

IN 2016 THE NATIONAL ORCHESTRAL SYSTEM OF VENEZUELA CELEBRATED 41 YEARS OF ACTIVITY

In 2016 were celebrated 41 years of activity of the [National System of Youth Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela](#), founded by the teacher and musician [José Antonio Abreu](#) in 1975.

The anniversary was celebrated with the execution of various universal works that showed the high quality reached by the Venezuelan orchestras.

The System today can count on 440 core groups of academic music development, which in turn include 1600 modules. The System includes 12 programmes for the integration and training of 787.189 children and teens all over the country.



The motto [Tocar y luchar](#) adopted by the System reflects the commitment and the determination of all the involved teachers and professionals which made El Sistema the most important orchestral and social project in Venezuelan musical history and a point of reference at international level.

The National System of Youth Orchestras and Choirs of Venezuela, is part of the *Simon Bolivar Music Foundation*, attached to Ministry of Popular Power of the government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

This pedagogic model is based on the training since the earliest age. Through the individual and collective practice of music, the System gathers males and females young children and infants, of all social levels: 66% come from low incomes families, or from vulnerable or marginalized areas; the 34% of recruited young musicians comes from urban areas with a better economic situation, resulting in an example of a Venezuelan inclusion of population from all social levels, without any distinction.



Another important aspect of the System's impact in Venezuela is the expansion of the autonomous production of musical instruments. In response to the growing domestic demand of musical instruments and their accessories, the [Academic Center of Lutería](#), created in 1982, is a work space for young artists with a vocation in art and crafts. The potential of the Center is to organize an industrial system of repair and construction of musical instruments that generates employment and at the same time can recover the technicalities and artistic dimension of the traditional jobs.



This innovative pedagogic approach has already inspired more than 50 other countries in Europe, America, Asia, Africa and Oceania that are undertaking youth musical orchestras, thanks to the support of the teachers of the Venezuelan System.

In all those countries the music is used as instrument of integration, social organisation, artistic education, as a means to overcoming poverty and marginalization. As an example, [the Dreams Orchestra of the Sweeden System](#) founded by the Venezuelan director Ron Davis Alvarez, gathers together young people coming from Syria, Afghanistan, Albania, Romania, and Somalia. The 2016 summer camp has involved 1.250 children and youth of 10 different nationalities.

To know more

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[Centro Académico de Lutería](#)

[Article in Aporrea.org](#)

[Article in Globovisión.com](#)

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