

SAVE THE MUSIC FOUNDATION  
D/B/A MTV Save The Music Foundation  
D/B/A VH1 Save The Music Foundation  
2018 STATEMENT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Mission Statement:** Save The Music Foundation helps kids, schools, and communities realize their full potential through the power of making music.

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**For fiscal year ended September 30, 2018:**

Total support & revenue \$4,709,407  
Total program expenses \$3,057,231  
Total fundraising expenses \$1,221,986  
Total management and general expenses \$372,246  
Total expenses \$4,651,463  
As of 9/30/18:  
Net Assets \$753,037

The Save The Music Foundation (“Foundation”) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to creating systemic change in the American public school system by restoring instrumental music programs and by raising public awareness about the importance of music education. The Foundation was created to address the inequity in availability of music education for students in many of the United States’ most challenged communities. Since

its creation, the Save The Music Foundation, working with local school districts, has restored music education programs in more than 2100 public schools in 261 school districts around the country, improving the lives of more than 2 million children across the United States. During that time, the Foundation has provided \$56 million worth of new instruments to school districts across the country.

The Foundation has developed a unique model to foster equitable access to comprehensive music education for all children. Through strategic partnerships with school districts, the Foundation provides brand-new musical instruments, equipment, method books, professional development and program support to public elementary and middle schools, jump-starting dormant music programs across the country. To make certain that music programs remain a core part of the curriculum in public schools, and that the programs live on in perpetuity, the Foundation works with schools that have agreed to implement a sequential instrumental music program based on local, state, and national standards for music education.

The Foundation values music as a critical learning tool that keeps students engaged in school helps develop well-rounded individuals encourages skills that are vital for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Program and Policy staff members from the Foundation work closely with superintendents, school board members, principals, arts coordinators, and music educators in each school district to identify schools that are eligible to participate. The Foundation works with local policy-makers and advocates to help ensure that schools that are not currently eligible to participate in the Foundation's restoration of music education programs take the steps needed to become eligible. The Foundation works to enable every school within the district to have access to music education.

#### Core Grant:

The Save The Music Core Grant of (band, string or mariachi) instruments and equipment is our cornerstone grant that we provide to the majority of our grantee schools across the country. The grant is valued at approximately \$61,000 for each school to jump-start the new music program. A school must conduct the instrumental music program as part of the regular school day, and provide the salary for a certified music educator for instruction. By guaranteeing that each grant recipient school hires a certified music instructor, the Foundation fosters a sustainable music program.

The grant of instruments provides the impetus for music programs to be restored, but this is only the beginning of our partnerships with school districts nation-wide.

Grant recipient principals are provided with hands-on guidance in building an instrumental music program. The Foundation's Program and Policy staff assists principals in developing their music program through workshops, personal meetings and the VH1 Save The Music Foundation's *Guide To Building An Instrumental Music Program*. Music educators from grant recipient schools have the opportunity to attend professional development workshops that focus on growing their skills and building their music program.

In 2018, the Foundation developed and launched two new grant programs, expanding our reach in serving all public school students Prek-12<sup>th</sup> grade. These new grants require schools to abide by the same Grant Requirements as the Core Grant above.

#### Intro To Music Grant:

Our Intro To Music Grant includes everything a music teacher needs to provide all PreK-5 students with sequential standards based general music instruction focused in active music making and engagement for all students. The grant package includes \$22,000 worth of developmentally-appropriate and culturally-relevant instruments and resources, including a digital piano, acoustic guitar, classroom set of Orff Instruments, world drums, recorders, hand-held percussion, Boomwhackers, method books, and program support for 10 years.

#### Music Technology Grant:

Our Music Technology Grant takes our successful model of investing musical instruments and tools into public schools into the world of music technology. This grant provides high school students access to resources that will help them learn and further develop the creative and technical skills they can utilize now and in the future. The Music Tech Grant package includes \$50,000 of hardware and software to support instruction in audio recording, audio engineering, DJ-ing, beat-making, along with in-depth training for music teachers.

The Foundation also continues to provide our Keys + Kids grant. The Keys + Kids grant consists of a hybrid piano and keyboards worth \$15,000 to support any types of music education program including vocal, general music, musical theatre, etc.

There have been cases in some of Save the Music Foundation grant recipient communities where school programs that had been jumpstarted by the Foundation were threatened to be eliminated. In each case a letter was sent to the principal of the grantee school and the school board members and superintendent from the school district stating concern about the pending elimination and stating the original agreement to maintaining the program made by the school district and meetings were set up to follow up with senior leadership in the school districts. In most all cases the programs were not eliminated.

The conversations that take place while advocating in local communities prove most effective when decision makers, community members, stakeholders, and funders are already familiar with the importance of music education. For this reason, Save The Music Foundation employs a number of strategies on a national scale to lay the groundwork for successful local advocacy. Below are examples from the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018:

School Leaders – The Foundation targets school leader conferences to spread the word about the vital need for music education. Each year, school administrators gather to share information that will enable them to make important decisions about the curriculum in their schools. Both the School Superintendents Association (AASA) and the National School Boards Association (NSBA) have granted the Foundation and other music-education advocates a section of their convention spaces to be used as special pavilions devoted to spreading the word about the importance of music education. Since 2005, Save The Music has been joined by instrument manufacturers, retailers, and the NAMM Foundation' Support Music Coalition in the music pavilions.

Educational Workshops - The Foundation often provides workshops on the benefits of music education at national and regional conferences including Arts Education Partnership (AEP) and National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Eastern Region Conference.

Save The Music Ensemble Academy - The Foundation and their manufacturing partners present half-day professional development workshops for the music teachers in all active grantee school districts. The clinics are planned and tailored to each school's districts individual needs.

Honors – The Foundation honors – in front of thousands of school district leaders and administrators from around the country – those school district officials who have been supportive of music education at AASA's Annual National Conference.

New Website and Advocacy Toolkit – In April of 2018, the Foundation launched a newly designed website, with a new and enhanced Take Action/Advocacy toolkit. These online resources are specifically designed for community members, parents, teachers, and administrators who need resources for local arts education advocacy efforts. The Take Action/Advocacy Toolkit, a one-stop-shop for music advocates to build their case in supporting music education, is available on the Foundation's website.

Principal's Guide – The Foundation has developed a *Building Your Instrumental Music Program Booklet* that provides information to principals on getting started, next steps, standards, research, and other sources for additional information.

#### Master Classes

Master classes were conducted at various grant recipient schools during fiscal year ended September 30, 2018. Students had the opportunity to play for recording artists and learn about the recording artist's own musical background, provide a master class for the students and perform some of the recording artist's own music for the students.