

Seattle Music Partners

VOLUNTEER FAQ

What is Seattle Music Partners?

Seattle Music Partners is a non-profit organization that provides after-school music instruction to underserved elementary and middle school students.



We recruit, screen, and train volunteers to work one-on-one with students at one of our partner schools in Seattle's Central District. Volunteer tutors come once a week after school to teach their students how to play instruments, read music and play in ensembles.

Who are the volunteers?

We welcome high school, college and community applicants who are passionate about playing music, enjoy working with children and who have an interest in community service. This past year we had over 100 musicians participate in the program as tutors.

Do I need teaching experience to participate?

No prior teaching experience is necessary. There is a mandatory orientation session on October 24 that will focus on teaching/mentoring techniques, cultural competencies, and other relevant skills and information. We also hold ongoing training and support sessions for volunteers.

What instruments are typically taught?

Clarinet, saxophone, flute, oboe, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, French horn, violin, viola, cello, double bass, piano, acoustic guitar and percussion. We match tutors with students according to their instrument.

Why volunteer?

The lives of SMP's tutors are invaluablely enriched by joining our program. Not only do tutors aid in the development of a student's learning and self-confidence, they also gain job experience, earn service-learning hours, improve their own musicianship and join a network of volunteer musicians from around the Seattle area. Help empower young people through music!

We work with Seattle-area schools to ensure that volunteer time is credited for any community service requirements.

When and where does the program take place?

Thurgood Marshall Elementary on Mondays
Leschi Elementary on Tuesdays
Washington Middle School on Wednesdays
Bailey Gatzert Elementary on Thursdays.

We ask that volunteers commit to one afternoon a week. All schools are in the Central District - contact us for specific addresses.

Our afternoon sessions run from about 3:00 – 5:15. Sessions include prep time, snack with the students, lessons and ensemble work, group de-briefings and training.

How can I become a volunteer?

First, download an application from www.seattlemusicpartners.org (“Be A Tutor”), or request an application by contacting our program coordinator, Lindsey Harris, at 206-422-8972 or lindsey@seattlemusicpartners.org.

Return the completed application to 4533 Sunnyside Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103. Once we have received your completed application, we will contact you.

Are there other ways to help?

If you have instruments, music stands or copies of *Standard of Excellence*, *New Directions for Strings* or other method books you’re able to donate, we would love to put them to use!

We also need volunteers for other areas like photography, recitals and more. Let us know what your interests are. AND, if you have friends or siblings who might be interested in volunteering, please spread the word!

How can I learn more?

Visit our website at www.seattlemusicpartners.org or contact our program coordinator, Lindsey Harris, at 206-422-8972 or lindsey@seattlemusicpartners.org.