



## Kaufman Music Center is New York's creative home for music education and performance.

It's where music lovers, from curious fans to renowned performers, come together to explore their musical passions. Founded in 1952 as a community music school, today's Kaufman Music Center is one of the city's most vibrant cultural organizations, combining world-class teaching with electrifying performances featuring rising young classical stars, Broadway icons and cutting-edge performer/composers who are re-defining contemporary music.

Kaufman Music Center has three main divisions:

- **Merkin Concert Hall** is known for its innovative and diverse programming as well as its excellent acoustics and intimate connection between audience and performer.
- At **Lucy Moses School**, New York's largest community arts school, thousands of students of all ages, backgrounds and skill levels take classes and lessons each year in a nurturing and caring atmosphere.
- **Special Music School** is a groundbreaking K-12 public school for musically gifted children that offers intensive music instruction during the regular school day alongside a rigorous academic program.

Kaufman Music Center's **Theater Wing** draws from all three divisions, celebrating musical theater with the hugely popular **Broadway Close Up** series, joyful musical revues for children and a **Summer Musical Theater Workshop** in which kids work with theater professionals to create and star in their own original musicals.

## Creating New Models for Music Education

### Special Music School High School

At a time of great change in the classical music world, Kaufman Music Center's new Special Music School High School educates young musicians for 21st century music careers, emphasizing improvisation, composition, music technology and contemporary music in addition to building a strong classical foundation. The school is unique even among New York's highly regarded arts high schools in providing talented young musicians the opportunity to pursue serious, pre-professional music studies along with a rigorous Regents-based academic curriculum. The high school is an expansion of Special Music School's K-8 program, a partnership between Kaufman Music Center and the Department of Education founded in 1996.



### Face the Music: New York's Only Teen New Music Ensemble

Kaufman Music Center's rapidly-growing "alt-classical" youth ensemble has taken its place as what Allan Kozinn of the *New York Times* called "a force in the New York new-music world," performing regularly at venues across the city and winning critical acclaim for their performances of works by Philip Glass, Terry Riley, Steve Reich and others. The more than 160 ensemble members, who represent over 40 NYC-area schools including all the major NYC arts high schools and pre-college music programs, have had unparalleled opportunities to work with composers such as **Nico Muhly** and acclaimed ensembles like the **International Contemporary Ensemble**, **JACK Quartet** and **Kronos Quartet**.

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## Developing Standards for Excellence in Pre-College Music Education

A theory curriculum for K-8 students developed by educators at Kaufman Music Center's Special Music School is one of very few published theory curricula geared toward the serious music student starting in kindergarten. Unique in its organization according to public school grade, the curriculum is available to teachers and parents in programs outside SMS.



## Bringing Music Education to Diverse Communities Across New York City

In addition to welcoming more than 75,000 students and concertgoers each year to its home on West 67th Street, Kaufman Music Center gives deserving children throughout the city the opportunity to experience the many benefits of a top-notch music education with experienced, nurturing teachers in their own communities.

## A Partnership with Opus 118 Harlem School of Music

Kaufman Music Center has created a partnership with Opus 118 Harlem School of Music to ensure the continuation of Opus 118's internationally recognized music programs for children in East Harlem. The struggle of **Roberta Guaspari**, the founder of the financially troubled program, to keep music education alive in East Harlem's public schools inspired two Oscar-nominated films: the 1996 documentary *Small Wonders* and the 1999 feature *Music of the Heart*, starring **Meryl Streep**.

## Introducing Musical Theater to a New Generation of Fans and Future Artists

Kaufman Music Center has recently expanded the number of free and low-cost performances of its popular **Broadway Playhouse** concerts for school groups, bringing kids from Title I schools to the theater district for 15 performances. Kaufman Music Center has developed a curriculum guide for the series, which introduces children to classic Broadway musicals, to help teachers prepare kids for the concerts and contextualize the musicals. Through a new residency program, teaching artists go into schools in underserved communities, teaching children how to write the lyrics of a song.

## Bringing Music Education to Public Schools

Through its **Suzuki Program**, Kaufman Music Center provides violin scholarships for students at Harlem's P. S. 161, who study with Lucy Moses School instructors at their school in Harlem. At **Frank Sinatra High School** in Queens, Kaufman Music Center provides funding for private lessons with **Lucy Moses School** faculty. Kaufman Music Center faculty are frequently in the city's schools for residencies in music, theater and Dalcroze.

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