



SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH MUSIC



THE OVERALL - UNIVERSAL - SIMPLE MESSAGE



Gracias,
salvavidas

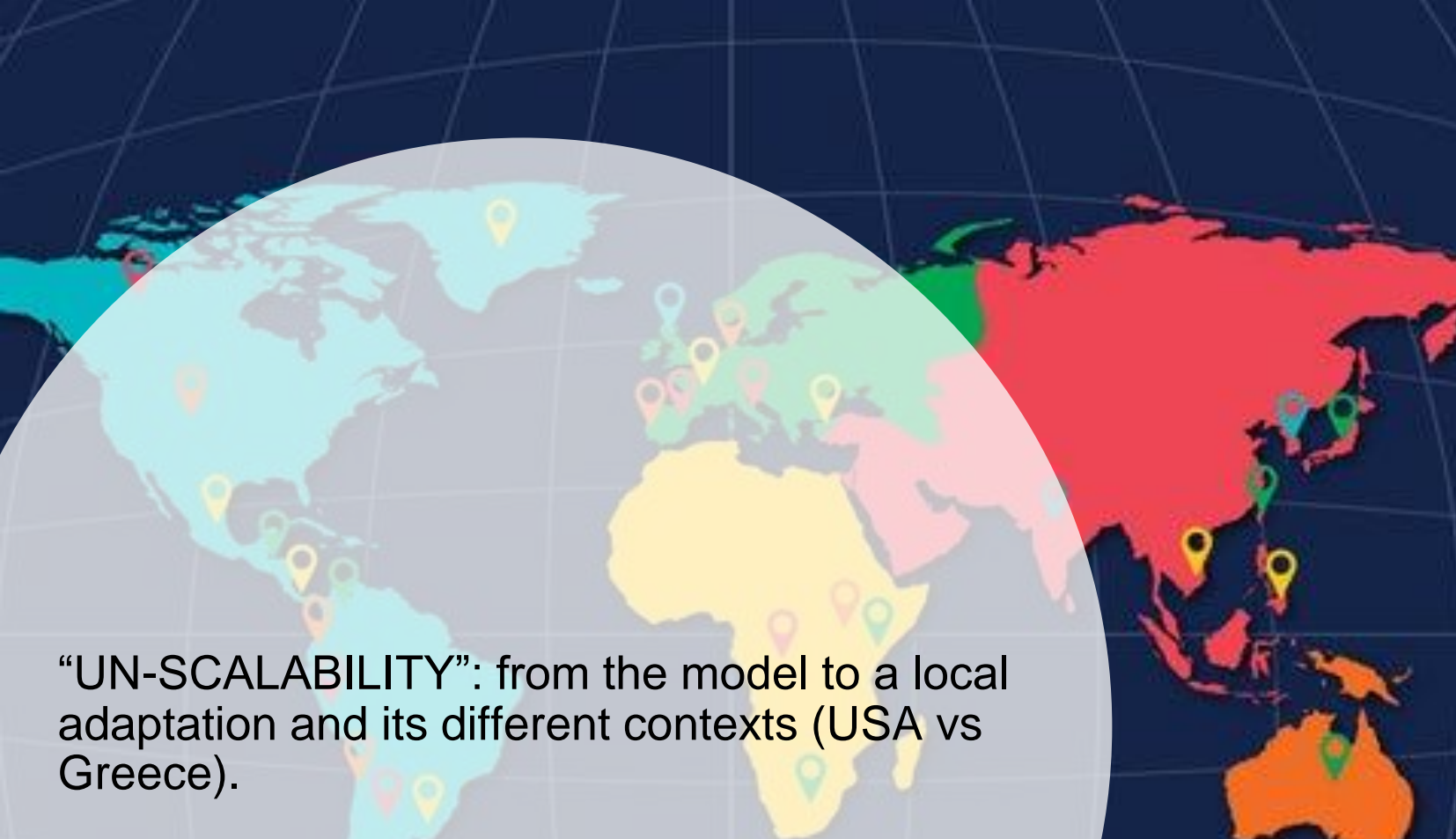


In its essence, the orchestra and the choir are much more than artistic structures. They are examples and schools of social life, because to sing and to play together means to intimately coexist toward perfection and excellence, following a strict discipline of organization and coordination in order to seek the harmonic interdependence of voices and instruments.

That's how they build a spirit of solidarity and fraternity among them, develop their self-esteem and foster the ethical and aesthetical values related to the music in all its senses.

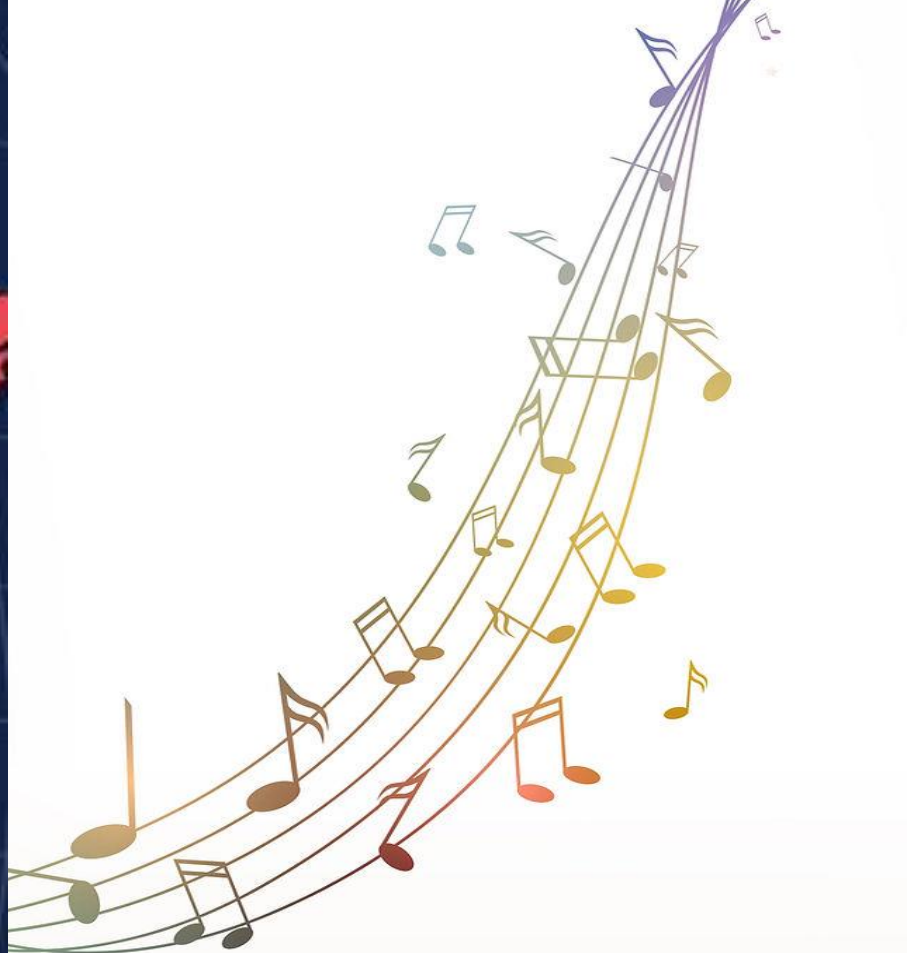
Maestro José Antonio Abreu





“UN-SCALABILITY”: from the model to a local adaptation and its different contexts (USA vs Greece).

“UP-SCALABILITY”: from Greece to neighboring countries, a re-adaptation of Venezuela and pay it forward system.





**EL SISTEMA IN GREECE:
SAME APPROACH, DIFFERENT CONTEXT**

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a light-colored striped long-sleeved shirt, is looking through a chain-link fence. He has a serious expression. The background is blurred, showing other people and what appears to be an outdoor setting.

Origin story: why El Sistema Greece?

WHY GREECE

Europe's biggest refugee crisis since WW2

Data in 2024: 24,118 asylum seekers have been registered;
7,693 of them (32%) were children

Multiple crises: economic, health, social identity

Data on arrivals in Greece by UNHCR

Total arrivals in 2024

24,118

Last updated 21 Jul 2024

Sea arrivals in 2024

20,759

Last updated 21 Jul 2024

Land arrivals in 2024

3,359

Last updated 21 Jul 2024

Previous years	Sea arrivals	Land arrivals	*Dead and missing
2023	41,561	7,160	799
2022	12,758	6,022	343
2021	4,331	4,826	115
2020	9,714	5,982	105
2019	59,726	14,887	71
2018	32,494	18,014	187
2017	29,718	6,592	56
2016	173,450	3,784	441
2015	856,723	4,907	799
2014	41,038	2,280	405

*The dead and missing figures correspond to the entire Eastern Mediterranean route.

The background image shows three children in a refugee camp playing violins. They are standing on a paved area with several small, white, rectangular units in the background. A large crane is visible in the distance. The sky is blue with some clouds. The text is overlaid on a large white circle on the left side of the image.

OUR BEGINNINGS AND HOW WE GREW

Start in the refugee camps

Challenges with families, other NGOs and formal education system

Social inclusion with Greek children

Strong need for social inclusion and access to music education in the local community

Pedagogy: learning, unlearning, innovate

OUR MISSION

To provide free access to high-quality music education to children and young people in Greece.

All students, regardless of their origin, language, or any other characteristics, are offered free music education and the opportunity to grow in an intercultural and open community.

Music can be a powerful tool for social inclusion, bringing people together. As a result, music education has proven to be an important ally for cultural development, effective not only on the students themselves - children and young people - but also on their families and society as a whole.



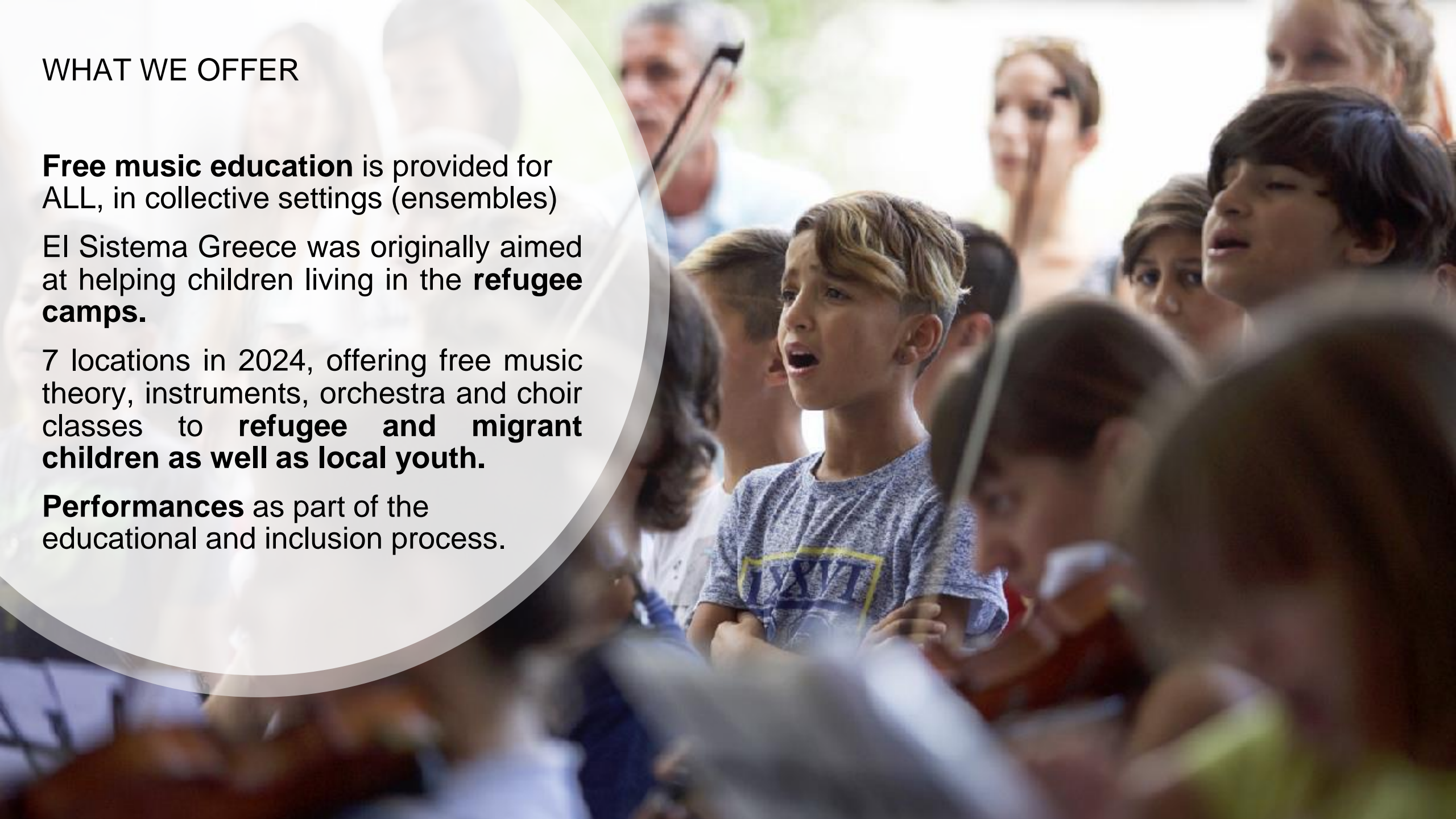
WHAT WE OFFER

Free music education is provided for ALL, in collective settings (ensembles)

El Sistema Greece was originally aimed at helping children living in the **refugee camps**.

7 locations in 2024, offering free music theory, instruments, orchestra and choir classes to **refugee and migrant children as well as local youth**.

Performances as part of the educational and inclusion process.



A young boy with dark hair is smiling broadly while playing a cello. He is wearing a white shirt and has sheet music on his lap. In the background, other students are also playing cellos, and a teacher is visible. The setting is a music classroom with colorful murals on the wall.

BESIDES CLASSES, EL SISTEMA GREECE ORGANISES FOR ITS STUDENTS:

ESG School of Hip Hop (DJ, Graffiti, Breakdance, MC)

ESG Summer Camp (for all students)

Lullaby Project with Carnegie Hall

Young Leaders Program

RESULTS

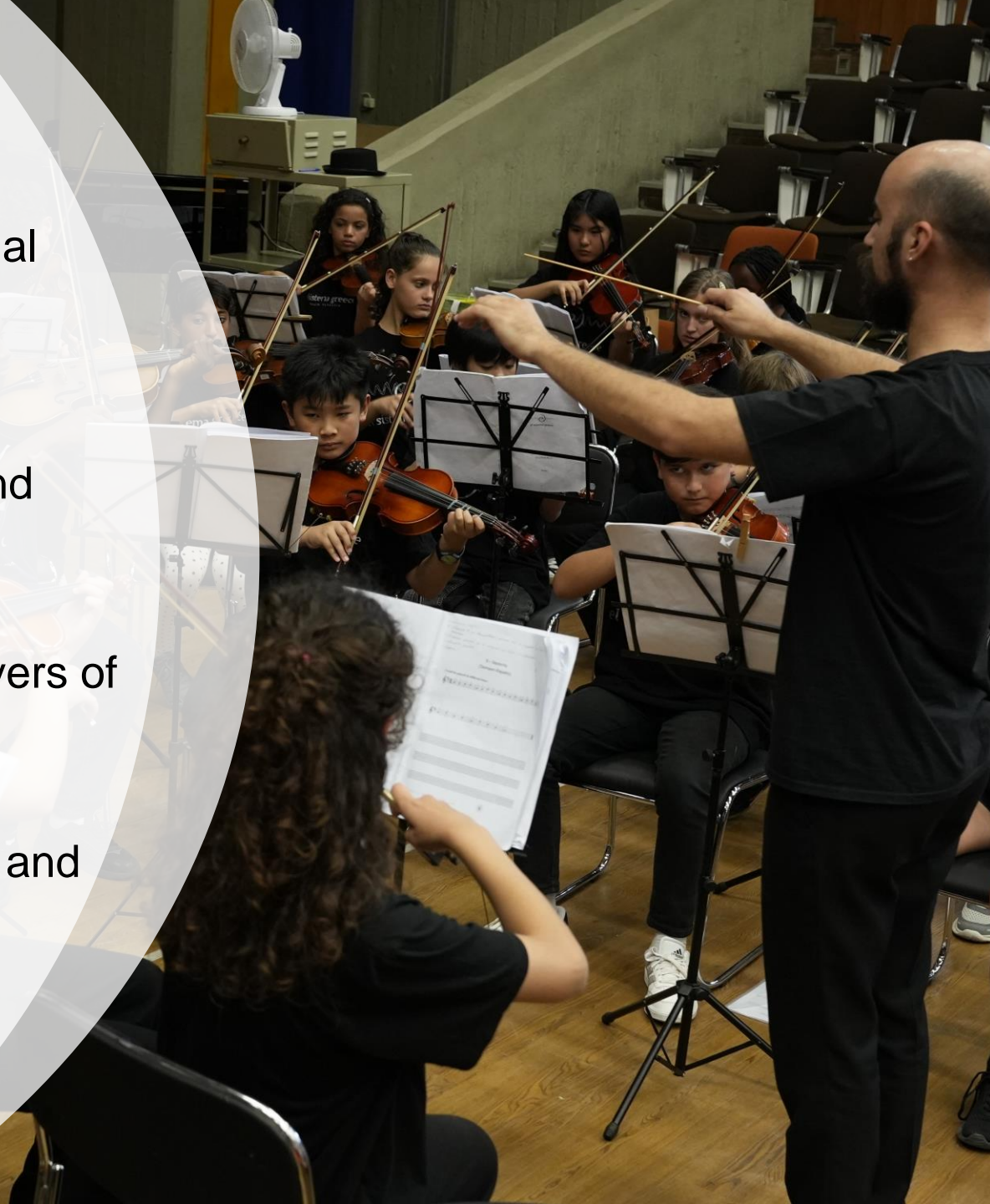
We cultivate **CREATIVITY** and the social and emotional **WELLBEING** of children and youth through music education.

We promote **EQUALITY** through a culture of peace and togetherness.

We foster **SOCIAL COHESION** among the various layers of Greek society by initiating an intercultural dialogue.

We strive for **SOCIAL INCLUSION** through teamwork and community engagement.

We help develop the **ACTIVE CITIZENS** of the future through music ensemble making.



IMPACT

2,000 hours of music provided to the children for free every year

+35 different nationalities

+500 children enrolled in El Sistema Greece attending the classes annually

+2,500 children have attended El Sistema Greece lessons since 2016

+20 concerts annually

In the local economy:

15 teachers

An administrative team of 6 full time staff

+20 musicians hired for specific projects (Lullaby Project, concerts, Hip Hop)

SUCCESS STORIES

Our student Carmen says:
ESG is what made me discover the music in me and is the main reason I chose to study at music school

Our student Hasan says: *I was not interested in people before discovering that music would help me communicate with them*

The mother of Abdulillah, a young refugee inside a camp, says: *thanks for giving me back the smile of my son*



SUCCESS STORIES AFTER GREECE

Many of our refugee students made it to other countries and keep studying music with other similar programs

El Sistema Greece becomes an incubator of talents for both the students and the adult team, with opportunities arising after following the program



PAY IT FORWARD

Support of other Sistema inspired programs (Lebanon, Tunisia...)

Co-creation of new programs/
new music at the European level:

- MAC Music for Active Citizenship
- Songs for Europe
- B-ME Blending Melodies/Bridging



SUSTAINABILITY

The “Sistema” spirit: pedagogical and artistic sustainability, spirit of collaborations.

Difficulties for financial sustainability: the unique model in Venezuela vs the rest of the world.

The particular situation of El Sistema
Greece: constant diversification of funding
for survival and development.





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