

REDEFINING A GREAT
Arts EXPERIENCE

HONORING
Mark Murphy
John Zoubek
Orange Orphan Society

Nov
02
2019

SOPAC
gala



Orange Orphan Society

Organized in 1854, the Orange Orphan Society was originally founded to support the care of orphaned children living in the Newark Orphan Asylum. In 1870, it became the auxiliary for the newly-built Orange Orphanage on Harrison Street in Orange. The orphanage closed in 1945, but the Society continued to manage the Endowment Fund for the benefit of children who formerly resided in the orphanage. The building was demolished in 1949 and the property was sold in 1951. The endowment was then used for camperships, support of child-care agencies, and scholarships.

The current mission of the Society is to financially support programs and services for children 18 years of age and younger residing in the Oranges and Maplewood. There are 15 Trustees and no paid staff. Meetings are held at members' homes or at grantee agencies as there is no office space available. The Society is run on an all-volunteer basis. There is an active annual grant-making process, with each trustee acting as the liaison for several agencies. Annual grants range in size from \$3,000 to \$100,000.

SOPAC has received significant funds over the years from Orange Orphan Society for our School Performance Series and our Music and Dance Residencies. A portion of the funds have gone towards subsidizing ticket and transportation costs for students from the Oranges and Maplewood for whom cost is a barrier to attendance. Other funds have been allocated towards costs of the residencies which serve children in Orange, South Orange and Maplewood. By bringing arts programming to the children of the Oranges and Maplewood, SOPAC is able to not only provide inspirational arts experiences, but also nurture future generations of artists and arts audiences.