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CASE STUDY

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Side-by-Side
Educational Programming

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra integrated their Education department with the EarShot readings in 2019. Three days before the readings, the chosen participant composers worked alongside ACO Education Director Kevin James, guest artist Jessie Montgomery, and DSO Teaching Artists to create and implement learning modules for students K-12 in local public schools. The learning modules presented at the local schools used the music that the composers had written for the readings to teach concepts of rhythm, improvisation, and harmony.

OUTCOMES



Detroit Symphony Orchestra EarShot Education 2019. Photo by Aiden Feltkamp.

Reached 500 students and 40 adult educators in one day

Solidified partnerships with local public schools

Built relationships with four Black orchestral composers

“EarShot Education was an energizing whirlwind of a weekend that proved to me that beyond the art we create, one of the most useful and powerful skills we as artists can develop is the ability to articulate what we do for audiences of all backgrounds.”

– EarShot Detroit Participant Composer (2019)

Detroit Symphony Orchestra EarShot Education Session with Jessie Montgomery, 2019. Photo by Aiden Feltkamp.

