

**YOPBC RECEIVES GRANT FROM
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
FOR MUSIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

The YOPBC is pleased to announce it has received a \$74,500 grant from the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. This two-year grant will provide funds to support the “Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County Outreach and Enrichment Program for Title I Schools.

The program, which was launched in mid-September, 2015, is based on-site at the Boca Raton Elementary School and the J.C. Mitchell Elementary School. Both schools are identified as Title I elementary schools in Boca Raton. A school’s Title I designation indicates that a high percentage of that school’s students come from low-to-moderate income households. The free of charge outreach and enrichment program will provide as many as 19 youngsters at each host school with group music instruction at no charge, two-days-a-week, after school. Instruction by two highly qualified music educators will center on string instruments such as the violin, viola, cello and bass. Instruments will be loaned to the student participants until the duration of the project. Students will also receive sheet music and other supplies related to the project. The project will be led by YOPBC’s Executive Director/Music Director/Conductor Michael Fraley.

The Community Foundation grant will be used to purchase string instruments, practice books, and sheet music as well as other related equipment such as music stands. In addition, the grant will fund the salaries of the program’s music instructors. The YOPBC is seeking additional funding for this project from other sources so that the project’s duration could be extended by an additional three weeks each year.

“The YOPBC’s Outreach and Enrichment Program for Title I Schools gives our organization the opportunity to reach out to children from underserved families with music,” says YOPBC Board President Stephen B. Gebeloff. “The YOPBC is committed bringing music into the lives of children from all income groups. Throughout the years, our organization has readily provided those young musicians, who demonstrate financial need, with scholarships for orchestra membership or day camp tuition. This project will take the YOPBC’s outreach efforts to the next level. Thanks to the generosity of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, YOPBC music educators will be able to go into those schools where the need is

the greatest. We will be able to give these children access to quality music instruction and in doing so, play a role in securing the next generation of musicians and patrons of the arts.”

The Community Foundation awards annual grants through a competitive application and review process. “The Community Foundation is proud to partner with the Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County,” says Bradley Hurlburt, President & CEO of Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. “Bringing music into the lives of our young people is an excellent way to cultivate the arts in our community.”