



**VERMONT  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA**

2 Church Street, Suite 3B | Burlington, Vermont 05401 | 802-864-5741 ~ 800-VSO-9293 | vso.org

November 26, 2021

RE: 2022 Town Meeting Appropriation Request

Dear Town of Charleston Select Board,

Please consider sharing this letter and Article with town voters.

**Article: Shall the Town of Charleston voters approve the sum of \$100.00 as an appropriation to the SymphonyKids programs of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra?**

The North Country Friends of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra appreciates the Town of Charleston for supporting *SymphonyKids* programs for the children in your town. While the VSO was not allowed in schools during the pandemic, we created five free, online videos titled **Musical Chairs** about the different musical families of an orchestra. The videos are available on VSO's YouTube channel and have been viewed by 1,650 people so far, some may be from your town.

The Lois H. McClure Musicians-in-Schools program is our core music education program. The fully vaccinated musicians are returning to schools with this valuable educational resource this academic year. Each session includes instrument demonstrations, a wide sampling of repertoire, and audience participation.

This appropriation request supports the Musicians-in-Schools programs to benefit the youth in your town and the Northeast Kingdom. Each school show costs \$525 for musician/actor fees and mileage. Schools pay a portion of this cost, leaving the balance subsidized through your town appropriation and individual sponsorships.

The VSO greatly appreciates your support in providing access to classical music for ALL children! For more information, please contact the VSO at 802-864-5741 or visit the <https://www.vso.org/> website.

Thank you!

North Country Friends of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra

**RECEIVED**  
(11-29-21)

APPROVED 12/9/21



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December 1, 2021

Town Manager  
Town of Charleston  
5063 VT-105  
West Charleston, VT 05872

Dear Town Manager,

Thank you for your support in uniting our communities through music! We are grateful for your gift to the Vermont Symphony Orchestra of \$100 on November 16, 2021 in support of SymphonyKids.

It's because of supporters like you that we are able to offer innovative and exceptional programs that are essential to Vermont's cultural health. Together, we are building and contributing to a stronger creative economy and investing in a true Vermont treasure around which families build tradition.

Thank you for helping us enrich Vermont's beauty through music. I hope to have the chance to thank you in person at a future performance when the day comes that we can gather again. Until then, please accept our deepest gratitude and feel free to contact to me at [sasha@vso.org](mailto:sasha@vso.org) or (802) 864-5741 ext. 125.

With thanks,

*Sasha Vaut O'Keeffe*  
Sasha Vaut-O'Keeffe  
Director of Philanthropy

*Thank you!  
We're looking forward to  
bringing our revised SymphonyKids  
program back to Charleston!*

Please retain this letter for your tax records. No goods or services have been provided by the VSO in exchange for this contribution. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. (VSO Federal Tax ID# 03-0222134)