

Your Impact in our 19th Season

2025-26
Impact Report



Tuning In: Your support



Your support of OrKidstra's 19th season (2025–26) was so meaningful to us. It marked a year of substantial growth, stabilization, and deepened impact across all three after-school Hubs.

Serving more than 800 children and youth from equity-deserving communities (both in-school and after-school), OrKidstra continued to deliver intensive, relationship-based social development through music programming.

Leadership development continued to deepen through the expansion of KidLeaders and Leaders-in-Training (LiT) programs, providing youth with structured **opportunities to build confidence, develop life skills, and mentor younger peers**. These programs play a critical role in supporting social-emotional development, particularly during adolescence.



Leadership Transitions

The Board is proud to announce Ms. Danielle Girard as its new Artistic Managing Director. Ms. Danielle will lead the artistic vision and program development of OrKidstra's award-winning after-school programs, working in collaboration with the Executive Managing Director, Ms. Carrie Lauzon. Together, they will ensure continued excellence in programming while supporting sustainable growth and expanded access for youth from equity-deserving communities.

WE ARE CONFIDENT
THAT SHE WILL BUILD
ON THE
EXTRAORDINARY
FOUNDATION
ESTABLISHED BY OUR
CO-FOUNDER, MS. TINA,
AND HELP GUIDE
ORKIDSTRA INTO ITS
NEXT CHAPTER.

CHAYANIKA
ABEYSEKERA LUTES,
CHAIR OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS



Love • Courage • Excellence • Belonging

By the Numbers



11

NUMBER OF 2025-26
ORKIDSTRA GRADUATES

% OF STUDENTS
WHO GO ON TO
FURTHER LEARNING



100

% OF STUDENTS
WHO IMPROVED
LIFE SKILLS



94

NUMBER OF
PERFORMANCES
ORKIDSTRA STUDENTS
GAVE



34

100

% OF ORKIDSTRA
STUDENTS GRADUATE
HIGH SCHOOL



Coming in 2026-27

The new Carlington Hub located at the Carlington Community Health Centre will become OrKidstra's fourth community-based location, allowing the organization to reach more children during the critical after-school hours between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Studies have consistently found that structured, supervised after-school programs contribute to improved academic outcomes, increased school engagement, stronger social-emotional skills, and reduced risk-taking behaviours by providing young people with safe environments, caring adult relationships, and meaningful opportunities to belong and contribute.

Thanks to your generosity—and the generosity of donors like you—we not only surpassed our fundraising goal for the year, we served more students than ever before!

Because of you, children and youth from equity-deserving communities are experiencing the joy of music, building confidence, forming lasting friendships, and discovering a true sense of belonging.

For many families, access to affordable, high-quality programming simply wouldn't be possible without caring supporters like you.

“OrKidstra has opened doors for me by helping me learn how to support others, both through music and through just personal growth. I think helping other people is a wonderful thing and I think OrKidstra is something that embodies that perfectly.”

Thank

You!



Photos courtesy of Greg Allison and OrKidstra



Ayaan, Age 18, Violin
OrKidstra Student for 13 Years