“I have been watching the growth of programs in the United States. Today, I can say, El Sistema USA is a reality.” Stated with solemnity, these were the opening remarks of Roberto Zambrano, Venezuelan cellist and conductor, during our January 2019 Symposium in Detroit. After years of evolution and growth, we are thrilled to be named for the work of our field. As Maestro Abreu has said, “ser no ser todavía,” we are always evolving, always striving.

-This year has been an exploration of impact for El Sistema USA. From the creation of full-tuition university scholarships, to hosting our second annual symposium, and providing research and benchmarking data for our growing community, we have explored how to make differences both large and small.

Thank you for your vision of a wide-open world, full of people who are driven by the spirit of tocar y luchar. Music has united us in our work, and we are “a reality.” I hope to see you at next year’s symposium, and at a future seminario near you!

Sincerely,
Katie
MISSION

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

A YEAR OF GROWTH

115
Member organizations
(100% growth from 2016)

34
States & Territories

20,000
Students

1,500+
Teaching Artists

Photo Credit: Buffalo String Works
WE ARE MEMBERS OF **EL SISTEMA USA**

**OUR MOST COMMON PARTNERS:**
- Symphony Orchestras
- Schools
- Community Organizations
- Youth Orchestras
- Education Alliances

47% Organizations part of a larger 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

53% Independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations
EL SISTEMA USA MEMBER SUPPORT

**LEARNING AND NETWORKING EVENTS**
- National Symposium
- Regional seminarios & gatherings
- Professional development forums & webinars

**ADVOCACY FOR MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS**
- Promoting national policies that support state and federal funding for music education
- Development of toolkits for lobbying local legislators

**FUNDING**
- Small grants for member-based projects
- Member discounts & scholarships through partnerships
- Leveraging national funding opportunities for Members

**EVALUATION AND RESEARCH**
- National census and benchmarking reports
- Impact evaluation of El Sistema nationally

**AWARENESS BUILDING AND ONLINE RESOURCES**
- Online resources & video library
- Increasing brand awareness of the El Sistema movement nationally

Photo Credit: Anjuli Vecchies
2019 EL SISTEMA USA NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
“360 DEGREES OF EXCELLENCE”

200+ Attendees
60+ Teaching Artists
30+ Students from Detroit-area programs
80+ Organizations Represented

SYMPOSIUM CO-CHAIRS:

CALIDA JONES
Director of Development & Advocacy, PROJECT MUSIC Stamford, CT; Board of Directors, El Sistema USA

TINA ROWAN
Executive Director, Accent Pontiac Bloomfield Hills, MI

“When I thought about the theme “360 Degrees of Excellence”, I considered the following: We cannot look at this process as what do I gain but rather how many people’s lives will be changed because I served them freely, and wholeheartedly. Then and only then will you feel and see those degrees of excellence working together as a team to create an environment that carries multiple access points and opportunities for our deserving children across the nation.”

- CALIDA JONES

El Sistema USA
2019 NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
360 DEGREES OF EXCELLENCE
January 30th-31st • Detroit, MI

PHINX
Aaron P. Dworkin • Founder

Thanks to our partnership with the Sphinx Organization, an organization that transforms lives through the power of diversity in the arts, almost 100 attendees attended “SphinxConnect2019: Leaders Rising” for free.

Photo Credit: Zaw M Kyaw
In January of 2019, El Sistema USA launched the Socio-Cultural Awareness Forum, a program of El Sistema USA’s Racial Diversity & Cultural Understanding Committee. Each month, the forum offers El Sistema USA Members a chance to gather virtually to discuss best practices on inclusion and culturally responsive pedagogy in their programs.

FORUM FACILITATORS:

**MONIQUE VAN WILLINGH**
Director of Music & Social Change Programs, Longy School of Music of Bard College; Board of Directors, El Sistema USA

**HILLARY HARDER**
El Sistema Coordinator, Elkhart County

"Culturally responsive engagement is integral to our work in the community, as teachers, leaders and advocates of equitable arts education. Our hope is that this forum will be a platform that ‘holds space’ for those interested in having the hard conversations around diversity and culture in a supportive, collaborative, yet candid environment."

- MONIQUE VAN WILLINGH
Our partnership with Guitars 4 Gifts has created an opportunity for over 120 instruments to be donated to more than 40 El Sistema USA Member organizations.
EL SISTEMA USA SECURES FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS

This year we launched the El Sistema USA Scholarship at the Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University. Three students from El Sistema USA Member organizations received full-tuition university scholarships!

BOBBY BUSH, A recipient of the El Sistema USA Scholarship & Miami Music Project student

“Ever since I was ten years old, I would discuss with my guitar instructor where I would go to college. Even then, Peabody Conservatory was my top choice. When I was accepted into Peabody I knew all my hard work had paid off and now I am overjoyed. Given this amazing scholarship, I am truly grateful to the El Sistema USA organization that they made it all possible.”

Photo Credit: Buffalo String Works
PRESTO, the Program for Rising El Sistema Organizations, was launched with a $1 million grant from the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation. Thirteen El Sistema-inspired programs are receiving comprehensive professional development, mentorship, and funding. PRESTO supports early-stage El Sistema-inspired programs to become financially stable, strengthen program leadership, and increase student participation.

“I love being a PRESTO mentor because I think it fits within the spirit of El Sistema. One of our core values at MYCincinnati is learning and growing together, and that informs our approach both programmatically, and to how we work as an organization.”

LAURA JEKEL, PRESTO Mentor
Founder & Teaching Artist,
MYCincinnati

“I believe that our program’s goals can be achieved not only by using the funding allocated to us through PRESTO, but also by leaning on my fellow cohort members and mentors for their skills, experience and support.”

YUKI NUMATA RESNICK, PRESTO Cohort Member
Artistic Director & Co-Founder,
Buffalo String Works
El Sistema USA partnered with Duke University’s Social Science Research Institute on the 2017-2018 National Census. Data represents a response rate of 87%.

## Members At A Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Organizations with Operating Budget</th>
<th>Average # of Students Served</th>
<th>Average Staff Size</th>
<th>Average # of Teaching Artists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tier 1</strong></td>
<td>$&lt; 150,000</td>
<td>71 STUDENTS (Range = 22-190)</td>
<td>3 PROGRAM &amp; ADMIN STAFF</td>
<td>9 TEACHING ARTISTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tier 2</strong></td>
<td>$150K to $400K</td>
<td>120 STUDENTS (Range = 50-280)</td>
<td>7 PROGRAM &amp; ADMIN STAFF</td>
<td>14 TEACHING ARTISTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tier 3</strong></td>
<td>$400K to $800K</td>
<td>157 STUDENTS (Range = 90-354)</td>
<td>16 PROGRAM &amp; ADMIN STAFF</td>
<td>38 TEACHING ARTISTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tier 4</strong></td>
<td>$800K+</td>
<td>650 STUDENTS (Range = 214-1050)</td>
<td>34 PROGRAM &amp; ADMIN STAFF</td>
<td>50 TEACHING ARTISTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statistical outliers with regards to number of students served have been eliminated in the averages represented above.
MOST COMMON CLASSES

- Instrumental Sectionals & String Ensemble
- Orchestra
- Individual Lessons
- Choir
- Wind Ensemble
- Leadership & Academic Support
- Bucket Band
- Creative Composition
- Community Service
- Recorder / Paper Orchestra

% OF PROGRAMS OFFERING THESE CLASSES
ABOUT OUR 20,000 STUDENTS

**Intensity of Instruction**
- 2-3 hours /day
- 3-4 days /week
- 34 weeks /year

AND, 70% of programs offer summer programming

**Grade Level**
- PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN: 12%
- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: 16%
- MIDDLE SCHOOL: 17%
- HIGH SCHOOL & POST HIGH SCHOOL: 55%

**Race/Ethnicity**
- LATINX: 41%
- BLACK: 7%
- WHITE: 26%
- ASIAN: 4%
- MULTIRACIAL: 5%
- OTHER: 5%
FY18 YEAR-END FINANCIALS

INCOME: $1,169,336

- GRANTS* - $1,015,927
- DUKE IN-KIND - $52,800
- INDIVIDUALS - $42,299
- MEMBERSHIP - $35,125
- CONFERENCE, WORKSHOPS & SERVICES - $13,038
- SPECIAL EVENTS - $8,625
- OTHER - $1,522

EXPENSE: $569,828

- PROGRAM - $393,734
- ADMINISTRATIVE - $176,094

*Indicates full amount of the Angell Family Foundation gift for PRESTO, to be disbursed over three years.
2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair and Executive Committee Chair: Christine Taylor Conda, Chicago, IL
  Director, Reach*Teach*Play Education Programs at Ravinia

Vice Chair and Governance Committee Chair: Dalouge Smith, San Diego, CA
  President and CEO, The Lewis Prize

Secretary: Leni Boorstin, Los Angeles, CA
  Director, Community and Government Affairs, Los Angeles Philharmonic

Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair: Anna Klimala, Miami, FL
  Executive Director, Miami Music Project

Michael Angell, Chevy Chase, MD
  Director of Performing Arts Grants for the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation

Daniela Bedoni, New York, NY
  Boards of Lang Lang Piano Foundation, New England Conservatory, Harmony Program NYC

Hermes Camacho, Austin, TX
  Program Director, Austin Soundwaves; Co-founder, Picardy; Adjunct Faculty UIW

Mark Churchill, Boston, MA
  Founder, El Sistema USA; Dean Emeritus, Preparatory-Continuing Education, New England Conservatory, MA

Armand Hall, Rochester, NY
  PRESTO Committee Chair; Artistic and Executive Director, ROCMusic

Joseph Hamm, Newport News, VA
  Racial Diversity & Cultural Understanding Committee Co-Chair; Program and Media Manager, Soundscapes

Calida Jones, Waterbury, CT
  Racial Diversity & Cultural Understanding and Symposium Committee Co-Chair; Director of Development & Advocacy, PROJECT MUSIC

Myka Miller, Los Angeles, CA
  Executive Director, Harmony Project

Rita McLennon, Chicago, IL
  Fundraising Committee Chair; Nonprofit Consultant

Scott Laird, Durham, NC
  Chair of Fine Arts, North Carolina School for Science and Math

Daniel Trahey, Baltimore, MD
  Co-Creator, BSO OrchKids

Monique Van Willingh, Boston, MA
  Director of Music and Social Change Programs, Longy School of Music of Bard College

Katie Wyatt, ex officio, Durham, NC
  President & CEO, El Sistema USA

Jessica Zweig, Philadelphia, PA
  Membership Engagement Committee Chair; Program Director, Play on Philly
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

PAUL M. ANGELL FAMILY FOUNDATION

MEAD FAMILY FOUNDATION

Duke SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

D’Addario Foundation CHAMPIONING POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH MUSIC

Reverb gives

SPHINX Aaron P. Dworkin - Founder

Guitars Gifts

GLOBAL LEADERS PROGRAM

El Sistema USA