ANNUAL REPORT FY19
August 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019

Creating a Better World through the Arts
Dear Friends,

Over the past twelve months, in a world that has seemed to change almost moment by moment, one thing has remained clear: the creative arts have a unique power to connect us to each other and to our shared humanity. And the effects of this creative connection are nothing short of life-changing for individuals, and for communities local and global.

We at Sing for Hope are fortunate every day to witness the amazing strides that are made when creative pathways are cleared, especially for the most vulnerable among us. From classrooms to hospital rooms to transit hubs to refugee camps, we see the spirit-restoring potency of the arts applied to healing, learning, and social cohesion, with inspiring results.

Our Sing for Hope programs foster truth-seekers, storytellers, consensus-builders, connectors, illuminators, inspirers, creators. Our programs influence, inspire, and fortify successful students, reinvigorated healthcare patients, and thriving communities. Across the board, our work fast-tracks impact in ways both measurable and immeasurable.

Our world needs creative connection and hope now more than ever. In the following pages, you will see an overview of the programs you make possible. Please continue to join us in support of this vital work.

Your passion and generosity mean the world to Sing for Hope and the communities we serve, and we can’t do this without you.

With gratitude and determined hope,

Monica Yunus and Camille Zamora
Co-Founders and Co-Executive Directors

Why do we Sing for Hope? We believe in creativity. We believe in healing. We believe in resilience.

WE BELIEVE IN PEOPLE.

We believe in the students who feel like school isn’t for them.

We believe in the veterans who feel cast aside long after they have returned from war.

We believe in kids who are spending their interrupted childhoods in refugee camps.

We believe in the power of shared creative moments to turn strangers into friends and streets into communities.

Sing for Hope Pianos created by (left to right): Christopher Spinelli and Richela Fabian Morgan.
Ana has lived at Skaramagas Refugee Camp for most of her young life. When she visits the Sing for Hope Piano in the community room, she feels like she’s “in a totally different place that only belongs to the music, to life, to comfort.”

Sing for Hope benefited **350,000+ refugees** and community members in refugee camps in FY19.

Nick struggled with his grades and didn’t feel that school was for him. Fast forward two years, and Nick’s school held a whole Sing for Hope assembly to celebrate him as a leader on his way to becoming a music teacher.

Sing for Hope’s education programs benefited **100,000+ students** & community members in FY19.

Veteran and longtime patient Joe didn’t feel able to talk about his past. When first asked to draw it instead, he ripped up the paper. Now, he gives his Sing for Hope workshop leader his drawings—when they stop talking long enough to finish one.

Sing for Hope benefited **24,000+ patients & caregivers** through arts-based healing in FY19.

Strangers draw each other’s portraits in Marcus Garvey Park. A man visiting NYC from Japan makes a lifelong friend visiting from England. A group of locals and commuters meets weekly to sing in the world’s busiest bus terminal.

In FY19, the Sing for Hope Pianos reached **2 million+ New Yorkers** and visitors.

**Sing for Hope Pianos created by (left to right): Christopher Spinelli and Richela Fabian Morgan.**
OUR MODEL...
Relies on the belief in people’s right to heal, connect, and express

SITE IDENTIFICATION
We identify settings where the arts could help facilitate the healing, hope, and human rights of the people present.

NEED/ASSET ASSESSMENT
We work closely with that site to determine the unique needs, untapped potential, and assets of that population.

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION
Community forms. Leaders develop. Grades improve, people heal, relationships develop, and voices are heard.

TEAM CREATION
We build a team of Artist and Community Partners whose artistic and communication styles best fit the population and the adaptive program.

PROGRAM DESIGN
We craft a creative response that uses the arts to heal, engage, and amplify the voices and stories of the people present.
WHERE we heal, express, and unite

NEW YORK CITY

LEGEND

- 2019 SFH Pianos
- 2019 SFH Schools
- 2019 Healthcare Sites

Sing for Hope Pianos created by (clockwise from top left): Jordann Wine, Stuart Semple, Momoshi, Noël Copeland, Jordy Lievers-Eaton, and Billy the Artist.
HOW WE USE THIS MODEL

to meet human needs, individually and communally, from our first days to our last.

“The arts have an extraordinary ability to enhance our lives, to help us heal, and to bring us comfort in times of great stress. We must reconnect the arts with the actual human existence that Americans lead, the journeys we take in life, which lead us through hospitals, to hospices, to the end of life.”

— Dana Gioia, Former Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts
BRINGING HOPE AND INSPIRATION TO MILLIONS WORLDWIDE

YOUTH ARTS
Dynamic arts programming for under-resourced youth benefitting 100,000+ students & community members annually

HEALING ARTS
Collaborative performances and workshops in healthcare facilities serving 24,000+ patients & caregivers annually

THE SING FOR HOPE PIANOS
500+ artist-designed pianos impacting 2 million+ New Yorkers & visitors annually

QUALITY OF COMMUTE
Interactive musical performances in mass transit hubs around the world bringing harmony to 1 million+ commuters annually

MIGRATION INTEGRATION
Creative programming at refugee sites benefitting 350,000+ refugees & community members annually

CULTURAL DIPLOMACY
Activations at global social change summits that inspire positive dialogue & policy-making for cultural inclusion

Sing for Hope Pianos created by (top to bottom, left to right): Playbill, Patrick Freeman, and Christopher Spinelli.
SING FOR HOPE IN SCHOOLS
Shaping creative leaders

The 2018-19 school year found Sing for Hope in 230 schools—nearly 15% of the 1,600 public schools in NYC. We developed 50 new partnerships with the schools receiving the 2018 Sing for Hope Pianos, and created new ways to recognize the achievements of the students and teachers we’ve known for years. Sing for Hope’s growing education programs empower students by teaching Citizen Artistry: the power to use the arts to make a difference.

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT
A first Broadway show & mentorship from the stars

Sing for Hope took students from PS 194 on a special trip to Broadway to see their friends from Wicked perform. For many of the kids, this marked their first Broadway show and first time in a professional theater. The cast of Wicked—creators of PS 194’s Sing for Hope Piano—also visited the students at school for an exclusive performance, to talk about life on Broadway, and to encourage the students to give back through Citizen Artistry.

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT
Student Citizen Artists Host a Cultural Exchange

Sing for Hope’s cultural exchange with the Andrea Bocelli Foundation (ABF) embodies our educational focus on Citizen Artistry: the choir at SFH partner school IS 10 speaks English, and the ABF’s Voices of Haiti Choir speaks Haitian Creole, but SFH used arts-based activities, a translated Q&A, and a shared meal to help the students connect. The young artists closed the workshop with a powerful message sung together in Latin: “Dona Nobis Pacem.”

Grant us peace.

“This collaboration with Sing for Hope represents our united purpose to support creative education and to build community through the arts, starting with our young people.”

— Andrea Bocelli, Multi-platinum-selling opera singer and Sing for Hope Board Member

Strategic Plan Progress, FY13–FY19
Youth Served

“104,000
Actual

60,000
Goal

50,000

40,000

30,000

20,000

10,000

0

70

500

104,000

2014

2016

2018

2020

60,000

G O A L

D O N A N O B I S P A C E M

A L L Y C H O R I S”
We challenge the students at our 230 partner schools to see themselves as Citizen Artists. The inaugural year of the Sing for Hope’s Citizen Artists in Action Project (CAAP) proved that students are rising to the challenge. Selected through an application and nomination process, CAAP Award Recipients have used the creative arts to transform their school communities. CAAP Awards are presented in three categories: student, school, and student group.

Sing for Hope’s 2019 CAAP Award Recipients include:

- **Student:** Nick Miranda, high school senior at City College Academy of the Arts
- **School:** Ronald Edmonds Learning Center II and the Soul Steppers
- **Group:** Ms. Flore’s Theater Club at the Academy of Urban Planning

Sing for Hope’s 2019 CAAP Student of the Year Nick Miranda was inspired by the 2017 arrival of his school’s Sing for Hope Piano to stay late after school to learn how to play. Nick honed his skills in a matter of months. School became a place he sought out, and soon Nick was helping faculty teach the younger students at the middle school who share his school building.

Using skills learned through Sing for Hope’s Citizen Artist Curriculum and visits from Sing for Hope’s Artist Partners, Nick has since performed for his classmates, for Holocaust survivors who visited the school, for members of the Turkish Consulate, and for homebound members of his community.

**CITIZEN ARTISTRY SPOTLIGHT**

SFH partner school Ronald Edmonds Learning Center II was awarded “Citizen Artist School of the Year” for the way their “Soul Steppers” program has transformed their school community and ethos. The Soul Steppers use the art of step to spread awareness about social issues they identify, and they adhere to a strict code of conduct co-created with their advisors. Students have shown major academic improvements, and membership on the team has become aspirational for the entire student body.
SING FOR HOPE IN HEALTHCARE SITES
Healing the mind, body, and soul

In FY2019, SFH brought arts-based healing to 24,000+ patients & caregivers in 20+ healthcare & community facilities.

Sing for Hope believes that the arts have a unique power to heal mind, body, and soul better than medicine alone can. In FY19, 1,250 SFH Artist Partners brought arts-based healing to healthcare and community facilities in and outside of NYC.

HEALTHCARE SITE SPOTLIGHT

James J. Peters VA Medical Center
Joe is a resident at James J. Peters VA Medical Center and a member of Sing for Hope's Early Risers Club, a program formed in response to a very specific need: some veterans wake up earlier than the day’s activities start, leaving them lonely and disengaged. The Early Risers participate in guided visual art projects. Sing for Hope Artist Partner Sarah Doneghy reports that the group has made such huge gains in social support and communication that sometimes art projects go unfinished in favor of good—and profoundly healing—conversation.

That phenomenon is key: Sing for Hope's approach to arts-based healing is methodical but flexible to allow for optimal growth.

“We did self-portraits from before the veterans were in the service, but I didn’t require faces to appear. One veteran remembered a garden scene, so that’s what he drew. He was determined to walk me through it, which really helped him open up. He’s taken to giving me his pictures; only last week he was throwing them away.”

— SFH Artist Partner Sarah Doneghy

Sing for Hope's Adaptive programs at James J. Peters VA include:

• ArtCart: bringing visual art to bedsides and veterans with limited mobility
• Early Risers: making sure the veterans who wake up early have engaging arts programming
• Specialty Concerts: themed based on research and historical context to aid in memory recall
• Guided Movement Class: preventing further loss of mobility for aging individuals by encouraging light movement and dance, suited to their abilities

“Sing for Hope has such a positive impact on the daily living of our residents... from the feeling of pride and accomplishment the residents feel when their artwork is displayed, to the soothing environment the bedside performances create, to the memories brought about by the music from the concerts and collaboratives.”

— Elizabeth Rosa, Program Management Officer, James J. Peters VA Medical Center
SING FOR HOPE AT HEALTHCARE SITES
New healthcare partnerships

Maimonides Cancer Center, Brooklyn, NY
Sing for Hope Arts Partnership launched: July 2019

Susan created this portrait in a Sing for Hope bedside workshop while undergoing treatment at Maimonides Medical Center. Sing for Hope Artist Partner Jessica Browne-White travels to patient rooms twice per week to help facilitate creative and empowering moments like this one.

Why bring the arts to medical facilities like Maimonides?

A 2010 study by the American Public Health Association reported that engaging in different types of visual art helped women undergoing treatment for cancer in 4 major ways.

1. It helped them focus on positive life experiences instead of ongoing preoccupation with cancer.
2. It enhanced their self-worth and identity by providing them with opportunities to demonstrate continuity, challenge, and achievement.
3. It enabled them to maintain a social identity that resisted being defined by cancer.
4. It allowed them to express their feelings symbolically, especially during chemotherapy.

Duke Children’s Hospital, Durham, NC
Sing for Hope Arts Partnership launched: August 2019

Sing for Hope Artist Partner Nia Franklin, Miss America 2019, helped bring a special SFH Piano by Noël Copeland to the hospital that helped her save her father’s life as a child. Sing for Hope and the Miss America team gave a special performance and worked on collaborative art projects with patients and families at Duke Children’s Hospital. The SFH Piano now plays an integral role in the hospital’s music therapy program.

“Music is important to our program because we believe in creating a healing environment for all of our patients and their families. This special Sing for Hope Piano adds so much to the healing environment of Duke University Hospital.”

— William Dawson, Musician in Residence

“Nia saved my life, and music is an extremely important part of the healing process. Often, when someone experiences an illness, everything is about the science of how we are going to heal. People forget to focus on the emotional part of the healing process.”

— James Franklin, cancer survivor, father of SFH Artist Partner Nia Franklin

Strategic Plan Progress, FY13–FY19
Healing Arts Constituents Served

![chart showing strategic plan progress]

GOAL
ACTUAL
SING FOR HOPE IN REFUGEE CAMPS
Bringing creativity where it’s needed most

2019 brought the much-anticipated replication of SFH’s programming overseas through the launch of five SFH Pianos in refugee camps in Athens, Greece. This unique partnership, funded by an anonymous grant from a European foundation, is supported on the ground by intensive community music program El Sistema Greece.

Athens-based program director Anis Barnat reports that people are visibly moved by the Sing for Hope Piano artwork and the “illuminating effect” it has on the communal rooms. Initial reports also attest to the refugee children’s excitement when they see and play the SFH Pianos, spending longer in the communal rooms as a result.

“When I come here, I don’t feel like I’m in the refugee camp. It’s a totally different place that only belongs to the music, to life, to comfort.”

— Ana, refugee child, Skaramagas Refugee Camp (one of five Sing for Hope partner sites serving refugee populations)

‘On the Wings of Love’, the Sing for Hope Piano created by Christopher Spinelli.

Sing for Hope benefited 350,000+ refugees & community members in refugee camps in FY19.
Building social cohesion

The 2019 SFH Pianos installation featured 50 unique SFH Pianos and marked the placement of the 500th Sing for Hope Piano to date.

New York City’s largest recurring public art installation celebrated a major milestone with the 500th Sing for Hope Piano to date. 50 artists of diverse backgrounds—selected by Sing for Hope’s outside adjudication panel—brought the 2019 SFH Pianos to life in a shared studio provided for the fourth year by 28 Liberty and Fosun International. Liquitex Artist Materials joined this landmark year as Official Paint Sponsor, providing both supplies and skill-building workshops.

The 2019 Sing for Hope Pianos installation showed unprecedented community engagement. In addition to their traditional use, the SFH Pianos became stages, muses for art lessons, meeting spots for old and new friends, live accompaniment for music and dance in countless styles, and stops in public art scavenger hunts and field trips.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

London resident Fabio Tedde formed a lasting friendship with Ioshiro, visiting from Japan, despite a complete language barrier.

“We spoke in two languages: music and Google translate.”

— Fabio Tedde

The Sing for Hope Pianos ultimately find permanent homes in public schools each fall, but many new SFH partner schools increasingly begin their arts education even before the fall—while the SFH Pianos are still outside in the summertime!

SFH PARTNER SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

The kids from PS 21 were so excited to meet their new Sing for Hope Piano that they took a field trip to sing with it while it was still outside at Brooklyn Children’s Museum! The museum staff members were so moved by the “absolutely heartwarming” concert and the young students’ enthusiasm that they gave free museum passes to the children and their families.
SING FOR HOPE IN PUBLIC SPACES

Sing for Hope as cultural partner for World Pride

The 2019 Sing for Hope Pianos provided important outlets for expressions of love and identity during pride month, with Sing for Hope serving as a cultural partner for World Pride.

SING FOR HOPE PIANO BUDDY SPOTLIGHT

Jamie Adams, Stonewall National Monument’s first Park Ranger and Sing for Hope’s “piano buddy” guardian for the SFH piano placed at Stonewall throughout pride month, said she is a de facto therapist for visitors who share their personal stories about what Stonewall means to them. The pride-themed SFH Piano by Playbill gave those visitors an important tool to work through the emotional nature of the visits.

The second year of Sing for Hope’s cultural partnership with Playbill brought Stonewall visitors free poignant performances by eight Broadway casts (live-streamed to tens of thousands of additional participants). Many of the Broadway stars spoke to the crowd about their own histories of finding acceptance in and outside of the theater community.

Sing for Hope’s celebration of pride and self-expression continued all over the city, including in Hudson River Park with a specially curated SFH Piano titled “Love is Love,” by SFH Piano Artist Christopher Wong.

The renowned Gay Men’s Chorus of DC started their World Pride tour with an emotional public performance at this Sing for Hope Piano.
In 2017, Sing for Hope created a stage at the Port Authority Bus Terminal for free public performances with a SFH Piano as its centerpiece—to brighten the daily commute for 8,000 commuters per hour.

We doubled the number of performances at the Port Authority stage in 2019, turning the hectic evening rush into an opportunity for harmony and connection, with performers ranging from Broadway stars to tango, opera, and jazz.

Sing for Hope further deepened this cultural partnership in FY19 by creating a way for commuters to make their own music, partnering with media giant TimeOut to place a public SFH Piano in Port Authority Bus Terminal.

“It’s actually one of the highlights of my day to hear people play [the SFH Piano]. Music everywhere... Drop by anytime of the week, inevitably someone’s serenading us.”

— Dee, via social media

“I missed my bus but met Lee, who works at Port Authority & was playing some of his own material... Lovely man taking the time to offer joy to a busy city. Completely worth the $20 reschedule fee.”

— Katie, commuter
SING FOR HOPE ON THE WORLD’S STAGE
Advocating for the role of the arts in human rights

Our work reflects a strong belief that healing, forming community, and safe self-expression are fundamental human rights. We have long advocated for the arts’ role in securing those rights, and 2019 showed that the world increasingly agrees that the arts belong in global convenings on social change, with SFH Co-Founders Camille Zamora and Monica Yunus presenting at five major global summits.

Our current partners in cultural diplomacy include:

• Global Social Business Summit
• United Nations
• World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates
• Skoll World Forum for Social Entrepreneurship
• World Economic Forum
• rad°hub

IFAC Makes Decade-Long Commitment of Support for Sing for Hope

The International Foundation for Arts & Culture (IFAC) endorsed Sing for Hope’s growing role in cultural diplomacy through IFAC Chairman Dr. Haruhisa Handa’s decade-long commitment of support for Sing for Hope. This transformational partnership includes new Sing for Hope global arts program HandaHarmony, which activates the arts as a driver of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. IFAC’s support will help Sing for Hope’s reach continue to expand to areas most in need of arts intervention.

This partnership launched with a special Sing for Hope Piano as the centerpiece of the youth-arts-centered U.N. High Level Political Forum Side Event in July 2019.

“I believe that music and the arts have the power to transform human hearts and minds, to draw us inward and upward to make the world around us a better place.”

— Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman of the International Foundation for Arts and Culture (IFAC), Sing for Hope Global Patron
OUR VILLAGE
Artist Partners

5000+ Artists Partners engaged since 2006.

Sing for Hope’s Artist Partners are the engines that power our broad range of arts outreach programs, inspiring and fostering positive change for those in need. Our Artist Partner roster lies at the core of our mission and features Artists Partners from almost every artistic discipline — actors, opera singers, musical theatre performers, classical and jazz instrumentalists, dancers, choreographers, composers, designers, directors, photographers, and more. Working in tandem with our dedicated staff, our roster of artists donates time and talent to give back to local communities.
OUR VILLAGE
Help from our friends

Sing for Hope increasingly receives invaluable support from major companies and organizations in NYC and globally. In FY19, we were honored to receive multiple out-of-the-blue calls from NYC institutions saying that their employee teams had chosen us as their charitable beneficiaries. Highlights include famed auction house Christie’s New York making SFH the beneficiary of their annual staff art show, and Kickstarter voting Sing for Hope a beneficiary of their public pledge to donate 5% of their annual after-tax profits towards arts and music education and organizations fighting to end systemic inequality.

SING FOR HOPE FY19 EXPENSE BREAKDOWN

Sing for Hope operates with a budget of approximately $3 million dollars. For complete audited financials, please contact our office at 212.966.5955.

CHRISTIE’S KICKSTARTER

SFH Artist Partner Alice Tsui plays the SFH Piano created by Noël Copeland at Christie’s New York.

“Sing for Hope’s mission of transforming lives by using the power of the arts to create a better world so aligns with our commitment to arts and music education in New York, and we are inspired by the work Sing for Hope does.”

— Stephanie Chace, Kickstarter
OUR VILLAGE

Our supporters

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$500,000+
($100,000+ annually for 5 years)
The International Foundation for Arts and Culture (Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Chairman, Sing for Hope Global Patron)
The Arnhold Foundation in loving memory of Sissy and Henry Arnhold
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Sing for Hope Piano created by Richela Fabian Morgan.