

el sistema greece  
2022-2023

# ANNUAL REPORT





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## GENERAL INFORMATION

From September 2022 to July 2023, a total of 481 students participated in the classes and activities of El Sistema Greece.

Its action points were as follows:

1. Organization headquarters in **Kypseli**, where daily free music lessons are offered to children and young people aged 5-26
2. **Day Center "Dimitrion" of the NGO Apostoli in Moschato**, where ESG has been teaching music to the Center's beneficiaries since 2018
3. **Fondation Kaloy in Corinth**, where ESG has been offering free music lessons since October 2020
4. **Malliaras School in Alimos**, where the weekly rehearsals of the El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra has been taking place since 2018
5. **Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Seekers in Schisto**, where ESG started offering music lessons to children residing in the Facility in 2022
6. **Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Seeker in Corinth**, where ESG started offering music lessons to children residing in the Facility in 2022
7. **"Galini Hotel" in Piraeus, in collaboration with the International Organization of Migration**, where ESG started to offer music community music lessons to unaccompanied minors.



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**A total of 1.875 hours of music were taught during the academic year and the distribution of teaching hours per structure is as follows:**

**Kypseli:**

**Violin** 3 hours/week | **Viola** 2 hours/week | **Cello** 2 hours/week

**Flute** 1 hour/week | **French Horn** 1 hour/week | **Percussions** 2 hours/week **Trumpet** 1 hour/ week | **Kypseli Nucleo Orchestra** 2 hours/ week

**Theory** 5 hours/week | **Music Initiation** 2 hours/week | **Choir** 6,5 hours/week **Music ensembles** 2 hours/week

**KDAP “DIMITRIO”:**

**Violin** 2 hours/week | **Cello** 1 hour/week | **Viola** 1 hour/week

**Orchestra** 1 hour /week | **Choir** 2.5 hours/week

**Fondation Kaloy:**

**Violin** 2 hours/week | **Cello** 1 hour/week | **Choir** 1 hour/week

**Malliaras School:**

**ESGYO Rehearsals** 3 hours/week

**Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Seekers in Schisto:**

**Violin** 2 hours/week | **Viola** 2 hours/week | **Choir** 1 hour/week

**Music Initiation** 2 hours/week

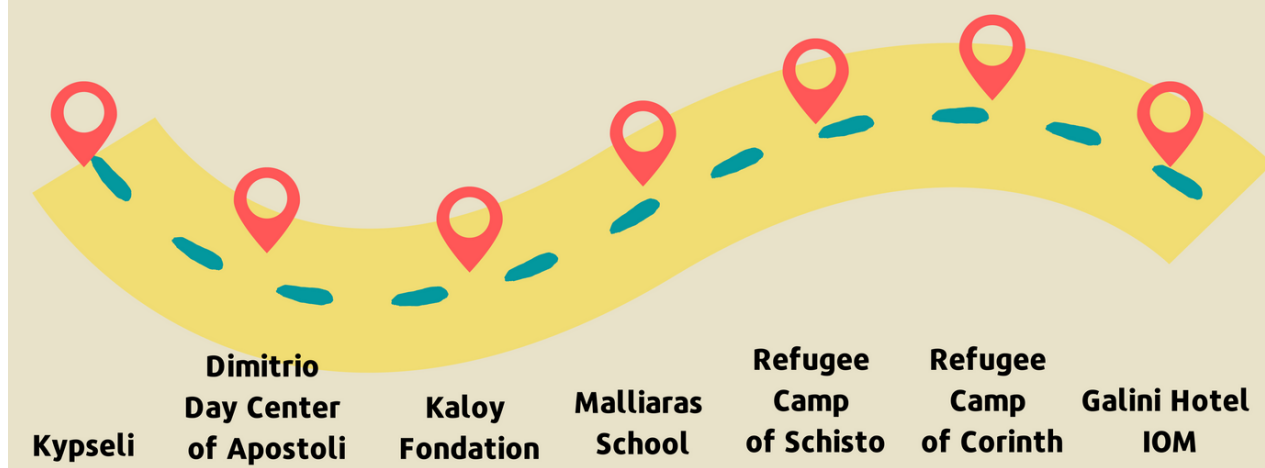
**Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Seekers of Corinth:**

**Cello** 1 hour/week | **Music Initiation** 1 hour/week

**Galini Hotel IOM:**

**Community music** 1 hour/week

## WE SPREAD THE MUSIC



The total number of students in the regular weekly ESG classes and rehearsals was **481 in total** and the distribution by teaching structure is as follows:

**Kypseli:** 196 students

**KDAP Dimitrion:** 46 students

**Fondation Kaloy:** 29 students

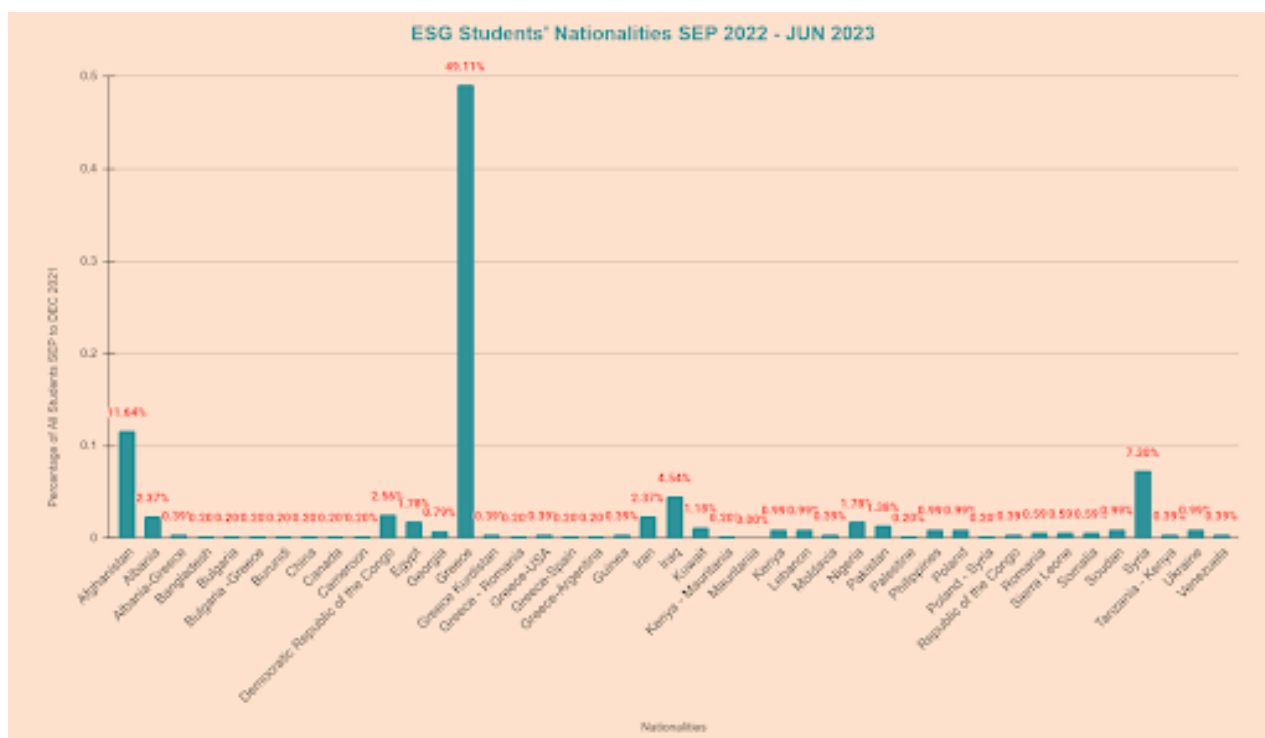
**Malliaras School:** 68 students, members of ESGYO (1 student hosted in the Open Refugee Facility of Corinth)

**Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Seekers of Schisto:** 99 students

**Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Seekers of Corinth:** 18 students

**Galini Hotel IOM:** 25 students

Our students had the following nationalities:



# INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

## SEPTEMBER 2022

- **Francis Gagliardi at Somewhere Festival | 4-9.09.2022:** For 5 days between 3-7 September, 53 participants from all over the globe gathered at the Spanish Pyrenees to exchange, experience and reflect on the transformational power of the Arts. Francis Gagliardi represented ESG with BMW Foundation and Community Arts Network.
- **El Sistema Greece Welcomes Distinguished Guests from Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and Youth Orchestra Los Angeles | 17.09.2022:** In the spirit of promoting cultural exchange and collaboration, El Sistema Greece had the distinct honor of hosting esteemed guests from the world of classical music during the past year. Elsje Kibler-Vermaas, Vice President of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, and Camille Delaney, Director of Youth Orchestra Los Angeles, graced our organization with their presence at the nucleus of Kypseli and Schisto, offering insights, enriching our programs and deepening our commitment to nurturing young talents.
- **Francis Gagliardi in Vamvakou with Responsible Leaders:** The BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt promotes responsible leadership and inspires leaders worldwide to work towards a more peaceful, just and regenerative future. Towards this direction Francis Gagliardi represented ESG at BMW Foundation Responsible Leaders gathering in Vamvakou and held a series of workshops with Responsible Leaders.
- **Launch of the European program “B-Me: Blending Melodies: Bridging Cultural Identities”:** In September 2022, ESG joins as a partner in the European Program B-Me, in collaboration with the Sistema Cyprus and the Associação das Orquestras Sinfónicas Juveniles Sistema Portugal. This project is a European initiative within the framework of the industries program of “Creative Europe”. The project unites local composers with musicians with refugee or immigration backgrounds to co-create authentic musical compositions, which bridge different cultural identities. The duration of the program is one year ending in November 2023.

- **Peace Day Pop-Up Project | 21.09.2022:** On the occasion of the International Day of Peace, MasterPeace created a network of 120 "Pop-Ups", activating 1,200 young creators around the world. ESG, for the second year in a row, participated with its own project, creating a video that sent a powerful message for world peace.

- **Visit Ronnie Morales to ESG | 29.09-10.10.2022:** The international relations officer of El Sistema Venezuela, Ronnie Morales, traveled from Caracas to Athens and shared with the ESG students and teachers his knowledge and experience.



## OCTOBER 2022

- **Music for Active Citizenship (MAC): Educational Seminar Young Music Mentors|2.10.2022:** The 15 Young Music Mentors of ESG participating in the European Music for Active Citizenship (MAC) program, held their first meeting and were trained by the ESG pedagogical advisor Panagiotis Tsiridis in the methodology and practice of El Sistema, in order to work with musicians of El Sistema Greece, fully utilizing their potential as active citizens inside and outside the classroom. The European project "MAC" was launched in January 2022 and is a European initiative under the Erasmus+ program and is implemented in Cyprus and Greece, with Sistema Cyprus and El Sistema Greece as partners. The project aims to provide opportunities for social and educational interaction between local Sistema music projects with a refugee or migrant background, and local music students, seeking to promote social equality and inclusion. The duration of the project is three years.
- **Nick Demeris visit | 05.10.2022:** On October 5th, we had the honor of welcoming Nick Demeris, a dedicated Carnegie Hall teaching artist. His visit was an enriching experience and a valuable opportunity for musical exchange.
- **Participation in the "Bridges" program | 07 & 08.10.2022:** ESG expressed its support to the areas of North Evia affected by the devastating fires, and participated in the "Music Bridges" program of the Athens Concert Hall, with a view to cultural regrouping of the area. On 7 October the pedagogical adviser of the organization Panagiotis Tsiridis provided educational seminars for the students and teachers of the school of Mantoudi, focusing on interdisciplinary and intercultural education, while on 8 October in the same school were the El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra, the orchestra "Kypseli" and El Sistema Greece Youth Choir, where they held an open rehearsal and a big concert. for the students, parents, teachers and the schools of the neighboring areas, under the auspices of conductor Jose Angel Salazar Marin.



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- **Adult Choir Concert at the Athens Nursing Home | 14.10.2022:** In the context of the program "Culture in the Neighborhoods" of Athens Culture Net, the Adult Choir and El Sistema Greece Youth Choir joined their voices for a unique performance with favorite melodies for the residents of the Athens Nursing Home.

- **"Kypseli" Orchestra Concert at KAPAPS Park | 16.10.2022:** As part of the project In the program "Culture in the Neighborhoods" of Athens Culture Net, the educational orchestra "Kypseli" of ESG, under the direction of their conductor Francis Gagliardi, held a concert at Kapaps Park with a performance of classical symphonic works.





- **Visit of the Puracorda String Quartet | 18 & 19.10.2022:** The Greek-Spanish Quartet Puracorda visited the ESG structures in Kypseli and Moschato and carried out educational activities with ESG students.



- **Halloween Concert for String Students | 26.10.2022:** In the spirit of Halloween, the cello, violin and viola students, together with their teachers, presented a "spooky" repertoire in the decorated classroom and offered their classmates and students a treat and their teachers a very beautiful experience.



- **Francis Gagliardi trip to Berlin with Responsible Leaders | 27-29.10.2023:** Francis Gagliardi traveled to Berlin to facilitate some music-making sessions with the Responsible Leaders of the BMW foundation.

# NOVEMBER 2022

- **ESGYC participation in the 40th International Troubadour Festival of Kifissia**  
| **26.11.2022:** El Sistema Greece Youth Choir participated in the 40th International Troubadour Festival of Kifissia and took us on a journey to many different places and times through a diverse repertoire, under the direction of the choir teacher of ESG, Constantina Angelopoulou.



## DECEMBER 2022

- **Visit of International Flutist Francesca Canali | 03 - 12.12.2022:** The internationally acclaimed artist Francesca Canali, with the support of the city of Salzburg, visited El Sistema Greece for a week and gave the musicians endless inspiration and valuable knowledge. She visited both ESG's classes and rehearsals and held two flute masterclasses at the Music Horizons Conservatory and the Philippos Nakas Conservatory.



- **Adult Choir Concert in St. Philip | 09.12.2022:** As part of the "Culture in the Neighborhoods" program of Athens Culture Net, the Adult Choir held a concert at the Church of Agios Filippos with traditional carols from Greece and from all over the world, under the direction of conductor Vaya Papagiannopoulou.

- **Christmas Concerts at the Amphitheatre of the Basil & Elise Goulandris Foundation | 18.12.2022:** The Christmas story of Scrooge came alive through the musical performance of the orchestra "Kypseli" under the direction of conductor Francis Gagliardi, and the El Sistema Greece Youth Choir under the direction of conductor Vaya Papagiannopoulou at the Amphitheater of the Vasilis and Eliza Goulandris Foundation. The narrator of the evening was the actor Jerome Kaluta. After the first sold-out performance, a second one took place, and there was a live broadcast on the radio station, Athens 98.4 FM.



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- **ESGYO Christmas Concerts at the SNFCC with Alexia | 19 & 26.12. 2022:** The talented musicians of El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra, under the direction of ESG's conductor and artistic director Jose Angel Salazar Marin, together with the singer Alexia Vassiliou and her band, performed 2 sold out concerts with the most beloved Christmas songs at the Stavros Niarchos Hall GNO of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre. The concert was also broadcasted on ERT2, ERTFLIX, ERTWORLD and the platforms of the SNFCC on December 31st.



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- **Christmas Concert at the Foyer of the Athens Concert Hall | 23.12.2022:** The orchestra "Kypseli", under the direction of its conductor Francis Gagliardi, and El Sistema Greece Youth Choir, under the direction of maestro and artistic director Jose Angel Salazar Marin presented a Christmas concert with favorite pieces and carols from different parts of the world at the Foyer of the Athens Concert Hall.



## FEBRUARY 2023

- **Concert for the 48th birthday of El Sistema | 18.2.2023:** El Sistema Greece celebrated the anniversary of El Sistema's 48th birthday with a concert by the "Kypseli" Orchestra in the auditorium of the 133rd Primary School of Athens.



- **Visit and concert by Apotropaik | 14.02.2023:** The medieval music ensemble Apotropaik visited the place of action of El Sistema Greece at Dimitrio Day Center in Moschato where they talked to the students and offered them a concert. The event was held in collaboration with the Athens Conservatory, within the framework of the European program Eeemerging+.



- **Visit and concert by Diana Tischchenko | 22.02.2023:** The great violinist Diana Tischchenko visited the students of El Sistema Greece in the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto and in Kypseli and offered educational concerts and violin workshops to the beneficiaries. Diana Tishchenko visited Athens as part of her concert at the Athens Concert Hall for the Rising Stars concert series.



## MARCH 2023

- **Alta Mane visit to El Sistema Greece | 6-8.3.2023:** Cataldo D'Andria, President and Cristina Tango, Director of the Alta Mane Foundation visited El Sistema Greece and attended the music lessons and talked with the students. They also visited the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto, the Kaloy Foundation in Corinth and ESG headquarters in Kypseli. They also held a meeting with our Young Leaders who presented the program and talked about their projects and internships.
- **Launch of the Sistema Lebanon program | 11.03.2023:** El Sistema Greece contributed to the successful launch of El Sistema Lebanon. The teacher Francis Gagliardi and the artistic director Jose Angel Salazar Marin worked with the Lebanese team as consultants to develop the program according to the El Sistema approach.
- **Beginning of cello lessons in the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Corinth | 11.3.2023:** El Sistema Greece started cello lessons in the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Corinth and welcomed new students.





- **Opening of courses at IOM | 13.03.2023:** El Sistema Greece successfully launched the music courses at IOM, providing a musical experience to a group of students from different backgrounds. Through the innovative program and dedicated teachers, the program has already shown promising results among the enrolled students.
- **AIM Leaders Circle | 19-23.3.2023:** Participation of the artistic director of El Sistema Greece, Jose Angel Salazar Marin, in the AIM Leaders Circle in Madrid. The AIM Leaders Circle was a gathering of musicians and executives from around the world, who are all members of the Academy for Impact through Music. Over the course of a week, participants discussed their work in the field, exploring collaborative approaches and partnerships to improve their impact.
- **Collaboration with LiberaMusica | 23-27.3.2023:** The artistic director and conductor of El Sistema Greece visited Pesaro as part of the collaboration with LiberaMusica. He rehearsed with the children of LiberaMusica and the Sinopoli Junior Youth Orchestra and prepared them for their summer concert.



©LiberaMusica

- **Sistema Cyprus visit | 25.3.2023:** On March 25th, we had the pleasure of welcoming Nikoletta Polydorou and Santiago Ossa from Sistema Cyprus. Their visit was an opportunity for exchange and musical synergy, forging stronger bonds between our organizations, as we already have an exceptional collaboration.

- **Fondation EME podcast | 29.3.2023:** The co-founder of El Sistema Greece Anis Barnat joined the Fondation EME podcast series for an interesting discussion on inclusion through music. This was a great opportunity to share our vision and highlight the significant impact of music on individuals and entire communities.



## APRIL 2023

- **Jose Angel Salazar Marin and Francis Gagliardi at El Sistema Venezuela:** Jose Angel Salazar Marin and Francis Gagliardi traveled to El Sistema Venezuela where they visited Caracas and Margarita island for masterclasses and workshops with students and members of Caracas Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- **Athens Civil Society Festival | 22.4.2023:** Participation in the Athens Civil Society Festival, the first Festival by the Municipality of Athens and SynAthina for Civil Society, held at the Serafio of the City of Athens on April 21, 22 and 23. On Saturday, April 22, the Educational Advisor and teachers of El Sistema Greece realized an educational musical activity that they designed in order to highlight the value of teamwork, respect and empathy.



- **Erin Guinup's visit to El Sistema Greece | 1-8.4.2023:** Erin Guinup, Director of the Tacoma Refugee Choir, visited El Sistema Greece as part of her participation in the Global Leaders Institute. During her stay at El Sistema Greece, she attended lessons and musical activities, held workshops with the students and discussed with the team members.
- **Publication of the Music for Active Citizenship (MAC) project training package | 24.04.2023:** The training package that was created in the framework of the project is addressed to musicians, music educators and anyone interested in music as a tool for social inclusion. After the completion of the project and its evaluation, the MAC training package is available here for music educators around the world to access online.

## MAY 2023

- **EDEN workshop | 6.5.2023:** As part of El Sistema Greece's participation in EDEN, 70 members of the El Sistema Greece Youth Choir had the opportunity to attend a workshop about the relationship between human and nature and the role of art in climate change.
- **Susan Platts & Darvid Aaron Carpenter Masterclasses | 23-25.5.2023:** As part of El Sistema Greece's participation in the Rolex Arts Festival, Susan Platts held an educational workshop and a concert for the ESG students at the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto. At the same time, David Aaron Carpenter held masterclasses for the members of El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra, which were also open to viola students from conservatories.
- **Rolex Arts Festival | 26.5.2023:** On Friday, May 26, the El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra joined forces with musicians from other orchestras as part of the Rolex Arts Festival for a concert at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. Conducted by acclaimed Spanish conductor Josep Caballé Domenech, the concert repertoire included classical and contemporary pieces. The El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra shared the stage with the internationally acclaimed artists Susan Platts, Dianne Reeves and David Aaron Carpenter. The concert was held as part of the 20th anniversary of the Rolex Mentorship Program. The El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra was honored with the participation of members from the orchestras Camerata Junior-Youth Orchestra of the Friends of Music and Underground Youth Orchestra.



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- **The Lullaby Project | 29.5.2023:** The Lullaby Project was implemented by El Sistema Greece in collaboration with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center and New York's Carnegie Hall, for the sixth consecutive year. The project highlighted the different aspects of parental love that is not necessarily defined by gender or biological relation. Acclaimed artists Antonis Apergis, Expe, Giannis Konsolakis, Leon of Athens, Danai Nielsen, Semeli Papavasileiou, Fotis Siotas and Dimitra Trypani created original musical pieces to convey these stories of parental love. These musical stories were presented to the public on the Alternative Stage GNO at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center.



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- **EDEN | 30.5.2023:** El Sistema Greece Youth Choir joined forces with the world-renowned mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato and the Il Pomo d'Oro orchestra for the EDEN concert at the Athens Concert Hall. The EDEN project was presented for the first time in Greece, while traveling to 45 cities and 5 continents from 2022 to 2024.



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## JUNE 2023

- **EDEN in the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto | 1.6.2023:** After the concert at the Athens Concert Hall, Joyce DiDonato together with Il Pomo d'Oro orchestra visited the Controlled Temporary Accommodation Facility for Asylum Schisto and participated in the music lessons. They also offered a concert to the community of the refugee camp.



- **Visit and concert of Il Pomo d'Oro Orchestra | 01.06.2023:** After their concert with Joyce DiDonato at the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto, Il Pomo d'Oro orchestra visited Kypseli where they held an educational meeting with the students of El Sistema Greece and offered them a concert.

- **Side by Side Gothenburg | 15-19.06.2023:** During summer, children and young people from all corners of the world gather in Gothenburg to participate in orchestras and choirs. Guided by enthusiastic conductors, skilled musicians, and dedicated teachers, they engage in inspiring workshops and rehearsals during Side by Side. The camp culminates in a series of magnificent concerts, where they perform alongside musicians from the esteemed Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra and Gothenburg Symphony Vocal Ensemble. We are very proud of our wonderful musicians, Aineas, a remarkable cellist, and Dionisis, a talented French horn player, both members of the El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra. Their proactive spirit led them to enthusiastically participate in this year's camp, organized by the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra from June 15th to 19th, 2023.

- **Presentation at SNFCC Youth Council | 18.06.2023:** The El Sistema Greece team made a presentation to the members of the SNFCC Youth Council where they talked about the organization's work and the planning and implementation of intercultural artistic activities.
- **ESG Summer Camp | 19-22.6.2023:** The Summer Camp of El Sistema Greece was held for another year with the participation of students from all its nucleus in Attica and Corinth. For four days the students of El Sistema Greece had the opportunity to participate in joint musical activities and rehearsals. These days ended with a big concert at Serafio City of Athens.
- **European Music Day | 21.6.2023:** On European Music Day, El Sistema Greece held an open rehearsal at the Serafio City of Athens. The event was organized as part of Athens Culture Net for the International and World Days.
- **Atelier for Young Festival Managers | 21.6.2023:** The Festival Academy hosted the 21st edition of the Atelier for Young Festival Managers in Elefsina, from 21-28 June, 2023, in partnership with the 2023 Eleusis European Capital of Culture. This prestigious event brought together emerging festival makers, cultural experts, artists, and cross-sector professionals for a global conversation on the role of festivals, art, and culture in addressing today's challenges. Among the team of changemakers was Anis Barnat, the co-founder of El Sistema Greece. The Atelier offered participants a unique opportunity to gain new perspectives, exchange experiences, and reflect on the essence of festivals in a global context.



- **Concert B-ME | 23.6.2023:** The concert of the European project B-Me: Blending Melodies-Bridging Cultural Identities, took place at the official opening of the Athens Open Air Film Festival at the Open Theater of Kolonos. The concert was held with the presence of the composers Roxani Chatzidimitriou, Kyriaki Iakovidou and Ana Seara. Prior to the concert, the composers Roxani Chatzidimitriou, Andys Skordis and Mario Laginha visited the orchestra's rehearsals and discussed with the ESG musicians. The concert was followed by the screening of the film CINEMA PARADISO.



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- **Graduation of the third group of the Young Leaders Program | 23.6.2023:** The third cohort of the Young Leaders Program completed its year of action and leadership and graduated in June. After participating in creative activities such as musical improvisation, ensemble building, and learning how to become leaders in their communities through multiple tasks and deep discussions, the Young Leaders received the tools to become more active in their personal and social lives, to develop their critical thinking and to express their opinions and voices.

- **Concert THE LION KING | 26.6.2023:** The El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra held a concert in the forecourt of Zappeion Megaro as part of the Athens Open Air Film Festival. The repertoire of the concert was varied with pieces from all over the world as well as pieces from the film THE LION KING, which was shown after the end of the concert.



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- **El Sistema Greece Youth Choir concert at Moraitis School | 26.6.2023:** The El Sistema Greece Youth Choir participated in the 1st meeting of Community Choirs at the Moraitis School under the direction of ESG Choir Master, Vagia Papagiannopoulou.

- **LiberaMusica Summer Camp | 28.6.2023-2.7.2023:** The artistic director and conductor of El Sistema Greece, Jose Angel Salazar Marin, participated in the Summer Camp of LiberaMusica in Pesaro. In addition to the children of LiberaMusica, the Summer Camp was attended by students from the Giuseppe Sinopoli Junior Youth Orchestra of Sistema Italy, but also from Sistema Cyprus and Sinfonía por el Perú. After five days full of rehearsals they held a big concert in Pesaro's Piazza de Popolo.

- **B-Me concert at the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto | 3.7.2023:** The El Sistema Greece Youth Orchestra performed the repertoire of the European project B-Me in the Controlled Temporary Reception Facility of Asylum Seekers of Schisto for the community there and ESG students.



- **ESG School of Hip Hop Summer Camp | 3-7.7.2023:** The ESG School of Hip Hop Summer Camp took place for the third year and hosted 30 children from all over Athens regardless of language, origin or religion. The children had the opportunity to attend rhyming, beatmaking, mixing, songwriting, scratching, graffiti and break dance workshops by their teachers Blend Mishkin, DJ Marble, BNC, No.less and Fay Chronopoulou. There were also meetings with artists such as EXPE, Sadahzinia and FREQ. The ESG School of Hip Hop Summer Camp ended with a concert at the Kypseli Municipal Market where the kids presented their own pieces and everything they learned during these days.



- **Concert for the graduation celebration of NGO Metadrasij 6.7.2023:** El Sistema Greece participated in the graduation celebration organized by Metadrasij for the students of the HELIOS program. The musicians of El Sistema Greece participated in the celebration by holding a festive concert.



- **Visit of Micah Hendler| 29.7.2023:** On July 29th, we were delighted to welcome Micah Hendler from the Jerusalem Youth Choir. During his visit, we engaged in fruitful discussions about El Sistema Greece and the establishment of the El Sistema Greece Youth Choir. This exchange of ideas not only strengthened our bonds but also provided us with valuable insights and perspectives from a respected professional in the field.