



MUSIC HEALS
★ INTERNATIONAL ★

Where Music Leads

2022 IMPACT REPORT

Our Mission

Music Heals International brings music and musicians to the children of Haiti and globally to inspire achievement, resilience and creativity.

Our Vision

A world where children engage, achieve and thrive through the power of music.



MHI 2022 in Review



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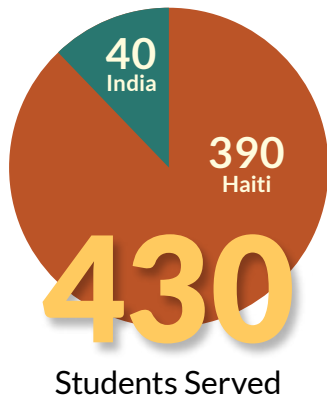
of Music Students
Continue for Multiple Years

Years of Music Education

9
Haiti



3
India





60 Students
+ **17** Peer Mentors

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP



56% **44%**



Boys and Girls Enrolled

Platinum
Transparency
2023

Candid.



1,400+
Lives Impacted Since 2014



Letter from Sara



Dear Friends,

Every year, I learn just how resilient our students and team members are and 2022 was no different. Haiti has many challenges, and each day can be unpredictable. The current crisis reminds us why we continue this important work.

I know from my own life that music can help people discover meaning and belonging, cope with trauma, and experience joy. As the daughter of a musician, one of my clearest memories is the sound of my dad's bass as he practiced each night in his studio above my bedroom. No matter what happened during the day, I knew that beautiful sound would be a source of calm.

Music also has the power to transport. **Our program creates physical and virtual opportunities for students to step away from difficult, uncertain**

circumstances and into safe, creative spaces. It puts an all-girl band center stage at an international jazz festival. It brings kids with disabilities to class to learn and perform alongside their peers. It creates a path where 1 in 8 returning students become peer mentors, fostering the next generation of music teachers and leaders.

But we can't get there alone. **What started in Haiti with our partners CORE and Music Will has grown to include Mumbai, India, and in 2023 we're beginning a new collaboration in Venezuela. In many ways this is just the beginning.**

Thank you to all of our amazing supporters! This work happens because of you and our growing community of artists, board leaders, and friends across the country. As you turn the page, join our students and team on a journey to where music transports them. Then take a moment to reflect on where music takes you.

With gratitude,

Sara Wasserman, Executive Director and Founder

A Transformative Model of Music Education

In Port-au-Prince, where our students are located, the current instability causes uncertainty every time they step outside. MHI's music education model not only gives children a safe place to go, but a space where they can envision themselves as students, performers, and leaders. Program Manager Emmanuel Piervil has witnessed the evolution of students' creativity, mentorship, and resilience. He references the Haitian program's slogan, *la musique me donne des ailes*, or music gives me wings, saying "Haitians have a big soul, whatever things people have been living, like sadness, everything Haitians do, they demonstrate it with music."

One student, Dalio (age 20, guitar and vocals), echoes this stating, "Bad things happened in my life. Music helps me get through the bad times. If I feel sad, I pull out my guitar and drop 2 to 3 notes and things get better." Emmanuel recalls nine years ago how shy many of the first students were and how they have built character and developed a sense of responsibility. Another student, Michelson (age 19, guitar and vocals) explains, "It's something that can change my life and my mind. It's making me see myself in a different way." Of his responsibility, Emmanuel says, "You are doing a job you like, you meet kids who are learning from you and who love it, and you just let it flow. You love what you do and the kids love what they learn."

Our Model Provides

- ★ Music Education
- ★ Instruments
- ★ Safe Spaces
- ★ Inclusive Classes
- ★ Peer Leadership
- ★ Summer Music Camp
- ★ Community Concerts



Our Programs

Music takes MHI students places: body and soul. Our programs take them from the classroom to center stage, from summer camp concerts to the recording studio, and from the stress of life to places beyond themselves. Along the way, they practice leadership, build resilience, and inspire hope. After nine years, over 1,400 students have forged this path, allowing music to take them wherever they dream.

Where Music Takes Us



Classroom

"Even at school when students learn their lessons, they sing them and it helps them learn," Emmanuel Piervil, Program Manager. Our inclusive classes build on culture to challenge exclusion by bringing students of all abilities together to study music and learn from each other.

Summer camp

Our annual Summer Music Camp is led by peer mentors. It introduces new students in the community to our program, while providing a place for young leaders to put their teaching skills into practice. *"I want to be a role model for the kids."* Esther (age 17, piano)





Recording studio

Music takes advanced students into the recording booth to produce original songs that radiate self-expression. *"I can say that music gives us many opportunities to release all the emotions that come across us. That's it."*

Jose Abigaëlle (age 20, piano and bass)

Stage

"The music program has given the opportunity to play in concerts and perform with other artists. I can say that it opened many doors for us and has allowed us to pass what our teacher taught us onto the next generation of children, with some of the most beautiful touches."

Jose Abigaëlle



Our Impact

MHI's music education model delivers consistent outcomes that have been replicated across diverse situations, places, and ages to over **1,400 students since 2014**. **From Port-au-Prince to Mumbai, our programs enhance confidence, communication, and teamwork.** They offer inclusion and opportunities that motivate students to stretch themselves, all while elevating girls, building leadership, and unleashing creativity.



Krrish: Volunteer to Junior Trainer in India

"With the support of the MHI team, I have improved my skills as a musician which has boosted my confidence. I have also developed my communication skills over time which improved me as a music trainer. It is a joy to work with our amazing kids and I am so happy to contribute and benefit from this amazing project."

Jose Abigaëlle: Nine Years of Music in Haiti

"I can say that it has made a lot of impact in my life. I have met many people thanks to it and I have learned a lot from the teachers and children in the program. I am still making progress because you have the ability to change instruments and evolve with another one. I can say today that it is very important in my life and it really helps me to live with the country's situation."





Looking Forward

In Haiti, conflict is now the worst I have seen, especially in Port-au-Prince. It's almost impossible to survive. You can't step out, everything has to be planned in advance and you don't know where trouble is going to come from. **Imagine living in a place where it's so unpredictable that you're never at ease.** There's a song by my parents' band Boukman Eksperyans, called Ke'm Pa Sote (My Heart Does Not Leap), which means "I am not afraid." That's what I'm feeling right now from the Haitian people. They are trying to take control of their own destiny and that's all you can ask from anyone. Help won't come from anyone else.

The healing power of music and how it brings people together highlight MHI's importance. **In a country like Haiti right now, to have kids express themselves in something they love, to create a song together: create music, and to see something they make happen together...this is huge. This is something that needs to happen forever.** So next year, MHI will continue having this impact, helping kids grow beyond music class through girls' leadership, apprentice teaching, and by giving this opportunity to more students globally. With your help we will expand these programs to take kids away from uncertainty and bring them together through family, culture, healing, and music.

Paul Beaubrun

Musician, MHI Board Member

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Our Financials

Summary in USD

INCOME



\$215,513

57% Events/Other
\$122,377

37% Grants
\$79,214

6% Individual/Business Donors
\$13,922

EXPENSES



\$182,236

86% Programs
\$156,288

10% Fundraising
\$18,187

4% Administrative
\$7,761

Change in Net Assets:
Supports the Rob Wasserman Memorial Fund

\$33,277



2022 Leadership

Board of Directors

Dennis Strazulo – President

Melissa Pegus – Treasurer

Stephanie Clarke – Secretary

Paul Beaubrun

Pete Fisher

Ashley Orton

Merl Saunders, Jr.

Tony Sauza

Sara Wasserman

Jeny Wegbreit - Advisor

Programs and Operations

Sara Wasserman - Executive Director/Founder

Emmanuel Piervil - Program Manager

James Joseph Donatin - Field Agent

Jean Louvens - Technical Advisor

Tyler McBrien - Communications

Impact Report

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Join Music Heals International

*Help children engage, achieve and thrive
through the power of music.*

We are deeply grateful for your support.

MHI is a registered U.S. 501(c)(3) public charity: EIN 46-4627905

- \$10,000** Sponsor a year of music at a partner school.
- \$5,000** Give to the Rob Wasserman Memorial Fund.
- \$1,000** Purchase instruments for new partnerships.
- \$500** Support peer leaders who are learning to teach.
- \$100** Send a child to summer music camp.