



**BSW
X
POSITIVE APPROACH**



Buffalo-based print shop, Positive Approach, and BSW are teaming up to launch our first online store! **Limited-run hoodies available June 1-15 ONLY.** Visit PositiveApproachPress.com/BuffaloStringWorks to order.



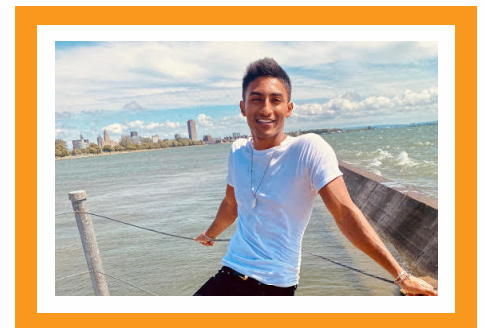
Dear BSW Family,

Wow, it's so great to finally introduce myself to you! My name is **Richard Manuel** and I am the newest addition to the BSW Family. I am originally from Myanmar and have been living in Buffalo since my family immigrated here in 2012. I am a junior pursuing a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Clinical Counseling at Canisius College and BSW lines up perfectly with what I am hoping to do for my future. Apart from my career goal of becoming a mental health counselor, I am also involved in the Burmese community in Buffalo. Outside of school, I am very passionate about all forms of self-expression including fashion, music (especially indie rock and folk), poetry, photography, drawing and the performing arts.

So what do I do at BSW? In my short time as BSW's **Community Connections Director**, I have had the opportunity to **connect** with the wonderful families of Buffalo String Works. From calling parents, to chatting with our wonderful Student Council during our week-long Cafe, to planning enrollment for our upcoming Summer Camp, I am so fortunate to be at the heart of this diverse program in this diverse community.

Maya Angelou once wrote, "*in diversity there is **beauty** and there is **strength**,*" and this phrase resonates in the soul of what Buffalo String Works stands for. So thank you for being a part of this beauty and this strength in these times.

Richard Manuel
Community Connections Director



**BSW T-SHIRT +
HOODIE SALE**
JUNE 1 - JUNE 15

JUNE CONCERT PREMIERE
SUNDAY, JUNE 20 @ 1PM

 youtube.com/buffalostringworks

STUDENT LEADERS

STUDENT COUNCIL

By **Julia Cordani, BSW Operations Manager + Development Associate**

Buffalo String Works has a brand-new **Student Council!** Oh how time flies - our students are growing into capable, passionate, and active leaders & citizens. As we continue to center our program around youth leadership and development, student leadership programs have been a longtime BSW dream. Thanks to a dedicated task force of Teaching Artists and Teaching Assistants, we made these dreams a reality this year, and our Student Council is now officially active.

But that's enough from the adults in the room - we want you to hear from our Student Council in their OWN words. Read below for our collective, student-designed mission, vision, and values as a Council:

Our **MISSION:** Buffalo String Works Student Council seeks to give our students a collective voice, inspiring lasting friendships and passionate playing within our program through student-led initiatives.

Our **VISION:** To give voice to our peers and our community, one note at a time

Our **VALUES:** leadership & legacy



Above: Student Council members and Practice Partners at the student leader-initiated BSW Café, held during their April break at Asbury Hall.



PRACTICE PARTNERS

By **Andrew Borkowski, Practice Partners Coordinator**

The **Practice Partners Program**, launched in January of this year, is designed to provide peer-to-peer teaching opportunities between students of varying experience levels. The **Practice Partners** work with a younger student in a **one-on-one lesson** overseen by a **Practice Mentor** who observes the lessons as they happen and provides feedback in a debrief session immediately after the lesson concludes. The Mentor and Practice Partner fill out evaluation forms to reflect on the lesson and to record areas of strength and improvement.

The Practice Partners are encouraged to work with their Practice Buddy on anything ranging from repertoire from their other BSW classes to exercises and technique. Periodically, training sessions are provided to bolster the Practice Partners' teaching tools and to address any issues that have arisen in the Practice Sessions.

In just a few months we have seen **incredible growth** in leadership, communication, confidence, and teaching skills, due in large part to clear and effective guidance from the Practice Mentors and a structure that allows for experimentation and builds trust. We are incredibly proud of these students and look forward to seeing them become true BSW leaders!

“Student Council makes me excited, like I feel like a leader.”

- **MOHAMED,**
STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER

“Thanks to Practice Partners, we get to be in our teacher's shoes and see how it's like from their perspective.”

- **AH SEH,**
PRACTICE PARTNER

BSW BRIGHT SPOTS

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT Teagan Faran

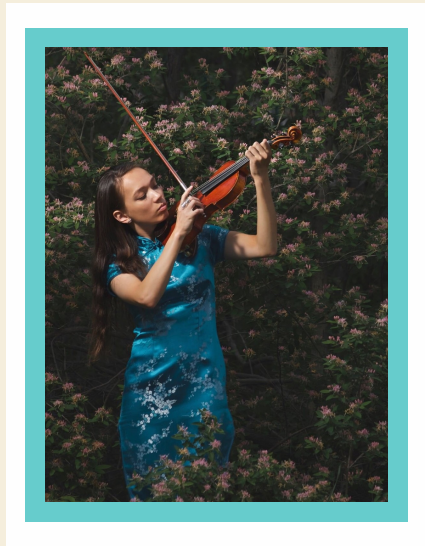
Teagan teaches viola as well as our **bilingual** Intro to BSW class in English and Spanish!

What is it like to teach BSW's first bilingual class?

It's really wonderful to be able to hear students share in whichever language they are most comfortable, and also translate for each other - it's been as educational for me preparing the class as I hope it is for the students!

What are your dreams for your BSW students?

My biggest dream for my BSW students is that they can continue to find and create kindness through togetherness like we have at BSW throughout their lives.

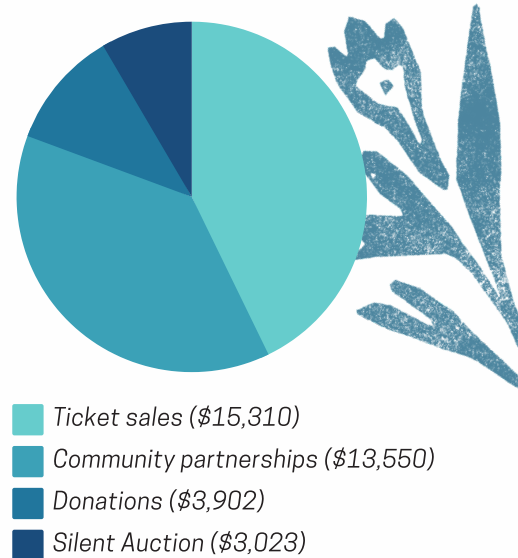


BENEFIT CONCERT BY THE NUMBERS

By Julia Cordani, BSW Operations Manager + Development Associate

What better way to celebrate our students' accomplishments and perseverance through this year than with a huge concert? Our 7th Annual Benefit Concert: They Would Only Walk premiered back in March, and we are so grateful for your support. We sold **435 tickets**, formed lasting relationships with **16 Community Partners**, held our first-ever **online Silent Auction**, and had **dozens of glowing fan reviews**. All of this helped us far exceed our initial fundraising goal, giving us more resources to support our students through this academic year and beyond. We couldn't have done it without you, our incredible BSW Family - **THANK YOU!**

YOU DID IT! We raised
\$35,785
of our **\$20,000 goal!**



"This has surpassed all my expectations so much I shared with some family members who are also music lovers."

COVID-19 VACCINE FAQ

This is the most current information at the time of printing. Please visit www.cdc.gov for the most up-to-date information.



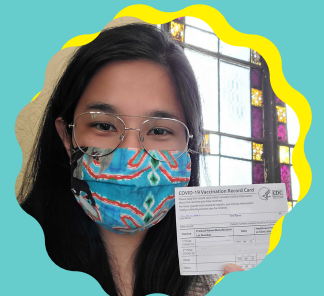
WHO'S ELIGIBLE?: As of May 13, individuals 12 years of age and older that reside in the United States are eligible to receive the vaccine.

WHERE DO I GET ONE?: Visit New York's online scheduling tool to confirm your eligibility and make an appointment.



WHAT SHOULD I BRING?: Bring a form of ID and your submission ID from the Vaccine Form to your vaccination appointment. Once you receive your vaccination card, keep it in a safe place!

Our Executive Director, Yuki Numata Resnick, is proud to be vaccinated! Please remember to follow CDC guidelines.



YOU CAN PLAY A PART!

Your investment today ensures that tomorrow's musicians have a voice.

To donate by check:

Please make payable to Buffalo String Works and mail to:

Buffalo String Works
P.O. Box 195
Buffalo, NY 14213

To donate online:

Visit us online at buffalostringworks.org/contribute

To donate by text:

Text **BSWFamily** to **716.216.3777**

Buffalo String Works is a 501(c)3 organization. Your donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

Be our audience, no matter where you may be!



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