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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 26, 2018



(High resolution images of the Adventures in Music program are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Education Press Kit](#). Photo courtesy of the San Francisco Symphony.)

THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY'S ADVENTURES IN MUSIC (AIM) PROGRAM CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF PROVIDING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MUSIC EDUCATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The SFS's AIM program offers free music education to every 1–5th grade student in all public elementary schools of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, March 26, 2018 – This year the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) celebrates the 30th anniversary of [Adventures in Music \(AIM\)](#), the longest running and most comprehensive music education program of its kind among American orchestras. AIM is the result of a three decade-long partnership between the San Francisco Symphony and the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), providing equitable access to music education by reaching every San Francisco public elementary school student in grades 1 through 5. The San Francisco Symphony provides AIM free of charge to all schools, teachers, and students.

100% of 1-5th grade public elementary school students in San Francisco participate in the AIM program

78% of students in AIM represent ethnic minorities

55% qualify for free or reduced-priced lunches

24% are English language learners



AIM is a sequential, interdisciplinary, and curriculum-based music education program that integrates live music performances and experiences with everyday classroom lessons in language arts, social studies, science, and other subjects. Designed to provide five consecutive years of music education to every student, AIM is created specifically for the public elementary schools of San Francisco and aligns with curriculum frameworks of the SFUSD, California State Visual and Performing Arts Framework, the National Music Standards, and Common Core Academic Standards. AIM reflects the diverse cultural heritage of San Francisco's student population by introducing children to a variety of musical genres, including classical, jazz, Latin, and Chinese folk music.

[Click here to watch an informational video about *Adventures in Music*](#)

Key aspects of AIM include:

- The San Francisco Symphony spends more than \$1.6 million on Adventures in Music annually.
- Since its inception, AIM has served more than 200,000 students and given nearly 25,000 in-school performances.
- AIM reaches 23,500 students in all 76 public elementary schools of San Francisco in the current school year.
- The AIM program provides professional development workshops, classroom resources, and materials for teachers to integrate music into their lesson plans.
- Schools receive classroom materials such as books, compact discs, simple instruments, and other resources to assist them in implementing the program.
- Each student receives his/her own AIM student journal, which is tied to the ensemble's performances and classroom curriculum and resources.
- The curriculum provided to teachers prepares each student to experience in-school musical presentations by AIM ensembles.
- AIM ensembles, which comprise Bay Area musicians, present more than 750 in-school performances each school year.
- The music performed reflects the diversity of the San Francisco community by representing a variety of musical genres such as jazz, Latin, Western classical, traditional Chinese music, and other styles.
- All AIM students visit Davies Symphony Hall each year to attend a private concert held by the San Francisco Symphony, which is specially designed to incorporate the AIM ideas and subjects that students have learned in their classrooms.



Founded in 1988, AIM is a cornerstone of the San Francisco Symphony's commitment to music education, which has been a part of its mission since its founding in 1911 when the second performance ever presented was a concert for children. That commitment continues today with a variety of programs that are designed for all age groups, including [Music for Families](#) concerts for parents and children; the [Music and Mentors](#) program for middle and high school music students; the internationally-renowned [San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra](#); and the award-winning online music education resource for children, [SFSkids.org](#). Praising the SFS's education programs, the *Wall Street Journal* states, "The



San Francisco Symphony serves as the industry standard,” while *The New York Times* refers to the SFS as “a music education powerhouse.”

AIM MEDIA RESOURCES:

[AIM Fact Sheet](#)

[AIM high-resolution photos](#)

Adventures in Music receives generous support from the William and Sakurako Fisher Fund for Adventures in Music, the Athena T. Blackburn Fund, the Jerome and Thao Dodson Music Education Fund, and the Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund for Adventures in Music. Additional endowment support is provided by Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Fisher, the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, the Walther Foundation, Margaret Liu Collins and Edward B. Collins, Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Fisher, Mr. & Mrs. Peter A. Darbee, Lois M. De Domenico, and Mr. & Mrs. John J. Fisher. Institutional support is provided by the Wells Fargo Foundation, The Frances K. and Charles D. Field Foundation, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, The Morrison & Foerster Foundation and Individual Partners and Employees of Morrison & Foerster LLP, Bank of America, Macy’s, The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation, the Gap Foundation, Prologis, Union Bank Foundation, and the Harold L. Wyman Foundation. AIM is supported in part by the William K. Bowes Foundation; the California Arts Council, a state agency; the National Endowment for the Arts; The Bernard Osher Foundation; The Walther Foundation; and the corporate partners of the Music Education Alliance. We are also grateful to the many individual donors who help make this program possible each year.

Photo credit and caption [from the top]: 1). AIM ensembles, which comprise Bay Area musicians, give more than 750 in-school performances each school year SFUSD elementary schools. Photo by Brandon Patoc. 2). All AIM students visit Davies Symphony Hall each year to attend a private concert held by the San Francisco Symphony, which is specially designed to incorporate the AIM ideas and subjects that students have learned in their classrooms. Photo courtesy of the San Francisco Symphony. 3). Each 1-5th grade student in the SFUSD receives his/her own AIM student journal, which is tied to AIM ensemble performances and classroom curriculum and resources. Photo by Brandon Patoc. 4). AIM ensembles, which comprise Bay Area musicians, give more than 750 in-school performances each school year at elementary schools of the SFUSD. Photo by Kristen Loken. 5). AIM ensembles, which comprise Bay Area musicians, present more than 750 in-school performances each school year for elementary schools of the SFUSD. Photo by Brandon Patoc.

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