

National Research Study for El Sistema-inspired Music Programs



Key Topics:

- **2016 Spring Calendar**
- **Data Collection Checklist**
- **Performance Measure Checklist**
- **Sample Questions for Enriching Site Specific Data**

Photo courtesy of San Diego Youth Symphony Opus Project

2016 Spring Calendar:

By now Dennie, Steven or Judy has spoken with each of you in person to prepare for the Spring round of data collection. The following Calendar and Checklists are designed as helpful reminders. Remember, all documents can be found in the Study Dropbox.

March

- Final Preparation for Spring Data Collection: Be sure to contact us if you have any final questions.

April and May

- Shipping of Booklets (early April)
- Spring Data Collection

June

- Spring Data Sent or Scanned

Please be in touch with your site liaison, if you have any questions:

- **Judy Bose: hudjill@gmail.com**
- **Steven Holochwost: steven@wolfbrown.com**
- **Dennie Wolf: dennie@wolfbrown.com**

Data Collection Checklist

Here are two checklists to help with the logistics and organization for your Spring round of data gathering.

For Each Child in your El Sistema-inspired program this Spring, you should have:

- One School Measure Booklet
- One Music Program Booklet
- 4 Performance Measure Rating Sheets (2 raters for piece of choice and 2 raters for RCM excerpt)
- One Music Program Teacher Survey
- One Classroom Teacher Survey
- Year End Grades
- Program History Form

For Each Child in your Comparison group, you should have:

- One School Measure Booklet
- One Classroom Teacher Survey
- Year End Grades

As in the fall, we will mail the measure booklets to you in advance.

Performance Measure Checklist

Since each site has very different needs, you will download all materials from the Study Dropbox – “Performance Measure” folder. For your raters, you will need to have:

- Plenty of copies of the rating sheet for each of your raters. Remember, each rater will need 2 copies for every child they hear (one for the RCM piece and one for the piece of choice). So please plan ahead with the number of copies. Each child will have at least 2 raters, which means that you will turn in at least 4 rating sheets per child.
- One copy of the rubric for each rater to refer to (though probably good to have several extras on hand just in case).
- One copy of the guidelines for each evaluator – to check in about what to say, and the order of things.
- Copies of the repertoire the students are playing. This will also take advance planning. Each rater will need to have a copy of the RCM excerpt and a copy of the choice piece that each child is playing.

Sample Questions for Enriching Site Specific Data

We have had several conversations with sites about adding some simple questions to the performance measure to glean extra information – specific to your site – about certain aspects of the study. Some of you have asked for samples of these types of questions, as we finalize the plan for your site. Below please find some samples to guide your thinking.

If you want to gather additional information about growth mindset, you could ask the following at the end of the performance measure:

- If you were to play this piece again, what is one thing you would do differently?
- Do you think working hard in music will help you in other areas of your life? If so, give me a few examples where it helps you in other parts of your life.

At the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra's CHAMPS program, educators believe that their program may improve how participating students view themselves and their prospects for future. If this is of interest, you could ask students:

- You just learned and played a brand new piece. What else does that make you think you might be able to do in the future?

In addition to or instead of asking questions at the end of the performance measure, your site may choose to add a few short written questions. CHAMPS has graciously provided us with some of the written prompts they use to look at character qualities as well as self perception and we would be happy to share these with you upon request.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING ANY OF THIS TYPE OF SITE SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL QUESTIONING, either at the end of the performance measure or in a written format, **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU CONTACT YOUR SITE LIASION** by the end of next week (Friday, April 1).