

1 Annual National Learning and Research Events

In partnership with Duke University, El Sistema USA will host annual learning and research events on campus. The El Sistema USA – Duke University 2018 National Symposium on January 19-20, 2018 explored how El Sistema as a philosophy and program model embodies two major themes at the forefront of policy and current practice in education and social change: **collective impact and racial equity.**

2 Monthly Webinar Series

ESUSA offers a monthly webinar series, free-of-charge to members, led by experts in their fields to support the professional development of teachers, administrators, board members, volunteers and students in the El Sistema movement.

3 Quarterly Regional Workshops

ESUSA supports regional gatherings quarterly, which will rotate bi-annually through the West/Northwest, Midwest, South, Southeast and Northeast United States. Gatherings include student seminars and regional professional development workshops.

4 Advocacy for Music Organizations through Partnerships

ESUSA has identified national partners who align with El Sistema-inspired values, and we participate in national advocacy conversations supporting music education as a core subject in our public-school system, and the impact arts and culture has on communities. Future plans for ESUSA include developing simple local advocacy tools for members, and talking points connecting local organizations to the national music education movement.

5 Technical Grants for Reinvestment in the Field and Future Programming

ESUSA has future plans to support small grants for travel and technical assistance to our members to facilitate their professional development and support performance opportunities, and to help develop mechanisms to share repertoire, share resources, as well as provide fundraising education and recognition of excellence among member programs.

6 Evaluation and Research

Through our partnership with Duke University, El Sistema USA conducts a biannual Census of our membership and creates benchmarking reports for use by the field. In addition, ESUSA is committed to independent research of the collective impact of Sistema programs nationwide.

7 Awareness Building and Online Resources

ESUSA has created a brand new website with a new logo and member badge, an interactive map and program directory, a jobs board, and an online portal where members can login for access to shared resources including repertoire, sample curriculum plans, sample budgets, sample strategic plans and other organizational documents, as well as our Census and Benchmarking reports. Our monthly e-newsletter shares the work of our members with over 1,000 subscribers, and promotes their success and challenges through our social media platforms.



Mission

To support and grow a nationwide movement of programs inspired by Venezuela's "El Sistema," to effect social change through music for children with the fewest resources and the greatest need.

Vision 2027

El Sistema USA supports El Sistema-inspired organizations to provide music education to underserved youth, developing the essential life skills and habits of mind they need to lead successful lives.

In 2027, El Sistema USA is...

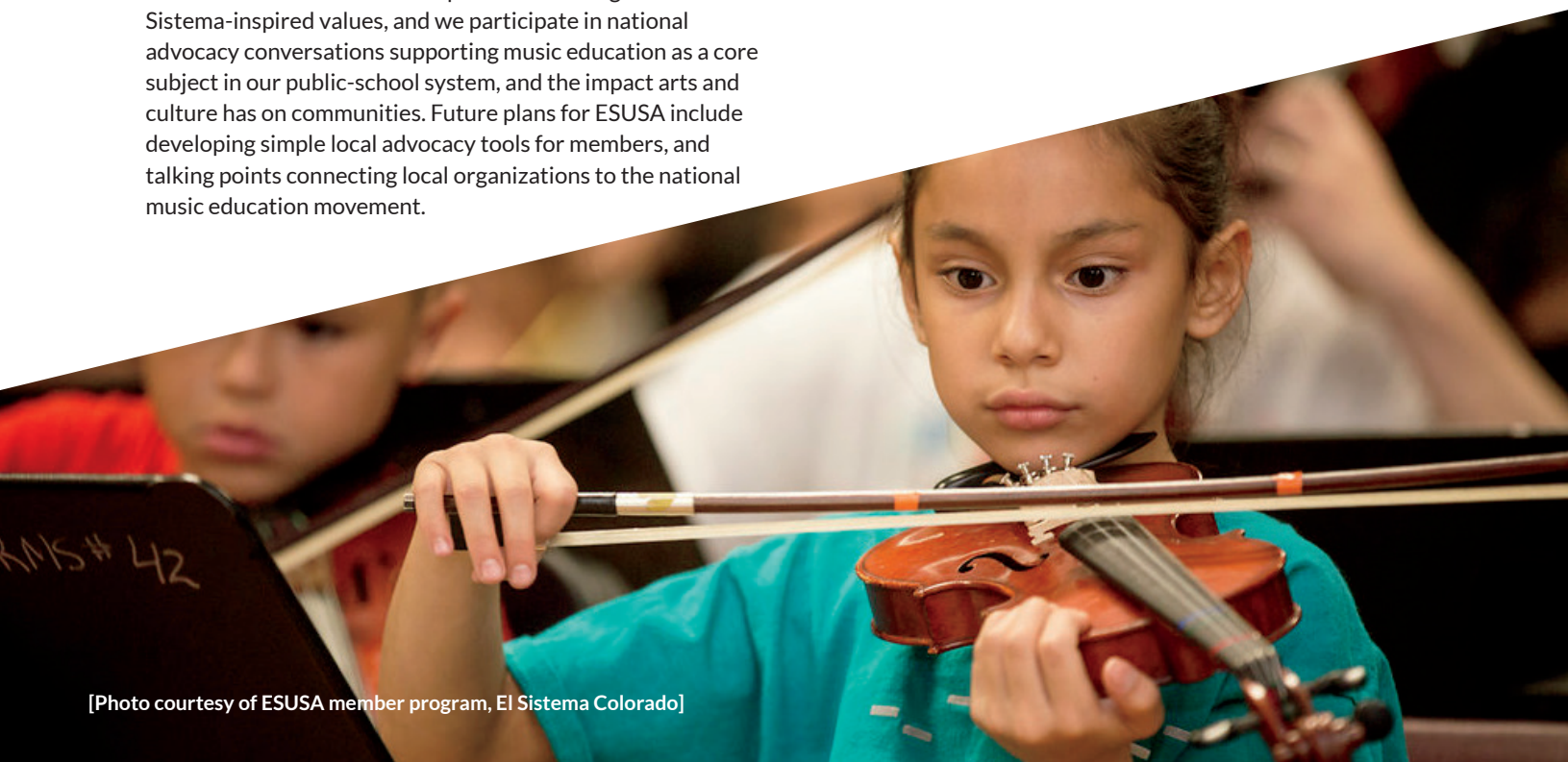
- ✓ Driving El Sistema as a nationally recognized intervention for youth empowerment and development through music education in all settings that serve under-resourced youth, including schools, juvenile justice systems, foster care, and early-childhood programs.
- ✓ An alliance of 200 member organizations (up from 62), reflective of many music disciplines led by a majority of leaders representative of their communities.
- ✓ Serving 100,000 underserved children in El Sistema-inspired programs represented in every state, in rural and urban areas.
- ✓ A national advocate of music education as a tool for youth empowerment.
- ✓ A strong ally among local and national public education systems, public and private funders, and connected to political supporters of music education for all.
- ✓ Strongly connected to the broader global movement of El Sistema.

Core Values

- ✓ **Equity** – we believe all young people have the right to reach their full potential
- ✓ **Empowerment** – we are committed to helping member organizations fulfill their goals
- ✓ **Excellence** – we hold ourselves, our member organizations and our educational values to the highest standards; we strive for excellence in music and in our services to members
- ✓ **Impact** – we measure the impact of our work and constantly strive to improve
- ✓ **Sustainability** – we are committed to furthering our mission, to strengthening our movement and our member organizations
- ✓ **Joy** – we believe in strengthening the spirit in all that we do
- ✓ **Community** – we encourage collaboration and community building at all levels of organization

Summary of 2020 Strategic Priorities for El Sistema USA

- 1 Through the execution of all 6 priorities listed below, effect social change through music.
- 2 Through data gathering and evaluation – measure and tell the story of the national collective impact of community-based El Sistema programs.
- 3 Through professional development and performance opportunities – leverage and promote existing convening opportunities to create a web of professional development resources for members and nonmembers nationally.
- 4 Build increased awareness of ESUSA and member programs – by creating new media and public relations efforts to build awareness of El Sistema nationally.
- 5 Through membership support, encourage growth – by providing meaningful member benefits to support our current members and increase our numbers, as well as support the proliferation of new El Sistema-inspired programs.
- 6 Improve funding and fundraising development for members – through demonstrating the impact of El Sistema to funders, create increased funding and resource opportunities for members, including grants, instruments, and supplies, with the eventual goal of providing technical assistance grants to members.
- 7 Be a national voice for public music education – by becoming an effective voice in the arts education lobby for the importance of high level music instruction for all children and youth in our public education systems.



[Photo courtesy of ESUSA member program, El Sistema Colorado]