



New Year Issue



Keys of Change
Can music change the world? We believe it can.



SARAJEVO
JUNE 2015

THE FUKUSHIMA YOUTH SINFONIETTA
TOKYO OPERA CITY, AUGUST 2015

It's been a very musical year for us!

Leaving 2015 behind, we, at Keys of Change, feel very inspired where music has brought us this year and proud with how many young people around the world felt their lives getting better because of music.

We travelled back to Japan in August for another empowering project with the Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta. After their tremendous success in London in 2014, the group of young musicians from Fukushima, grew bigger and stronger. Fifty middle and highschool students coming from a part of Japan still healing from the wounds of the 2011 disaster, joined forces with Japan Philharmonic Orchestra and several other professional musicians, and gave an

electrifying performance at Tokyo Opera City. This sold out concert in Japan's capital, a testimony of courage and pride by the young musicians, was attended by Her Majesty Empress Mischiko, who personally met and congratulated the students from Fukushima afterwards.

Other musical journeys in 2015, playing music for children living in extraordinary circumstances, be it because of poverty, discrimination, or illness, brought us across the Balkans, to orphanages all over Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina and to minority schools in Xnathi, Greece, as well as back to Ecuador and Peru. In Sierra Leone, a country heavily affected by a recent Ebola

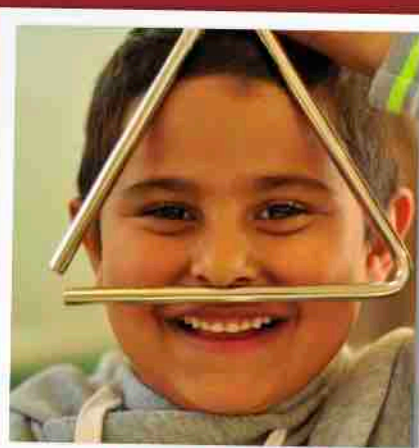
virus epidemic, we continued supporting educational projects and also helped supply books to children across the country.

We would like to continue using music as a powerful agent for improving people's lives, and keep demonstrating that simple goals, like the preparation for joint a concert, and act so powerful yet so under-appreciated, can bring varied communities together for the common purpose of playing music and give hope and inspiration.

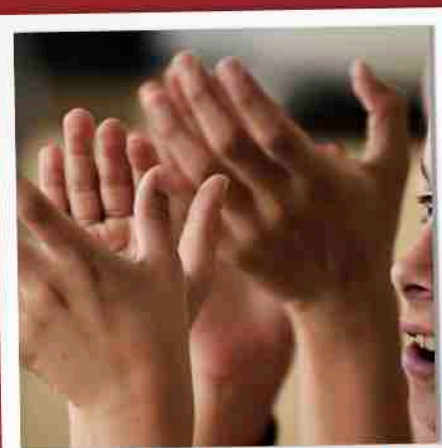
Thank you for your continuous support. It is only because of your support that we have been able to bring music to thousands of people around the world, improving their lives and making the world a better place.



MUSIC IN FUKUSHIMA



MUSIC IN XANTHI



MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD

The Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta performs at Tokyo Opera City winning the hearts of the audience in a Japan's capital, including Her Majesty Empress Michiko.

In August of 2015, Keys of Change invited more than 50 young Fukushima instrumentalists to Tokyo for a concert marking the ensemble's Tokyo debut. This concert, at the prestigious Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall, was honored by the attendance of Her Majesty the Empress of Japan, who came backstage to personally congratulate and encourage the young musicians. The FYS benefited from the collaboration of a number of young American and European musicians, invited by Keys of Change, as well as by the participation of advanced music students from Toho Gakuen Conservatory and several professional musicians from the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of the prominent conductor Tetsuji Honna. Nearly all of the 1600+ seats at Tokyo Opera City were filled for this highly successful musical event. In preparation for the Tokyo concert, Keys of Change had organized and coordinated daily rehearsals in Fukushima, a concert at Fukushima Ongakudo, as well as all travel arrangements and accommodations in Tokyo for the members of the student orchestra. The students themselves demonstrated exceptional leadership in

assisting with all aspects of the preparation and execution of this major Tokyo concert.

The Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta's debut concert at Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall on August 20, 2015 demonstrated the triumph through music of young people who, five years earlier, had suffered irreparable pain and suffering from the tragic deaths of parents, siblings, family members and friends; from the sudden loss of homes, communities, and possessions; and the abrupt disruption of the lives they had previously known. Aiding continually in their recovery were Keys of Change musicians, who began visiting Fukushima in the summer of 2011 and who returned repeatedly in the following months and years to offer impromptu performances and musical events in evacuation shelters, schools, hospitals, and other venues, motivated by a determination to help Fukushima people of all ages to recover hope and a sense of life-purpose.

"I ENJOYED VERY MINUTE OF CREATING MUSIC TOGETHER WITH OTHER ORCHESTRAL MEMBERS. THIS EXPERIENCE OF THE SUMMER BECAME LIFE-TIME MEMORY TO TREASURE. I AM SO PROUD TO BE A PART OF THIS ORCHESTRA."
YUKI IMAIZUMI, OBOE

WHEN I NERVOUSLY TOOK THE AUDITION TO BE THE PART OF THIS ORCHESTRA IN THE SPRING, IT WAS MY FIRST YEAR PLAYING THE FLUTE. AFTER THE PROJECT, I FEEL A LOT MORE CONFIDENT AND EVEN CHALLENGED TO PLAY THE PICCOLO IN MY SCHOOL BAND. I WOULD LIKE TO KEEP IMPROVING MYSELF UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN NEXT YEAR.
RAN MATSUDA, FLUTE



MUSICIANS



Balkan Sounds-Serbia and Bosnia/Herzegovina

As part of our commitment to try and introduce a new destination in our projects once a year, in June 2015, Keys of Change travelled to the former Yugoslavian countries of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Covering more than 2,000km by road, in a period of just over a week, our team reached to ten orphanages, and brought music to children that are in great need of attention and support.

The improvised concerts took place inside the children's homes, which in many cases house a number of young children without parental care, as well

as several children with mental disabilities.

Panos Karan (piano) brought with him a portable keyboard in the very recognisable blue case, and, in most circumstances, played on it, sharing with the children a variety of melodies and musical stories, using music as an invitation to imagination and communication. The end of each musical presentation had the children playing rhythms in small percussion instruments, and, after a short rehearsal, participating in the music making.

We hope this was only the beginning of

a very inspiring project. Keys of Change would like to return to Bosnia/Herzegovina and Serbia, and continue sharing music with the children living in these homes..



Minority Notes - Xanthi, Greece

In March 2015 Panos Karan (piano) and Zach Tarpagos (flute), spent two days interacting with elementary school students of a Turkish speaking minority in Iliopetra, Xanthi, North Greece. The aim of this programme was to use music as a tool of communication, and to create an opportunity for a mini-concert for the young students, guiding them from simple rehearsal/preparation process through to a presentation in front of all the students and teachers of the school. The opportunity was used also to assess the possibility of a future continuous musical programme in this school.

Keys of Change first visited Turkish speaking minorities in Xanthi in January 2014, when Panos Karan (piano) and Ana Chifu (flute) spent two days playing music for several schools in the area. Most of the children in this part of Greece are living in difficult conditions, resulting from extreme poverty, while family problems include alcoholism, abuse and violence. This is a part of Greece that Greek is spoken little if not at all, and the groups living in these communities identify with the Turkish culture (language and religion). There is a feeling among this population of being forgotten and left behind by the Greek

state. Through the 2014 visit, the Iliopera Elementary School showed keen interest for a repeat visit, and a greater involvement in musical activities.



South American Rhythms - Ecuador, Peru

Our music education programme in Ecuador, in collaboration with our local partner the Condor Trust for Education, continues with great enthusiasm. In May 2015 Panos Karan spent several days in Peru and Ecuador performing for several groups of vulnerable children and young adults, introducing them to classical music, sharing a message of positive interaction through creativity.

In Quito, Ecuador, Panos also performed a return fundraising recital in the country's most renowned and historic musical venue, the Teatro Sucre. We were particularly excited that music our guitar students in Quito took to the stage of Teatro Sucre, at the end of the performance, for a surprise encore at the end of the concert! Proceeds of this concert will be used for furthering the

musical classes and music education programme.

In Lima, Peru, Panos performed a recital at the Teatro Britanico, and collaborated with the Youth Orchestra of El Britanico, sharing with young Peruvians the exciting possibilities preparing for a concert and playing music together. With the support of El Britannico in Lima, during the stay in Peru, together with young musicians from the orchestra, Panos visited local orphanages and schools supporting children from deprived backgrounds, and used the opportunity to play music, talk about past projects in the Amazon, and invite children to produce music themselves, on the piano, or other instruments of the local musicians, as well as a small percussion instruments.

Ecuador and Peru are the first countries Keys of Change visited in 2011, with its pioneering project "Bach in the Amazon", and we very much wish to continue our existing musical projects in Ecuador and plan more musical visits in South America in the future.



We are proud of our young musicians

Music education is an integral part of our activities for empowering young people around the world to enhance their lives. Our musical programme in Ecuador continues, together with our partner The Condor Trust for Education. We now have 15 students learning the guitar in Quito. One of our start students, Edison volunteered as a music teacher at his local church, using his newly learned musical skill to help others. The guitar students in Quito performed to much acclaim in Teatro Sucre in Quito in April 2015.

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2016

MUSIC EDUCATION

✓ We are committed to continue and expand our projects in Ecuador, while assessing a musical education projects in Sierra Leone, Xanthi, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Also, we are hoping to have a continuous support for the KYO in Kolkata for 2016.

PROJECTS

✓ Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta: Sixty musicians from Fukushima will travel to Boston, for a nine-day visit, participating in various musical exchanges, culminating in performance at Boston Symphony Hall on 3 April 2016.

✓ Kolkata Youth Orchestra: We will continue working closely with KYO. We want to put together a joint concert at the end of 2016, involving as many as 70 talented young Indian musicians.

✓ NEW PROJECT: Each year we endeavour to include a new destination in our plans. Please get in touch and suggest to us communities around the world that would benefit most from being part in a music



AKANE YUDA

FUKUSHIMA

AKANE YUDA, AGED 15, WAS AWARDED FIRST PRIZE AT THE JAPAN SCHOOL ENSEMBLE COMPETITION SOLOIST SECTION IN JAPAN, PERFORMING SIBELIUS VIOLIN CONCERTO.



GUITAR LEARNERS

QUITO

TEN OF OUR STUDENTS IN QUITO MADE A SURPRISE APPEARANCE AT THE EMBLEMATIC TEATRO SUCRE IN APRIL MARKING THEIR QUITO DEBUT!



SANJIB MONDAL

KOLKATA

SANJIB MADE HIS JAPAN DEBUT AT TOKYO OPERA CITY, CONDUCTING THE FUKUSHIMA YOUTH SINFONIETTA WITH SIBELIUS VALSE TRISTE.

How together we make this happen!

Apart from traveling all over the world playing classical music there has been a lot of work going on in London. Keys of Change organised a series of events, private and open to public, to fundraise and to share our stories and passion. Panos Karan and Zach Tarpagos have given many fundraising recitals, speeches, interviews and lectures. In August 2015 Zach and Panos performed a fundraising recital in Tokyo Suntory Hall, and in October 2015 at Megaron Recital Hall in Thessaloniki. Panos performed a fundraising concert also St. John's, Smith Square, in London, in June 2015.

Keys of Change has featured on BBC World, NHK, national television in Greece, Peru and Sierra Leone, radio in Greece, India and Ecuador, in numerous publications including.

We thank our partners - the Condor Trust for Education in Ecuador, the Fukushima Board of Education, Mirjana

Dejanovic in Serbia, the El Britannico in Lima, and the Kolkata Youth Orchestra - for their help and empowering collaboration. We also thank our project managers, translators, volunteers, music teachers and our talented photographers around the world for their hard work in making everything possible.

And the most special thanks goes to you - our supporters, who donated generously, strongly believed in our cause and encouraged us every step of the way! It is only because of you and your help, that we are able to continue bringing music to young people that need it around the world.

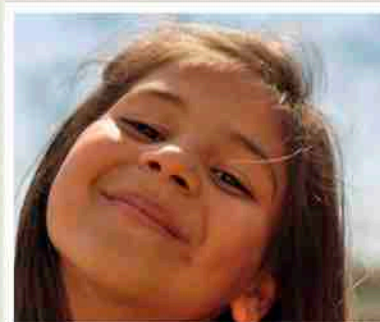
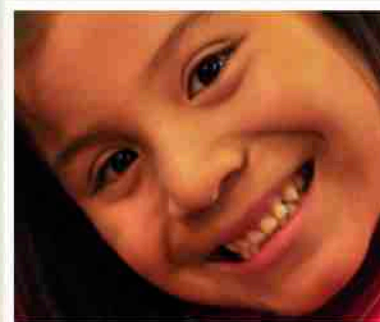
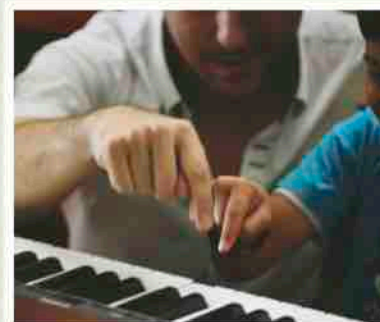
We wish all our enthusiastic supporters, partners, listeners, and all the devoted music students around the world a happy and healthy New Year filled with more and more music!

Keys of Change team

Keys of Change
UK Registered Charity No. 1141861
www.keysofchange.org

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Eloise Campbell
Ryusei Kojima

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN ANY OF OUR PROJECTS PLEASE EMAIL US ON INFO@KEYSOFCHANGE.ORG



A year in pictures



March: Xanthi



March: Fukushima



May: Quito



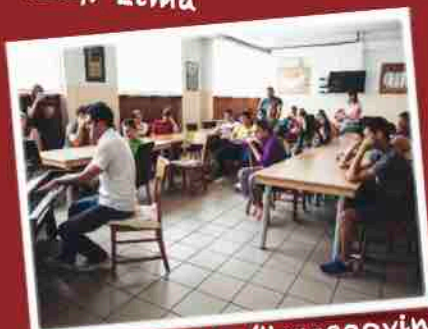
May: Lima



June: London



June: Serbia



June: Bosnia/Herzegovina



August: Suntory Hall



August: Minamisoma



August: Fukushima



August: Tokyo Opera City



October: Thessaloniki

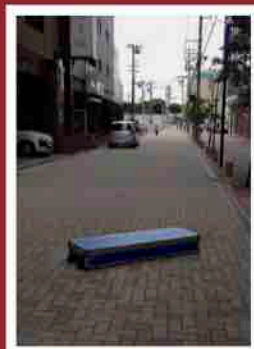
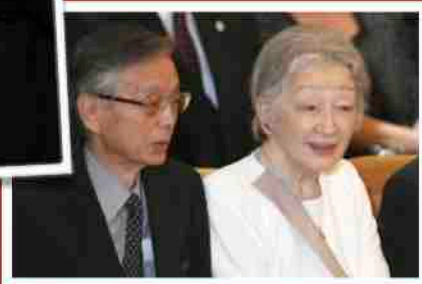
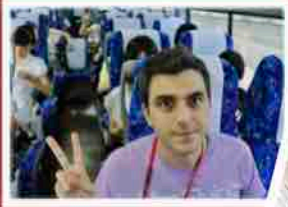


November: Fukushima



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Another day in the office...



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