Dear Friends,

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up. — Pablo Picasso

Picasso’s words are at the heart of what we do at INTAKE: providing children with the skills they need to give voice to the artist within them, and instilling in them a love of music that will stay with them throughout their days and nights. I invite you to remember yourself at 6 years old. What did you dance to, what did you sing, how free and innocent and curious you were? How limitless the world seemed. That is the magic we encounter at INTAKE every time we hold the hand of a child who holds an instrument for the very first time. We have the responsibility to nurture that sense of wonder, so that it can persist and catalyse all aspects of our children’s lives.

As you read this Annual Report, I ask you to remember that you are a major part of our story. Your generosity and support are shaping the future of our students. Your continued support and participation is vital to our mission. You are INTAKE. You are familia.

THANK YOU!

Angie Durrell
Founder and Executive Director

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Donors and Stakeholders

THE INTAKE ORGANIZATION IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY

$30,000 and up
Be Foundation

$10,000 to $29,999
City of Stamford Mayor’s Youth Music Program Grant
Petis Family Charitable Fund
SpreadMusicNow Fund
State of Connecticut Office of the Arts, Department of Economic and Community Development
U.S. Department of State

$5,000 to $9,999
Near and Far Aid Association
New Canaan Community Foundation
Band Together CT

$2,500 to $4,999
City of Stamford CAPP Grant
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Durango Insurance
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Arts Endowment Fund, State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

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La Voz Hispana de Connecticut

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Norwalk Concert Hall, City of Norwalk

Thank you for all you do!
With appreciation and gratitude,

Lisa Petno
Chair

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Dear Familia,

Now, more than ever, we have an opportunity, even a responsibility, to use music education to improve outcomes for children, and to promote and to celebrate diversity and inclusion. Your continued support and participation is vital to our mission. You are INTAKE. You are familia.

THANK YOU!

Lisa Petno
Chair

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Dear Friends,

An organization is only as good as its people. At INTAKE, we place enormous value in what we have long called our familias: our students and their families, our instructors and staff, our Board members, supporters, and community members.

During the past year, we have continued to provide high-quality music education and innovative multicultural programming to more children than ever before. Thanks to your support, we have made important investments in human capital, which are essential for the organizational growth necessary to meet the needs of our children and communities. We have increased the size of our Board of Directors and supporters, who generously share their diverse talents as well as financial support. We have expanded our team to include a Grants Manager, which has increased our visibility before a greater pool of funders, and added a Manager of Educational Programs and Family Advocacy, which has enabled us to engage with families more deeply and to liaise with schools to ensure that our students are receiving the support they need to succeed. In addition, we continue to create new partnerships through which we grow our community engagement and expose a larger segment of the population to multicultural music.

THANK YOU!

Angie Durrell
Founder and Executive Director

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Picasso’s words are at the heart of what we do at INTAKE: providing children with the skills they need to give voice to the artist within them, and instilling in them a love of music that will stay with them throughout their days and nights. I invite you to remember yourself at 6 years old. What did you dance to, what did you sing, how free and innocent and curious you were, how limitless the world seemed. That is the magic we encounter at INTAKE every time we hold the hand of a child who holds an instrument for the very first time. We have the responsibility to nurture that sense of wonder, so that it can persist and catalyse all aspects of our children’s lives.

As you read this Annual Report, I ask you to remember that you are a major part of our story. Your generosity and support are shaping the future of our students. Your ability to imagine a world in which opportunity isn’t limited to a select few and culture isn’t defined by narrow-mindedness helps us extend our reach and strengthen our impact. We thank you for holding on to your own sense of wonder.

With gratitude,

Angie Durrell
Founder and Executive Director
About the INTAKE Organization

OUR MISSION
INTAKE’s mission is to use music as an instrument of change to better the lives of economically challenged children, while in the same time to create a culturally responsive environment that supports the inclusion and participation of a broad range of people, reflecting the true composition of our community. Equity is the foundation of our teaching practice. Our purposeful use of classical and cross-cultural instruments and repertoire teaches our students that music belongs to everyone.

OUR HISTORY
Conceived as a much-needed bridge between the arts sector and marginalized immigrant communities, INTAKE began in 2011 with two teachers and 40 students from low-income backgrounds. Since then, our staff of teaching artists has more than doubled, our family advocacy team has intensified its youth-development efforts, and our Native Instrument Academy and community outreach events have reached more than 1,625 students and 6,660 community members. We have earned national recognition for the quality of our programs and for our efforts at promoting arts equity from some of the most highly regarded national organizations for fostering diversity in the arts, including the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture and the Sphinx Organization. In 2016, INTAKE was selected as a finalist for the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award by the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, one of only 50 afterschool arts programs in the country to achieve this distinction.

OUR COMMUNITY
What draws families to INTAKE is the opportunity for their children to have sustained learning and mentoring relationships with our teaching artists, many of whom have taken similar cross-cultural journeys through music. Our students come from communities near and far, including Stamford, Norwalk, and Danbury, CT, as well as Port Chester, NY. Most come from families that struggle to attain life’s necessities. They belong to groups underrepresented in professional careers, have little exposure to academic persistence, come from families that do not speak English as a first language, and aspire to become the first in their family to graduate from a four-year college. Our community also includes many partner organizations, among them the Norwalk Youth Symphony, Future 5, SoundWaters, the Stamford Museum and Nature Center, the United Way of Western Connecticut, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and Treetops Chamber Music Society, all of which have collaborated with us on programs and special projects. We are proud to receive long-term mentoring from some of the country’s leaders in fostering diversity in the arts, including The Sphinx Organization and Play On, Philly!

OUR OBJECTIVES
Employing a unique and innovative multidimensional approach that links the study of music to broader educational achievement and socioemotional development, our programs empower children to leverage the skills they gain through engaging in the arts to improve their educational and personal outcomes. Our objectives are:

- To make music education relevant, accessible, and inclusive, so that all children have equal opportunity to achieve success;
- To unlock the potential of our next generation of artists, professionals, and leaders, so that they can lead productive and fulfilling lives;
- To create an environment for meaningful cross-cultural exchanges that fosters cultural equity and that benefit the entire community, raising its awareness of the rich cultural diversity that exists within our region;
- To deliver high-quality, high-impact music education that reflects and deeply penetrates the communities we serve and that empowers our students to achieve artistic excellence;
- To broaden and deepen our students’ knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of music, through instruction, ensemble experience, and performance;
- To promote family engagement in children’s academic and artistic journeys;
- To intervene early, through a youth-development strategy that pinpoints our students’ academic struggles and brings together teachers, school administrators/counselors, qualified 22 volunteer tutors, and parents to address and remedy these problems;
- To instill in our students the habits of civic engagement, and to build community through engagement with the arts;
- To provide a safe and welcoming space—a community within a community—that fosters joy, friendships, and aspiration.

INTAKE gives me the opportunity to learn new things. I enjoy studying music, because I enjoy listening to music and playing songs on my own. I am inspired to become a great musician by people who have the ability to set a mood with music.

—Juana—
violin and guitar student, age 9

INTAKE means a lot to me. I like learning how to play an instrument, because it makes me feel proud. Studying music makes me feel smart and happy. I can show everyone in my family how good I am at playing the violin.

—Edward—
violin student, age 9

I like performing in concerts; it makes me feel proud. Studying music makes me feel smart and happy. I can show everyone in my family how good I am at playing the violin.

—Stefanie—
viola and charango student, age 11

Studying music opens new doors for me. It makes me smarter and more creative. Playing an instrument is fun and helps me get away from the stress of school work.

—Melissa—
violin student, age 10

My grandpa inspires me to play music, so I am following his path to being a great musician. INTAKE makes me a better violin player every day. It gives me a great opportunity to learn, to reach goals, and to connect with myself.

—Yorman—
violin and guitar student, age 9

I like INTAKE because they give me an instrument to play. I like studying music, because I feel proud when I play it.

—Abigail—
guitar student, age 15

I like playing in concerts; it makes me feel proud. Studying music makes me feel smart and happy. I can show everyone in my family how good I am at playing the violin.

—Edward—
violin student, age 9

Studying music opens new doors for me. It makes me smarter and more creative. Playing an instrument is fun and helps me get away from the stress of school work.

—Melissa—
violin student, age 10

My grandpa inspires me to play music, so I am following his path to being a great musician. INTAKE makes me a better violin player every day. It gives me a great opportunity to learn, to reach goals, and to connect with myself.

—Juana—
violin and guitar student, age 9
**How Much**

- **91%** of children served were from low-income families
- **243** contact hours with students per school year
- **5:1** student-to-teacher ratio
- **65** volunteers were engaged
- **1,000+** community members attended our concerts
- **56** hours of structured engagement were provided in Summer Music Camp
- **98%** of students participated in bilingual choir

**INCOME**
- **Foundation Grants**
- **Government Contracts**
- **Individual Donors**
- **Earned Revenue**
- **Donated Services and Facilities**
- **Special Events**

**EXPENSES**
- **Educational Programs**
- **International Programs**
- **Operations**
- **Development and Fundraising**

**How Well**

- **94%** of parents said the program helped their children feel pride in their cultural identity
- **94%** of parents said the program supports diversity
- **85%** of parents said instructors and administrators answered their questions in a timely fashion
- **85%** of instrumental students demonstrated good to excellent psychomotor skills
- **81%** of choral students demonstrated accurate solfege skills and good to excellent solo vocal projection
- **80%** of instrumental students came prepared to class
- **95%** of families attended meetings and parent workshops

**INTAKE 2016 Annual Report**
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GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC

$10,000  Sponsor Annual Multicultural
Crossover Concert, featuring our
Native Instrument Academy students,
Norwalk Youth Symphony
members, and guest artists

$5,000  Sponsor an afterschool Native Instrument
Academy guitar class for a full year

$2,500  Sponsor a child for one full year
of Native Instrument Academy music
lessons and youth-development
services, including instrumental and choral
music instruction and tutoring

$1,250  Sponsor a child for one semester
of Native Instrument Academy
music lessons and youth development
services, including instrumental and
choral music instruction and tutoring

$1,000  Purchase six charangos
for one instrumental music class

$500  Sponsor the Native Instrument
Academy’s annual outing to Carnegie Hall

$250  Sponsor a child for Summer Music
Camp, a one-week intensive
enrichment program

Thank you for your support!
¡Gracias por su apoyo!

To donate or for more information about how you can help make a difference in children’s lives, please visit intakemusic.org/howtohelp or call (203) 952-3762.

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AND STAFF
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Family Advocacy
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