Performing Arts Fort Worth
Children’s Education Program
at
Bass Performance Hall

2014-2015 Season
Annual Report
Children’s Education Program of
Performing Arts Fort Worth, Inc.

Annual Report for 2014-2015 Season

We celebrated our 17th year of the Children’s Education Program by providing--

- 42 education programs in the performing arts for 66,695¹ students and teachers
- Music camps for 464 elementary, middle and high school students
- A Teachers’ Institute for 100 elementary music teachers
- Discounted or free tickets to evening performances of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer for 351 students from Western Hills Elementary Primary schools and Beauty and the Beast for 422 middle and high school students
- Distance learning for 1506 students across the country²

¹ Because of ice storms several performances were cancelled and 5,801 students and teachers were not able to attend Peter and the Wolf in February.
² Distance Learning participation was down significantly because of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra’s decision by the Musician’s Union not to permit their inclusion in any video conferencing, which precluded our presentations of Peter and the Wolf and “Copland and the Common Man.”

Performances of Peter and the Wolf for second grade, The Nutcracker for third grade and “Copland and the Common Man” for fifth grade were much as they have been in previous years. Students enjoyed the performances and learned about music, cultural heritage and history from them.

Performances for middle and high school students met specific student needs suggested by Fort Worth ISD and students’ interests: abbreviated performances of Macbeth for high school students and One O’Clock Lab Band concerts and workshops for students involved in their middle and high school band programs. We value our partnership with the FWISD and listen seriously to their requests and needs.

New Programs in 2014-2015

The presentation of “Van Cliburn: An American Hero” in partnership with The Cliburn was a huge success and was pronounced “awesome” by students all over Fort Worth.

It is our pleasure to name the Van Cliburn program The Nancy Lee Bass Program for Fourth Graders in memory of Mrs. Nancy Lee Bass, recognizing her generosity and leadership in the field of arts and arts education, as well as her close friendship with Van Cliburn. Donations
made in her honor will help to fund the program for years to come, so that fourth graders will continue to learn and be inspired by Mr. Cliburn’s life story and his beautiful music.

“Once Upon a Tale,” the bilingual storytelling program for first grade was a triumph and will be repeated in 2015-2016. Red Oak Foundation supplied 2500 copies of the lovely Read-along Fairy Tales book and CD to 25 underserved elementary schools selected by the Red Oak Foundation in Fort Worth. However, with a growing population of students who come to school not speaking English and/or reading below grade level, more tools are always welcome in the classroom. Copies of the support DVD, produced by a community-based partnership of graduate education students from TCU, media students at Daggett Montessori and Southwest High School, and narrated by Deborah Ferguson from NBC Channel 5 and Nancy Leal from Telemundo, were distributed to FWISD schools in March and considered a boost to literacy—of both English and Spanish. Additional copies of the DVD will be distributed to other area schools this year.

Annual Awards

Performing Arts Fort Worth’s Children’s Education Program recognizes and awards teachers, talented students and graduate students for their commitment to and accomplishments in music and music education.

- 2014-2015 Bayard H. Friedman Chair for Teaching Excellence in Performing Arts was presented to Ramon Niño, Mariachi instructor at North Side High School. His teaching and leadership have been important in the lives of many students at the predominantly Hispanic high school.
- 2014-2015 Bayard H. Friedman Award for Outstanding Student in Performing Arts was presented to Cameron Massey, a 16 year old flautist at Covenant Christian Academy. His award allowed him to attend three flute camps this summer. [See note attached.]
- 2014-2015 Perry R. Bass Fellowship recipient is Kaitlyn Wright, a master’s student in elementary music education at Texas Woman’s University. She teaches music in the Plano Independent School District and considers it a privilege and a duty to introduce young students to music and help them to better understand it.

Master Class

The One O’Clock Lab Band from the University of North Texas is considered one of the premier jazz bands in the country. After they performed for high school students from around the North Texas region in February, they provided a workshop for two Fort Worth high school bands. Paschal High School jazz band conductor, Mark De Hertogh, attributed their success at the famous Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland this summer in part to what they learned.
during the master class. All felt much more prepared to perform in such a prestigious festival, after having gained guidance from some of the best.

Summer Camps and Teachers’ Workshop

The high school, middle school, percussion and B Sharp summer camps and the Teachers’ Institute were again celebrated by all who attended. 464 students and 100 teachers learned new music from master musicians and conductors, found innovative ways to produce music and were stimulated by artists they would never have the opportunity to learn from in daily life, otherwise.

In fact, that is major part of the business of the Children’s Education Program—to give students and teachers opportunities they would never have and often achieve something they didn’t believe possible. As a music teacher said, *I always leave the institute inspired and with a renewed sense of my calling to music education. The Bass Hall Teachers’ Institutes are worth so much and greatly contribute to my success as a teacher.* I have attached a few other comments we received about the Teachers’ Institute.

I add my sincere thanks to the entire board for your unrelenting support and assistance to make these kinds of enrichment experiences possible. You help to make life more meaningful for thousands of students and teachers every year, sharing the best of the performing arts in our beautiful venue.

With profound respect,

Sue Buratto
Director of Education
September, 2015
Mrs. Buratto,

Again I want to thank the board for the Bayard H. Friedman Scholarship that made it financially possible for me to attend master classes at Baylor University, Curtis Institute of Music and the Colburn Conservatory of Music this summer. Being with very inspiring professors fueled the passion that I have for music. I will be following up with some of the professors in the fall and was encouraged that I have what it takes to pursue music performance as a career. These seminars equipped me with the necessary connections and information for the continuation of my musical education. I will keep you posted as it becomes clearer where my studies will continue.

Thank you once again,
Cameron Massey
The Institute is the HIGH POINT of my summer.  
I actually have in-service before school that RELATES to what I teach.  
PLEASE keep this going.

Thank you so much for providing this professional development opportunity free of charge.  
My district could not otherwise provide such training for me  
and I can only afford so much. I and my students greatly appreciate you.

This is by far the best professional development I've ever attended.  
So much energy--all positive. Both speakers were so dynamic and knowledgeable  
about their content. The passion was evident.

Thank you to Bass Hall and everyone who made this training possible. There  
is no way I could afford to do a training like this on my own.  
The clinicians were wonderful again this year. The techniques I learned will be  
taken back to my classroom and help us to be successful.  
Please thank all who donated so that we could have these magnificent opportunities. Thank  
you for positively impacting the students in my classroom with your generosity.

Thank you so much for offering this opportunity. This is my second year to participate.  
I can start my year with excitement and activities that my kids will love. Yay!  
Last year was so much easier and fresh with the new ideas I learned right  
before starting school.

Very well run! Thanks for the opportunity.