





OneBeat

OneBeat is an incubator for music-based social entrepreneurship, where innovative musicians from around the world launch collaborative projects designed to make a positive impact on local and global communities. An initiative of the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in collaboration with the groundbreaking New York-based music Found Sound Nation, OneBeat employs collaborative music creation as a potent form of cultural diplomacy.

In a time when politics has left us with a fractured world, music has a special power to tie together our disparate communities, retracing our common histories, and re-affirming our common humanity, empathy, and creativity. In this spirit, OneBeat convenes 25 musical changemakers from around the world to create and perform new work in the U.S. and explore how artists and institutions can work together to rejuvenate local economies through music, technology and the creative arts. More than a music festival or a simple exchange, OneBeat is an incubator for new forms of musical expression, a hatchery for novel ways to use music as a tool for the betterment of our communities, and an ever-growing web of interconnected artists and change-makers.

OneBeat is cultivating a web of artists and change-makers from around the world. Here are some highlights.



140 Fellows

OneBeat network of musicians 2012-2016

40 Countries

Fellows hail from countries & territories around the globe

41,625

Audience and Youth reached through US and global programs

17,600

Applications & Registrations to OneBeat 2012-2016



OneBeat Fellows' global social media reach has created a network that is tapped into cultural scenes around the globe.

71,589,360

YouTube views via OneBeat network

3,914,814

Soundcloud plays via OneBeat Network

1,713,778

Facebook Fans OneBeat Fellows' network

445,857

Twitter Followers OneBeat Fellows' network

296,249

Instagram followers OneBeat Fellows' network

200

Short films produced by OneBeat 2012-2016

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Redefining Cultural Diplomacy

OneBeat is designed with the belief that the collaborative creation of high-quality original music is an ideal vehicle for crossing cultural and political divides. OneBeat begins with an opening residency, when Fellows collaborate to create original material, record new musical ideas, and incubate their projects. Fellows then go on tour, performing for a wide array of American audiences, collaborating with local musicians, leading youth workshops and panel discussions and exploring new strategies for arts-based social engagement. In a closing residency, each Fellow sets out their plans for the future, developing projects in their home countries linked to a mutually-reinforcing network of music-driven social enterprises.



The OneBeat tour is an incredible opportunity for Fellows to perform their new works at leading U.S. music venues, create site-specific music and sound installations, and design and lead workshops for young people.

2014 Final Showcase at the Rail Yards | Albuquerque, NM

Concerts with Local Artists and Presenters

Blitz the Ambassador and Nuit Blanche New York at OneBeat 2012 | Brooklyn, NY

Street Studios

Collaborating Artist Devin Greenwood | Brooklyn, NY

Youth Composition Workshops

Found sound recording workshop during OneBeat | YMCA, Charleston, SC

University Panel Discussions

Panel discussion at American University | Washington, DC



Alumni Follow On Projects

LADAMA Project, founded by OneBeat 2014 Alums and winner of an AEIF (Alumni Exchange International Fund), addresses gender inequality and unequal representation of women in all aspects of music education, industry and business. LADAMA gives public performances and workshops in Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil and the U.S. | Gamero, Colombia



“I feel very strongly that one cannot operate in a vacuum, that one needs to interact with others in order to create art that is impactful. As an artist, that is the kind of work I wish to create. I think that this work has even greater scope and impact when it can reach across borders and engage culturally diverse artists and communities”

- **Kyla-Rose Smith**, 2014 OneBeat Fellow from Cape Town, South Africa

“OneBeat is one of the greatest initiatives in advancing the meeting of cultures worldwide.” - **Dave Douglas**, OneBeat 2012 Collaborating Artist

“Saying that this is a musical collaboration and engagement for me feels like it doesn’t encompass everything that OneBeat is. It’s definitely something more than just music and art. For me it feels like a way of life.” - **Siva Darbuka**, 2013 Fellow from Chennai, India

“Seeing all these women defy borders and take the stage to make music with determination and hope has sparked an urge to try my best to inspire women back home who have talent, but are scared to come out and share it with the world.” - [Kasiva Mutua](#), 2013 OneBeat Fellow from Nairobi, Kenya

“World music in its truest sense” - [The New York Times](#), October 3, 2012

“I see OneBeat as a breakthrough in music diplomacy. And I think it’s a very relevant thing for the the United States to be part of a realization of that. OneBeat is about being relevant in more ways than just showing just how fantastic the culture that originated in the United States is. It’s demonstrating that we can be relevant by facilitating reconciliation, and I think that’s hard to beat.” - [Nicholas Cull](#), professor of Public Diplomacy at USC Annenberg School

a program of



OneBeat is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Bureau supports U.S. foreign policy by fostering mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through academic, cultural, sports, and professional exchanges that engage women, youth, underserved communities, educators, artists, athletes, and rising leaders in the U.S. and more than 160 countries.

produced by

found
sound
nation

OneBeat is produced by Found Sound Nation, an eclectic group of musicians, producers, and artists who have a strong sense of social engagement. Working with people across the globe, from schools to prisons, from young to old, and partnering with local youth, social organizations, music festivals, and artists across all disciplines, Found Sound Nation uses the expressive power of music collaboration to unlock the creative potential of youth, and build bridges between communities separated by cultures, economic disparities, and geography. Found Sound Nation is the social engagement wing of Bang on a Can, the groundbreaking organization for new music.

administered by

BANG ON ▶ CAN

Bang on a Can is dedicated to making music new. Since its first Marathon concert in 1987, Bang on a Can has been creating an international community dedicated to innovative music, wherever it is found. With adventurous programs, it commissions new composers, performs, presents, and records new work, develops new audiences, and educates the musicians of the future. Bang on a Can is building a world in which powerful new musical ideas flow freely across all genres and borders.



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