



“Underlying the [Silkroad] process is a foundation of deep listening, respect, trust, openness, and the shared goal of connection with each other and with our audience.”

– Karen Ouzounian, Silkroad cellist

As we consider the values of inclusion and curiosity that drew Silkroad together in the first place, we are proud of this past year’s endeavors and are energized by the prospect of what lies ahead. The roadmap is clear: creating music that engages difference, sparks passion-driven learning, and fosters listening.

New music, a broad range of artistic perspectives, and building community are central to Silkroad’s mission. This year featured newly commissioned pieces at our Freer|Sackler museum residency, inspired by artwork on exhibit. Original works arranged and composed by Silkroad artists were included in Lynn Novack’s and Ken Burns’ *The Vietnam War* series. We began a collaboration with the city of Reggio Emilia, Italy, to foster a dynamic of curiosity and empathy between strangers. We launched multi-year U.S.-based

residencies at Rice University in Houston, TX, and The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, where we’re using new commissions to drive and inspire residency activities.

In October 2017, we embraced a new co-artistic leadership model, celebrating the collaborative spirit of Silkroad. Together, we are pursuing an ever-broader coalition of voices, representative of the world’s many perspectives, and remain firmly rooted in the belief that embracing difference leads to a more hopeful world.

Jeffrey Beecher
Co-Artistic Director

Nicholas Cords
Co-Artistic Director

Eduardo A Braniff
Executive Director

Shane Shanahan
Co-Artistic Director

To view the video click on the image or follow the link bit.ly/what-is-silkroad





“I think that’s the incredible force of Silkroad’s collaboration and programming; in coming together, we become open to transcend our own personal and cultural backgrounds and aesthetic.”

– Mario Gotoh, Silkroad violist

Silkroad artists are at the center of our work: they model Silkroad’s approach to radical cultural collaboration through performances, workshops, and partnerships across disciplines.



56,220

people in 27 cities joined Silkroad artists at 56 performances and 92 workshops

24

days on tour in the U.S. Northeast and Florida – Silkroad’s longest tour yet. 5 universities visited and 9 learning activities presented throughout the tour.



49

artists co-created music and ideas

27

instruments representing more than 10 traditions from around the world

7

world premieres given by Silkroad

Silkroad presented *Layla and Majnun*, an evening-length collaboration with the Mark Morris Dance Group, Alim Qasimov, and Fargana Qasimova.

12
performances

4
U.S. cities

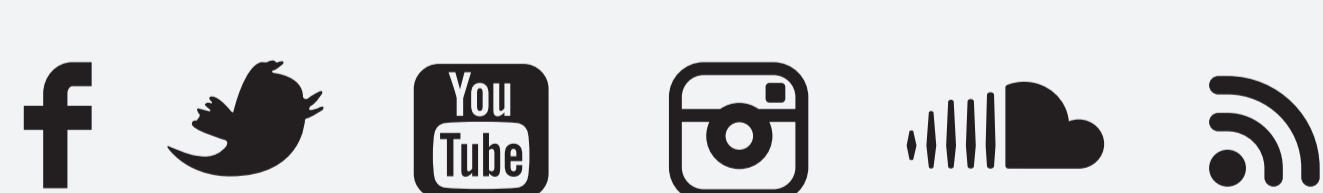
24,407
audience members



9

arrangements and compositions were created by Silkroad for *The Vietnam War* series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, released 2017.

Silkroad extended its community online, engaging more people than ever:



2.5 million

people reached and 427,000 engagements across all digital media

125,192

web visitors and 277,876 page views from 192 countries

To view the video click on the image or follow the link bit.ly/no-go-slow





“We operate by asking questions to a new stranger in the room, and we operate with the idea of learning to listen — fully listen — with our whole bodies and our whole senses.”

– Cristina Pato, Silkroad Galician bagpiper, at TedX Reggio Emilia

Off the stage, Silkroad artists are also teachers, producers, and advocates. They lead musician training workshops, create residency programs in schools, museums, and communities of all sizes, and experiment with new media and genres to share Silkroad’s model of radical cultural collaboration.

To view the video click on the image or follow the link bit.ly/silkroad-latina



Global Musician Workshop

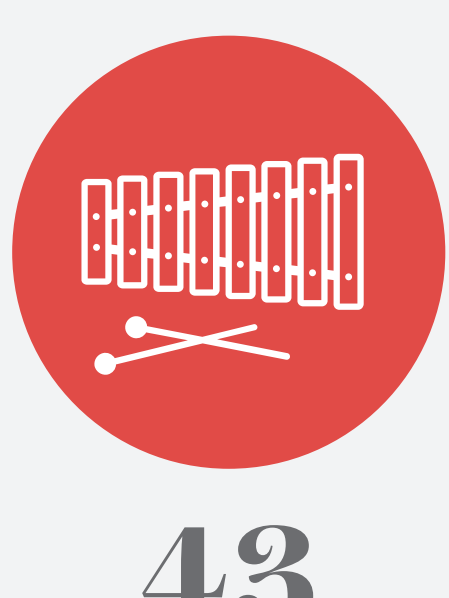
Silkroad’s Global Musician Workshop (GMW) is a week-long program where globally minded musicians learn from one another’s traditions, incorporating them into their own musical voices. The fourth annual GMW was held at DePauw University’s School of Music in Greencastle, IN, from **June 25 - July 1, 2018**.



64
participant musicians from 12 countries and 20 U.S. states attended the workshop



\$30,450
in financial aid made it possible for 42 participants to attend



43
bands and 35 workshops led by 11 artist faculty



16.5
hours in rehearsal to prepare for 4 participant concerts

Residencies based in the U.S.

Silkroad residencies are deeply informed by global perspectives and guided by the passions of our growing collective of musicians, teaching artists, and cultural advocates. The creation of new music is integral to these residencies, featuring workshops designated for the development of original works. At Harvard University, Silkroad collaborated with the Business School to present a brand new case study about the organization.

- This year’s U.S.-based partners included:
 - Rice University, Houston, TX
 - The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA
 - Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
 - Freer|Sackler, Washington, DC

4

U.S.-based residencies featured 12 performances and 16 workshops. 12 newly commissioned pieces developed in workshops.



930
first-year Harvard Business School students participated in a Silkroad case study written by Harvard professors Rohit Deshpandé (Silkroad Board of Directors), Paul A. Gompers, and Scott Duke Kominers.

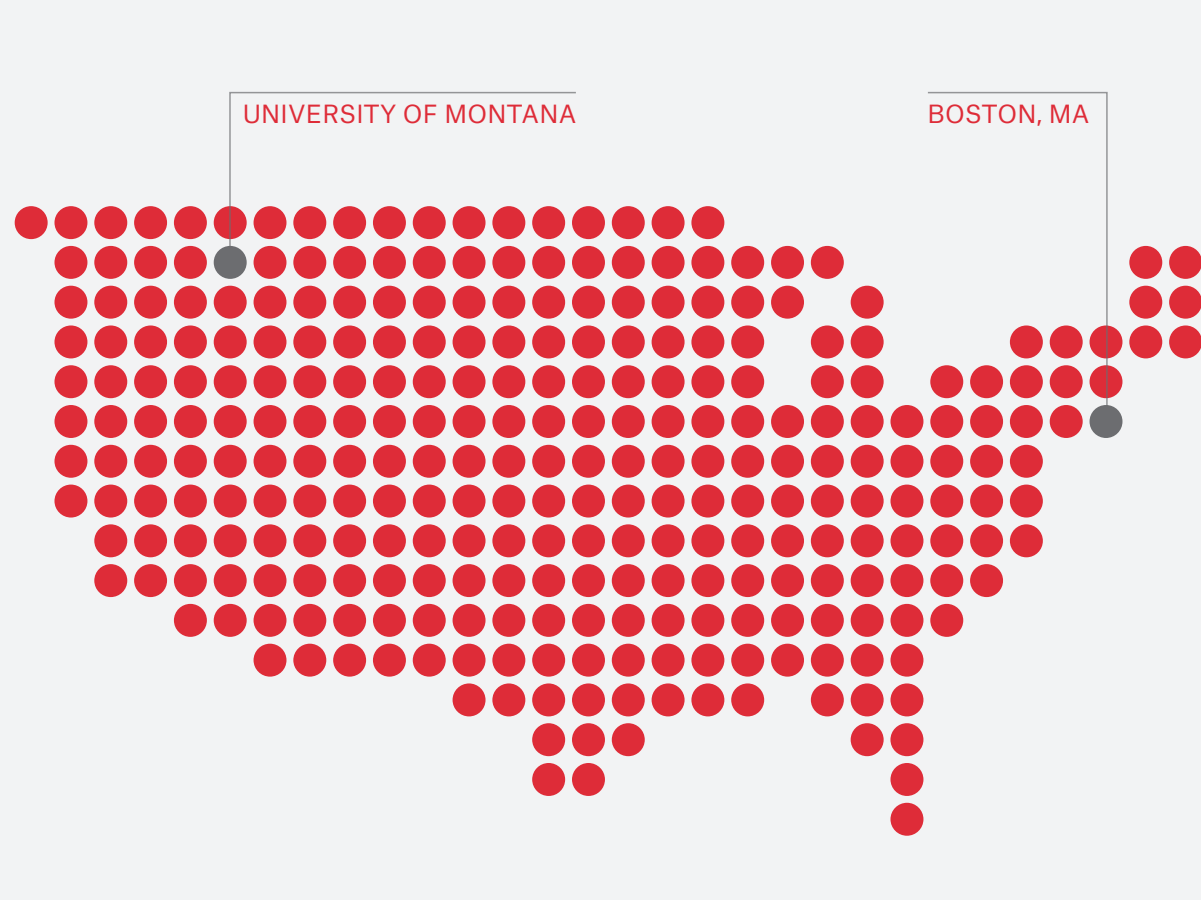
Lab Sites

Silkroad artists returned to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Lame Deer, Montana, a deeply valued lab site, where Silkroad works collaboratively with teachers on the ground to explore art as a tool for collaboration across cultures.

The lessons learned from these hands on experiences are shared with teachers through professional development workshops, a key strategy for reaching greater numbers of students and scaling the impact of Silkroad’s work.

351

teachers attended a panel and workshops at both Montana Arts Integration Conference (University of Montana) and Mass Cultural Council (Boston Public Library).



“I saw in [Silkroad] a kind of humanity that comes with the great desire to find themselves equal in their differences.”

– Carla Rinaldi, President of Reggio Children Foundation

Silkroad launched a partnership with the city of Reggio Emilia, Italy renowned for its approach to early childhood education.

This “city of a hundred languages” provides an exceptional lab site to explore the role of the artist in a city whose growing migrant population introduces an expanding notion of community.



625
people from Reggio Emilia joined Silkroad over 5 days for 10 performances, 6 workshops, 1 panel, 1 press conference, and 7 meetings with cultural partners.

Inspired by our work in Jordan last year, Silkroad traveled to Lebanon to share music.

This was the next step in designing a long-term partnership with the Jusoor Refugee Education Program.

246

Syrian refugee students participated in 10 workshops.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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REVENUE	\$	EXPENSES	\$	STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	\$
Performance Fees	1,639,908	Program Services	2,611,889	Assets	
Program Income	265,514	General Administration	471,250	Cash	1,286,449
Grants and Contributions	1,491,261	Fundraising	304,130	Grants and Contributions Receivable, Net	1,362,147
Merchandise Sales	11,233	Loss on Sales and Disposals of Equipment	596	Other Receivables	230,071
Other Income	36,885	Total Expenses	3,387,838	Prepaid Expenses and Other Current Assets	156,564
Interest Income	313			Inventory	4,339
Total Revenue	3,445,114			Equipment and Improvements, Net	6,328
				Total Assets	3,045,898
				Liabilities	
				Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	450,804
				Deferred Revenue	200,000
				Total Liabilities	650,804
				Net Assets	
				Unrestricted, Undesignated	437,803
				Unrestricted, Board Designated	125,641
				Temporarily Restricted	1,831,650
				Total Net Assets	2,395,094
				Total Liabilities and Net Assets	3,045,898

Sponsors

Silkroad (The Silk Road Project, Inc.) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization supported by individuals, foundations, and corporations. We are deeply grateful to the institutional partners whose generous support enables us to promote innovation, learning, and cross-cultural understanding around the world.



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