

**M**usicBridge is a program the Ellington brings to at-risk children in our community. By presenting live musical performance and the fundamentals of music, the program “bridges” a connection between these children and local musicians—encouraging interaction between the children and the artists and creating opportunities for interested and talented children to begin musical study.

It is the Ellington’s desire to identify and cultivate musical talent in our community’s children, who otherwise might not have the opportunity to study music with trained musicians.

In cooperation with Lynchburg Parks and Recreation Department, The Ellington has scheduled a series of ensemble performances to be held at various Lynchburg community centers\*, featuring local musicians. At the end of the concert series, the children will attend a performance at the Ellington so that they can experience a large-scale live musical performance on a personal level.

After the concert series has ended, the Ellington will identify a group of children interested in pursuing study in performance and arrange for development of this interest through the

acquisition of musical instruments and arranging for lessons.

Participants in this program will range from elementary students through high school-aged students. While we do not want to put a limit on the number of children we will serve through the concert series, projected funding for the music study scholarship component of MusicBridge will serve seven children: one from each of the seven inner-city community centers. It is our hope to expand this number as the program grows.

*\*The seven community centers are: College Hill Community Center, Daniel’s Hill Community Center, Diamond Hill Community Center, Fairview Heights Community Center, Jefferson Park Community Center, Miller Park Community Center and Yoder Community Center.*

## The Ellington’s MusicBridge has four distinct components...

### 1 Community Center Concert Series

These concerts take place at the seven inner-city community centers. Refreshments are served at each concert given by an ensemble led by Lew Taylor—a dynamic local musician who is talented in many genres of music and with many instruments, including voice.

### 2 Large-scale Live Music Performance Experience

This phase marks the end of the MusicBridge program for most students. The children and their accompanying adult(s) will enjoy refreshments and a show at the Ellington—and be invited backstage to meet the musicians and gain knowledge of equipment and other behind-the-scenes activity involved with a concert.

### 3 Identifying Talent and Awarding of Scholarships

During this phase, directors of the community centers meet with representatives from the Ellington to identify one talented individual from each community center who will be awarded a scholarship to study for a school year with a trained musician. The scholarship will cover the costs of renting and insuring a musical instrument of the child’s choice and weekly music lessons with a trained musician.

### 4 Music Study through Ellington Scholarships

This phase spans across ten months, coinciding with the school calendar year. Students awarded the scholarships will study under a trained musician with an instrument of their choice, every week for ten months.

## funding

**We will continue to seek private donations and corporate sponsorships and depend on monies awarded from grants from future fundraising events. The Virginia Commission of the Arts contributes roughly 5% annually to the Ellington for our operating budget. Our ticket sales alone often do not cover the full expenses of our shows. Therefore, we rely on gifts, donations and sponsorships to continue our operations.**

## HELP SUPPORT MUSICBRIDGE!

- YES.** I’d like to support the Ellington’s MusicBridge with a tax deductible contribution.
- \$50: Eighth Note**  
(receive one free admission to any Ellington event)
- \$100: Quarter Note**  
(receive two free admissions to any Ellington event)
- \$250: Half Note**  
(receive one free admission to all season performances)
- \$500: Whole Note**  
(receive two free admissions to all season performances)
- Other** \_\_\_\_\_

*Free admissions for qualifying supporters will be mailed in accordance with the description.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in being contacted as an Ellington MusicBridge Volunteer?  Yes  No

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Please return completed form to The Ellington  
421 Rivermont Ave. Lynchburg, VA 24504**

*The Ellington is a 501-c-3 nonprofit arts organization, run entirely by volunteers. Your contributions to the Ellington in excess of ticket value are tax deductible.*

**The value of a child's exposure to quality musical performance and the opportunity to study an instrument is well documented—as is the fact that the music and arts programs are suffering the first cutbacks from school budgets.**

**The opportunity to study music is almost non-existent for low-income children. Obstacles such as transportation worries and expense, prevent these children from participating in these types of programs.**

**By bringing music to the children, the Ellington hopes to overcome these obstacles.**

## How can I help?

From providing refreshments at the concert events—to renting the instruments for the children, there are a variety of ways that you can help.

You will gain credit for being a sponsor of MusicBridge in all printed materials and by other means of advertising that will occur regarding MusicBridge.

The Ellington MusicBridge program has been awarded grant money from the **Junior League of Lynchburg** and **BWX Technologies**.

Thank you to our new community partners! Join them by filling out and returning the attached support form.

### Ellington Board Members

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421 Rivermont Ave. Lynchburg VA 24504

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# The Ellington's MusicBridge Program



**MusicBridge**  
an ellington community outreach program

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