



## COLORADO MUSIC BRIDGE

Modern Music Education & Mentorship



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

[www.coloradomusicbridge.org](http://www.coloradomusicbridge.org)

# WELCOME

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Dr. Peter John Stoltzman  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The work we do through Colorado Music Bridge is a reflection of my hope for the music industry and for humanity. I deeply, sincerely appreciate the support we have received, and I am constantly rejuvenated when I witness the impact our teachers are making. This year, every single student attended our programs for free! We are part of a worldwide movement to dismantle systemic barriers that block students from being empowered in their creativity, and we are helping young musicians make a living doing meaningful work.

2021 started with our official 501c3 status and continued with numerous partnerships in Denver and Fort Collins, and we are looking forward to continued growth in 2022! It has been a dream come true to work with my former student who is now my trusted colleague, Aaron Marfizo, and to have the guidance and operational support of Erik Gunderson. And thank YOU for your interest in Colorado Music Bridge—I hope our first ever annual report gives you a feeling of the vitality of our work and impact.

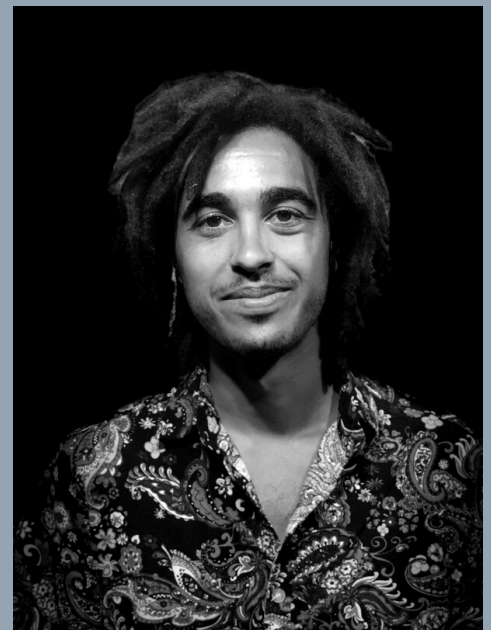
Sincerely,

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How sweet the joy of music is to the hearts and minds of our youth when they hear the sound of their imagination for the first time. Colorado Music Bridge is a lovesong for our communities, an anthem for young teaching artists, and a requiem for the old paradigm of music education. It has been my sincere pleasure to develop our teaching methodology and philosophy alongside Dr. Stoltzman, and offer activities and lessons rooted in inclusion and empowerment through modern applications of musical expression.

After a year of division and isolation, we are so thankful to have returned to the classroom in 2021. Thank you for helping us cultivate solidarity in our mission to serve our communities through modern music!

Thank you,



Aaron Marfizo  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

# 2021 Outcomes

## by the numbers



# 1k+

### Students Served

We dramatically exceeded our goal for the year for students served. Colorado Music Bridge's goal was to serve 150 students in 2021.

# 9

### Program Partnerships

The Matthews House, Poudre School District Music CoLab, Strive Prep – Lake, Camp Sol, Boys & Girls Club Larimer County, Wellington, and Montrose, Aurora Central High School, and Denver Public Schools

# 7

### Teachers Hired

We continued our mission of mentoring young professional teachers, expanding from 3 teachers in 2020.

# \$13.4k

### Donor Contributions

We are so grateful to the outpouring of support from our community! You all make our work possible.

# \$7.5k

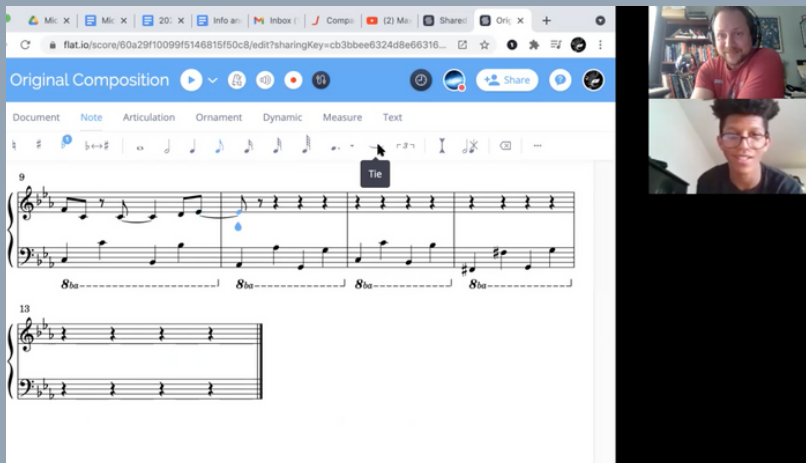
### Grant Awarded

Take Note Colorado's grant enabled our support of the Digital Music Program at Aurora Central High School through the 2021-22 school year.



# Student Stories

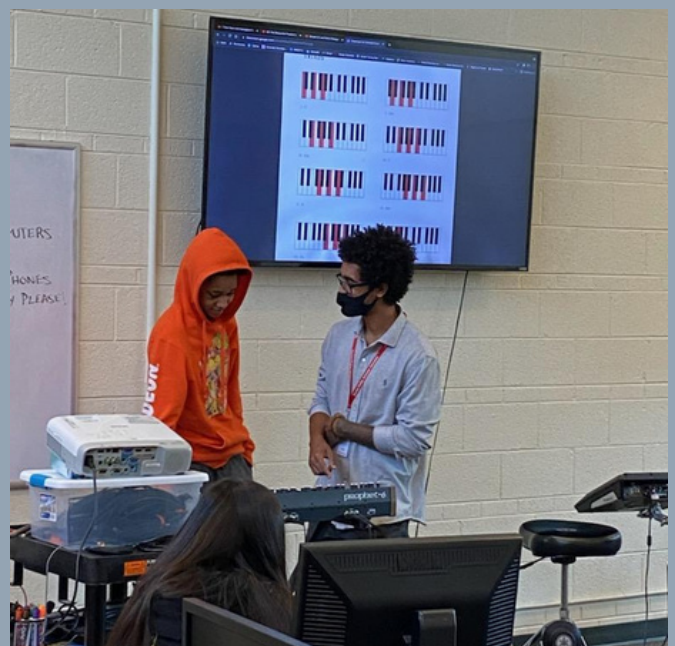
Mason was a 7th grader at Strive Prep, where Aaron taught both Guitar class and Modern Music Creation in June. Mason was self-taught, and exuded enthusiasm for the instrument. Aaron took extra time out to give individual attention to him, working on next level techniques and instilling some foundational music theory knowledge. Mason took it all in, and took off, and he was the star of the final performance!



Michael was a senior at South High School. Through a Denver Public Schools program, he was able to receive individual mentorship in music to envision and complete a senior capstone project in the arts. Through CMB's partnership, Peter spent four Zoom sessions with Michael, working together in an online composition software, and teaching Michael about song structure, harmony, and melody. Michael composed a beautiful piece, and is now in the Music & Entertainment Industry Studies program at CU Denver!

Cee was a 9th grader at Aurora Central High School, where Aaron has been teaching in the Digital Music Program. Cee had never played the piano before this moment, when Aaron invited her to demonstrate and learn at the front of the class--a profoundly courageous thing to do for the first time in front of peers! Cee learned triad shapes and helped the class create a collaborative composition.

These are the moments--of inspiration, courage, and growth--that happen in myriad ways every time Colorado Music Bridge teaching artists work with youth.



# 2022 Goals

## 1

### Create Internships

College-level internships will provide staffing support that will augment our capacity on social media and communication, as well as offer interns a potential ladder into teaching positions in the organization. Interns will gain valuable experience and insight from working actively in a young and growing nonprofit.

## 3

### Grow partnerships and teacher roster

We will continue to cultivate relationships with schools and service organizations in the Denver Metro area and Fort Collins area, creating more opportunities for teaching artists, and furthering our mission to provide affordable modern music education to youth. We are also growing our capacity to provide organization-level support for new and developing programs around the state with "how-to" resources, consulting, and teacher trainings.



## 2

### Expand the Board and operating budget

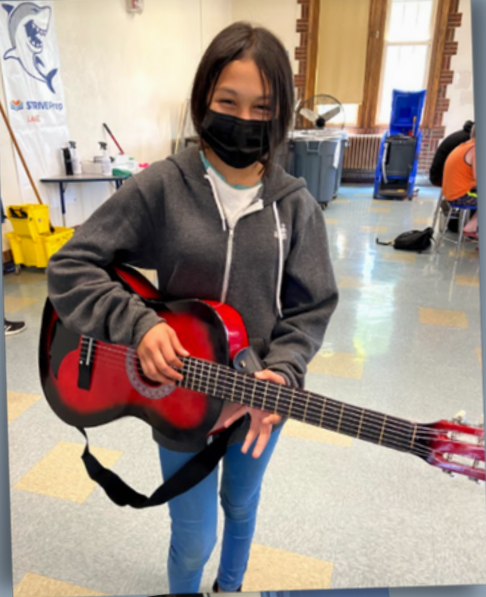
We are kicking off our third operational year by engaging in a process to bring on new board members who can provide both valued advice and functional service to the organization. One goal this year is to grow our operating budget, which is an essential component of creating ongoing organizational and financial sustainability.

## 4

### Develop and implement inclusive curricula

We utilize a combination of Universal Design for Learning and the Neurosequential Model for Education to provide equitable access for all abilities. UDLMM is a multimodal learning experience that engages people with different learning styles and sensory preferences. A project-based, student-led learning approach supports diverse student needs and representation, learning through flexible and responsive activities.







# Directors

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**Aaron Marfizo**  
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**Peter Stoltzman**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Erik Gunderson**  
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

# Financial Summary

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## REVENUE\*

Program Fees	\$10,580.00
Donations	\$13,433.00
Grant funds used in '21	\$3,200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,213.00</b>

*\*This summary is an accrual method, reflecting income intended for and used in the year 2021*

## EXPENSES

Instructional Fees	\$12,250.00
Program Administration	\$6,780.00
Equipment & Operational Costs	\$6,082.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,112.45</b>

# 2021 Partners

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