Newsletter No.8: November, 2015

National Research Study for El Sistema-inspired Music Programs



Key Topics:

- Congratulations
- Sending Data
- Advocacy
- Research link

Photo courtesy of Kalamazoo Kids In Tune

Congratulations!

The fall data collection is complete. Thank you for the Herculean efforts involved. It is exciting to know that we have now collected the first national pool of common data for El Sistema-inspired music programs across the United States. Bravi Tutti!

Sending Data

Here is a reprint of the directions for sending in data, which was previously mailed as a hard copy in the box with the booklet measures and supplies. The full document can also be found in the Study DropBox. Please note that we will need a filled out W-9 form in order to mail the \$500 fall stipend checks to each core site (also included in your box.)

- 1. We recommend keeping student names on all the measures (booklets and rating sheets) until you have a complete set. You can then check off each measure for each student on the spreadsheet that Steven went over with you via phone conference. Each student in your program should have:
 - a. One School Booklet
 - b. One Music Booklet
 - c. Two Rating Sheets (one from each music performance evaluator)

Each comparison student should have one School Booklet.

- 2. When you have a complete set of data in front of you, it is time to use the blank labels we sent in the box. Please follow Steven's instructions for numbering each student. Use a black marker to black out the student's name on each measure and use the label overtop with the accurate number clearly printed on the label. All the measures for a single student should have the same identifying number.
- **3.** When you have collected all completed measures, blacked out names and numbered accurately, please scan the measures placing them in the site specific DropBox that has been created for you.
- **4.** OR if scanning is impossible, please make a photocopy of each measure and keep them in a secure and locked location.
- 5. Mail all the originals in the accordian file to:

WolfBrown Arts Research Firm 8A Francis Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138 (617) 494-9300

Please also fill out a copy of the W9 sent to you previously and send it in the box with your completed measures. When we have received your complete set, we will issue you a check for \$500.

Advocacy

We realize that communicating to your boards, staff, families and other stakeholders about this Study is important. Attached, as well as posted in DropBox, is a flyer that describes the project. Our hope is that it may serve you well in reaching out to the community at your own site – as well as be useful in your own fundraising efforts.

In addition, check out the following link from NAfME (National Association for Music Education) – it is a very compelling letter to all Boards of Education about the Power of Music and the Arts. Why not share it with your own Board?

https://www.nafme.org/an-open-letter-to-all-boards-of-education-about-the-power-of-music-and-the-arts-in-schools/

Research Links:

Scotland's *Big Noise* has embarked upon an intensive national evaluation, as many of you know. Here's a link to a recent webinar in which they discuss these efforts. There is much we can learn from them:

http://livestream.com/innerear/evaluatingsistemascotland/videos/103624762

Any Questions?

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