

HIGHBRIDGE VOICES

Inspiring excellence through music.



Richard Owen – Chief Executive Officer
Aryanna Ramos – Operations Manager

For Immediate Release

Contact: Aryanna Ramos
aeramos@highbridgevoices.org
718-293-8759

Highbridge Voices Annual Benefit Concert on June 12th will present beautiful and uplifting choral pieces, at Theatre at St. Jeans in NYC

Bronx, New York - [Highbridge Voices](#) (HBV), renowned nonprofit organization committed to empowering youth through music education, is proud to announce its 2025 Annual Benefit on June 12, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Theatre at St. Jean Baptiste in New York City. Celebrating 27 years of instructing and presenting the most promising minority youth choral singers from Highbridge (Bronx), the concert will be led by HBV Conductor, Michelle Trinidad and assisted by Antonio Del Valle.

The event will be honoring [Yeime Valle](#), for her immense contributions to education, her impact in shaping the next generation of educators, as well as her involvement in the Highbridge community and Highbridge Voices. The audience will also enjoy the superb playing and presence of our featured guest artist: award-winning young Brazilian Flutist, [Guilherme Andreas](#). Praised as the “Rampal from Brasilia” for his powerful sound, refined technique and artistry, Andreas received First Place in the 2020 International Music Competition "Paris and London" and has performed with numerous leading orchestras and concertized in major concert halls worldwide.

The evening promises to be a celebration of community, music, and the transformative power of education. Guests will be treated to a dynamic performance featuring students from Highbridge Voices under the direction of Michelle Trinidad, whose artistry and dedication have inspired generations of young musicians. The concert will showcase a variety of musical genres, highlighting the incredible talents of the students and the unity that music can foster across diverse communities.

“We are thrilled to bring together this vibrant community of young people, each with their own unique voices, to create something truly special,” said Richard Owen, CEO of Highbridge Voices. “Our Annual Benefit is not only an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students, but also a chance to raise essential funds that enable us to continue offering transformative music education to underserved youth in the Bronx

and beyond. We are also looking forward to working with Brilla Schools and Seton Education Partners, as they embark on their new chapter in Highbridge.”

Highbridge Voices, incorporated in 2001, provides free music education and mentorship to young people in the Bronx, helping them develop the skills and confidence needed for success in life. The organization’s programs include choral music, music lessons, and performance opportunities, all designed to instill discipline, creativity, love for the arts, and crucial life skills. The Brilla Pax School in the Bronx, an essential partner of Highbridge Voices, shares the same dedication to academic excellence, character development, and community involvement.

Michelle Trinidad, Highbridge Voices Conductor, is a highly respected leader in music education. Known for her engaging teaching style and deep commitment to nurturing young talent, Trinidad has been instrumental in shaping the musical landscapes of her students. Currently the Director of Music at Sacred Heart School, and recently named Music Director at Brilla Pax, Ms. Trinidad is dedicated to fostering artistic excellence in Highbridge and the students she works with.

Funds raised during the Annual Benefit will support Highbridge Voices' educational programs, scholarships, and performance opportunities, helping ensure that young people in the Bronx have access to the arts, regardless of their financial background.

The event is expected to bring together philanthropists, community leaders, and art enthusiasts who are passionate about supporting the next generation of deserving minority artists.

Tickets and Sponsorship Opportunities for the 2025 Annual Benefit are available now, with a range of sponsorship opportunities for individuals and businesses looking to support the event and the mission of Highbridge Voices.

Concert will be preceded by a cocktail party at 5:30 PM.

For more information, please visit www.highbridgevoices.org

Support Highbridge Voices: [Donate](#)

Contact via email info@highbridgevoices.org

Phone 718-293-8759

[Facebook.com/HBVoices](https://www.facebook.com/HBVoices)

About Highbridge Voices:

Highbridge Voices is a nonprofit organization that provides completely free music and academic enrichment programs to youth in the Bronx. Through a comprehensive approach that integrates music, mentorship, and academic support, Highbridge Voices aims to empower young people to become confident, accomplished individuals who are prepared for success in life and beyond.

Tickets and further information are available at:

<https://www.highbridgevoices.org/2025-benefit-concert/>

Theatre at St. Jean Baptiste – 184 E 76th St, New York, NY 10021

HBV notable community connections include collaborations with Brilla, Bronx Debate Academy, FLACS, Nausin Next Generation, Green School, MOSAIC Beacon, PS 11 and Sacred Heart School (soon to be Brilla Pax). In addition, HBV maintains partnerships with Fordham University for academic support, the Dr. Richard Barnett Foundation, as well as Catholic Charities, Highbridge Community Development Corporation, and others.

Michelle Trinidad, originally from the South Side of Tucson, Arizona, is now a grammy-nominated, sought after Music Educator, Conductor, Music Curriculum Developer, Vocalist and Music Education Consultant. Currently the Director of Music at Sacred Heart School (soon to be Brilla Pax) in the Highbridge part of Bronx, NY. She is also the founder of Divinity Series Music which names an Affordable Summer Music Clinic and Private Studio of Voice, String and Piano students. Ms. Trinidad holds two bachelor degrees from Northern Arizona University in Vocal Performance and Choral Education with a minor in English. She holds a Master's degree in Music Education: Choral from Florida State University and she is currently embarking on her PhD in Music Education from Columbia University. She is in her 10th year as a passionate, forward thinking music educator; her high performing students earning donations, accolades and seats in the top performing arts high schools in New York. Music Excellence is rooted in her professional performing experiences since her arrival in New York City. She performs with the New York Philharmonic Chorus, The Unsung Collective, Voices of Harlem, Voices of A New: Voices of Ascension, Dessoiff Choirs, the Cathedral Choir at Abyssinian Baptist Church, Marble Collegiate Choir and Cecilia Chorus of New York. Along with her resume in performance, Ms. Trinidad arranges and composes music for developmental choirs and string orchestra- all inspired by her students past and present. Ms Trinidad will continue keeping in sight the marginalized demographic of students often overlooked, yet full of talent.

Yeime Valle is an accomplished executive with over 20 years of leadership experience in education and community development. As the executive director of the Brilla Schools Network, she has been instrumental in driving the organization's growth and success.

Yeime's journey began as the Director of Religious Education for a Bronx parish, where she oversaw the planning, implementation, and coordination of a comprehensive program for individuals from Pre-K to adults. She provided training to parents and teachers, ensuring they were equipped to support the program while also empowering parents to engage in their children's education and utilize community resources. Building upon her experience in program management, Yeime joined Brilla and Seton schools, serving as the Founding Operations Leader for the schools and subsequently progressing to the role of Senior Network Director of Operations. Her exceptional leadership skills and strategic thinking were instrumental in establishing and scaling the operations of these institutions, ensuring their smooth functioning and growth from one to seven schools.

Additionally, Yeime assumed the role of Chief of the El Camino and Seton Teaching Fellows program. In this capacity, she provided invaluable guidance and mentorship to aspiring educators, helping them develop the skills and knowledge necessary for a successful teaching career. Through her leadership, Yeime played a crucial part in shaping the next generation of educators, fostering a positive impact on the educational landscape. Yeime led the creation of the El Camino catechism curriculum, which received the imprimatur of His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, in 2020.

Yeime holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Panama and has a degree in Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts. She lives in New York with her husband and their six children. In both her professional and personal life, Yeime is deeply committed to fostering education, community, and family values, a dedication that continuously shapes the future of the Brilla Schools Network.

Guilherme Andreas, praised as the "Rampal from Brasilia" by Maestro and composer Júlio Medaglia (Preludio TV Show, 2014) for his powerful sound, refined technique and artistry, Andreas has become one of the most prominent flutists of his generation.

Brazilian flutist Guilherme Andreas received First Place in the 2020 International Music Competition "Paris and London" Grand Prize Virtuoso and 2019 Concert Artists International Virtuoso Competition's professional division.

Andreas began his musical career in Brazil, where he studied at the University of Brasília and then completed his Bachelor's Degree in Flute Performance at the Brazilian Conservatory of Music, under the guidance of French Professor Odette

Ernest Dias. Andreas also received a Graduate Diploma in Chamber Music at the same institution being mentored by British cellist Sr. David Chew, and studied in parallel with Cláudia Ribeiro do Nascimento (OSESF) and Michel Bellavance (Conservatoire de Genève).

As a soloist of the Brazilian Marines Wind Symphony, Andreas performed in major concert halls throughout Brazil and other countries of South America. As a chamber musician, his concerts with Trio Gaubert (cello, flute and piano), took place in theaters and museums throughout Rio de Janeiro. Andreas received numerous prizes at competitions in Brazil including Young Soloists of the Eleazar de Carvalho Festival and the Sargent Borges Medal, granted to the leader of the Sergeant Musicians Course of the Brazilian Marine Corps. He also received a full scholarship to pursue his Masters studies in flute in the USA, awarded in Brazil by the Young Musicians in the Museum Competition in partnership with James Madison University in Virginia.

During his Master's studies, Andreas won the JMU Concert Competition, culminating in a performance of the Reinecke concerto with the JMU Orchestra. In 2016, Andreas began studying at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, where he received his Graduate Performance Diploma, and the Peabody Career Award in 2018. A highpoint of his time at Peabody was his performance of the Nielsen Flute Concerto with the Peabody Symphony Orchestra.

Andreas has appeared in recitals, concerts and presentations throughout the US, including the Global Brazil Conference at Duke University, Symposium on Brazil at Johns Hopkins University, and recent concerts in Nashville, Washington, New York City, Rochester, Boston, Seattle, among other cities. After being invited to perform as Principal Flute with the New England Symphonic Ensemble at Carnegie Hall in NYC (2016-2019), Andreas gave a solo performance in 2019 together with fellow CAI Virtuoso Competition winners.

Andreas was also appointed as a Trevor James Alto Flutes Artist, selected to be a member of the 2019 Global Leaders Program, and awarded the SphinxConnect 2019 and 2020 Fellowship and a 2020 Sphinx Orchestral Partners Auditions Fellowship. Andreas is also an Artist in Residence with Sugar Hill Chamber Music series.

Andreas has been an active performer throughout the U-S, and his debut album Beyond Bossa Nova has been received with great acclaim to all audiences in the US and other countries. His most recent performances include guest appearances with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival with The Unsung Collective and the Kennedy Center Honors Concert Orchestra.

Andreas is currently based in New York, where he dedicates his time to performing, teaching, and discovering historically lesser-known composers, whose works express extreme ranges of emotions and demand tremendous virtuosity.

Currently, Andreas is the Performing and Visual Arts Department Chair at Garden School, a vibrant and musical private school in Jackson Heights, NYC.

Andreas is a NAAS Musician and a Sphinx Organization affiliated.

For Immediate Release
