

THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF YOUTH ORCHESTRAS OF VENEZUELA AROUND THE WORLD

The [National System of Youth Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela](#) continues to achieve great success in the country and at international level.

Also known as *The System*, it was created in 1975 by the Venezuelan musician and teacher [José Antonio Abreu](#). This collective music model which has reached relevance in the world is the social responsibility program of greatest impact on Venezuela.

The System currently operates through [371 units y 1182 modules](#) attended by 500.000 girls, children, adolescents and youth, forming a complex and systematic national network of orchestras and choirs. Through its Units, the System reaches villages, border areas, communities, neighbourhoods and schools across the country, realising the orchestral and choral programs of the *Fundación Musical Simón Bolívar*. Besides being places of learning music, the Units act as centres for the promotion of educational, artistic and cultural activities in the community.

The System has also entered into prisons to help rehabilitate the prisoners. The Prison Orchestras and Choirs Network is integrated by orchestras and choirs performing universal pieces as the ones by Venezuelan folklore. From its inception until the end of 2013, this Program involved more than 7900 inmates, from 8 prisons associated in the Network in which 11 Units work, performing more than 700 concerts.

Internationally the System continues to catch great attention. The System comprises musical groups of high level which perform concerts and musical events all around the world.

Pictures in this article and published by the newspaper *Revista 24* are referred to the [visit of José Antonio Abreu to South Korea in 2013](#) where Caracas Youth Symphony organized musical events with children and young from the country. On this occasion Maestro Abreu announced his commitment to create a World Symphonic Orchestra of children and youth. In South Korea they already created the *Dreams Orchestra*, pioneer of the Korea System, inspired by Venezuela experience and exchanges are ongoing in both countries.

The System inspired more than 40 countries in Europe, America, Asia, Africa and Oceania, where music



education programs are ongoing following the Venezuelan method. On the System web page there is information about [important award and recognitions](#) it gained internationally.

Increasingly, international agencies and organizations recognize the work of the System of Venezuela as an innovative music education program which could be implemented in all the nations of the world that try to reduce levels of poverty, illiteracy, marginalization and exclusion in their children and young people. In 1995, UNESCO designated the maestro José Antonio Abreu as special delegate for the development of a global system of youth orchestras and choirs.

To know more

[Fundamusica web page](#)

[The System around the world](#)

[The System in Twitter](#)

[Article in Noticias 24](#)

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