

Sam Udjo Leads Angklung Workshop at Community Music Center San Francisco-by Andre Harsono

An interactive musical experience brings Indonesian heritage and harmony to all ages



On July 20, 2025, Maestro Sam Udjo, renowned Indonesian angklung artist, visited the Community Music Center Concert Hall for an educational workshop and performance. Participants of all ages explored how the bamboo instrument transforms individual notes into rich, collective harmonies, experiencing music as both art and collaboration.

The event was organized by **Yanti Gordon** and **Yulda Asmara**, in partnership with the Community Music Center and the Indonesian Consulate in San Francisco. **Ali M. Sungkar**, Acting Consul General of Indonesia, described the gathering as “cultural diplomacy in action,” emphasizing music’s power to bridge communities.

Students felt the impact immediately. “When I played it alongside others, I felt instantly connected—it was like we were breathing together through music,” said **Ben Turse**, student.

Reflecting on Hans Christian Andersen’s adage, “Where words fail, music speaks,” **Sylvanna, Ambassador at the Community Music Center, San Francisco**, noted that Sam Udjo’s visit offered a rare opportunity for collective harmony and cultural exchange, showing that angklung music transcends age, language, and background—**truly music for all people, in all seasons.**