diaz	Eduardo Penalver
Antoine Toussaint	Elizabeth Whitford
Ballard Rotary Club	Herbert Rand
Bonnie & Alan Steele	Integrus Architecture
Chau Robertson	Jay Kenney
Craig Sheppard	Jim Duncan
Damien Pattenaude	Jon Rosen
	Karen Feldt

Leah Bradford- Francis & Kevin Francis	Susan Harmon
Matthew and Teresa Byers	Susan Smith
Mele Miller	Leland & Rod Leland
Michael Schmitt	United Negro College Fund
Paula Boggs	Virginia Davison
Reeder Family Fund	



\$500 - \$999

Ain Powell	Christina	Phil Crocker	Tammis & Jeff
Alex Kinney	Carter	Renton	Greene
American	Dave Davison	Regional	Team O,
String	Gary & Linda	Community	Friends of
Institute	Byers	Foundation	Mercer Island
Andrea	Janis Flue	Robert Killian	Viesta Morris
Chatard	MMS Giving	Salesforce	Vivian Phillips
Barbara Earl	Foundation	Sally	Zabrina
Thomas	Owen	Terpilowski	Jenkins
Brenda	Richards	Tacoma	
Barnes	Panorama	Community	
Brian Lavery	Global Impact	College	
	Fund		

Tammis & Jeff
Greene
Team O,
Friends of
Mercer Island
Viesta Morris
Vivian Phillips
Zabrina
Jenkins

\$250 - \$499

Adjua Dupree	Holly Ferraro
Anukul	John Mock
Veeraraghavan	Kevin Maifeld
Camesha	Lynn Dietrich
Jones	Mark
Christopher	Kozakowski
Walker	Mary Okocha
Colleen Reilly	Marcie Stone
David Lott	Matt Seel
Davida Ingram	Max Silverman
Denise	Miles
Mamaril	Weatherson
Diana Carey	Pamela Teal
Eddie Lincoln	Paula
Erin & Minna	Caballero
Chung	Ruby Greene
Friends of	Golden
Lakewold	Sara Wilke
Gail Erickson	Scott Hagues
Helen Do &	
Jolene Nguyen	

Adjua Dupree
Anukul
Veeraraghavan
Camesha
Jones
Christopher
Walker
Colleen Reilly
David Lott
Davida Ingram
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Mamaril
Diana Carey
Eddie Lincoln
Erin & Minna
Chung
Friends of
Lakewold
Gail Erickson
Helen Do &
Jolene Nguyen

\$100 - \$249			
Adam Schweikl	Cheryl & Tom Oliver	Gasaway Architects	Escalona-Flores
Adrienne Kerr	Chris Thalman	Gustavo Basualdo	Lakisha Sears
Allegra Campbell	Chris Tugwell	Gwendolyn Strand	Mary Sawyer
Alan Garrett	Colleen Davis	Janet Cantelon	Maureen Cline
Andrew Boscardin	Constance Phelps	Jeanne Peterson	Megan Barry
Ann Jones	Cyrus Fiene	Jerome Olivarez	Melissa Anderson
Almlie	Daniel Hammes	John Zoltek	Melrose Grill
Anthony Ives	Darnell Hibbler	Josef Krebs	Michele Hasson
Antoinette Davis	Darrel & Erik Anderson	Joy Sherman	Michael Jenkins
Ariana Wehr	David Rahbee	Kenneth Jarvis	Michael & MaryJean
Bob & Judy Schroeder	David Upthegrove	Holly Jacobson	Nealy
Calandra Childers	Greene	Laura	Mollie Ewing
Carol Maurer			Naomi Ishisaka

Shiv Rai
Shulamit
Kleinerman
Sue Hogan
Susan Bates
Susan
Coughlin
Terry Seaman
Trevor Carlson
Trubee Davison
Vincent
Hernandez

\$10 - \$99

Adrianna Hulscher	Linda Melsted
Albert Mikala	Lydia Lukusa
Anita Tucker	Lydia
Ann Stickney	Bukonde
Ashley Glover	Margaret Spearmon
Belinda Tate	Melinda Huntington-Frazier
Bryan Derrickson	Melkie & Eden Mengistu
Carolyn Burger	Minnie Collins
Christiann Stapf	Nancy Talner
Daniel Schmitt	Nobuko Mitsunaga
Dashiell Huebner	Pawlos Okubagzi
David Robinson	PJ Alaimo
Erik Bakwa	Rachiddy Bokonzi
Haley Birdoes	Robert Babs
Heather Bentley	Roberta Goldman
Heather Ottinger	Robin Howard
Holly Hahn	Sarah Burkhalter
Joanie Lambert	Starbucks
Joey Takahashi	Stephen Luckey
John Kerr	Steve Reeder
John Welch	Steven Tanner
Karen Nelson	Sylvia Simms
Keshia Ortega	Tim Lennon
Kirsten Roth	Timothy Peters
Kristin Edlund	Vikki Torrence
LaSaundra Booth	William Yu
Lexie Marsters	Yuen Mei Lee
Lisa Beckley-Roberts	



BOARD OF ADVISORS

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 Stephanie Ellis-Smith
 Vincent Hernandez
 LeAnne Moss
 Vivian Phillips
 Chris Tugwell

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 Alexander Diaz
 VICE PRESIDENT
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 SECRETARY

Leah Branford-Francis
 Calandra Childers
 Dr. Quinton Morris
 (EX-OFFICIO)

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 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
 FOUNDER, INSTRUCTOR

Quenton Baker
 GRANTS MANAGER

Noah Geller
 VIOLIN INSTRUCTOR

Beth Guterman Chu
 VIOLA INSTRUCTOR

Geoffrey Liu
 MUSIC INSTRUCTOR
 & COACH

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 COMPOSER IN RESIDENCE

Shelby Denckla
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