



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Keys of Change is funded entirely by donations from generous individuals who believe, as the trustees do, that music can change the world.

As trustees of Keys of Change USA, we should like to express our sincere gratitude to all our friends, supporters, musicians and volunteers for the support they have given through the years, and particularly during these last two particularly difficult years.

KEYS OF CHANGE USA

EIN: 82-0614802



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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Address 39515 Glenn Glade
Chapel Hill, NC 27517

Trustees:

Chair J. R. Thornton
Other trustees A. Mullins
P. Karan

STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Governing Document

Keys of Change USA ("the Charity") is a charity, governed by a trust deed adopted 20th November 2015. An analogous organization is registered as a charity in England and Wales.

Trustees

Trustees are recruited from people who have an interest in advancing musical education internationally. They are appointed by vote of existing trustees.

Organisational Structure

Trustees meet regularly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity.

OBJECTS, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the government's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Objects

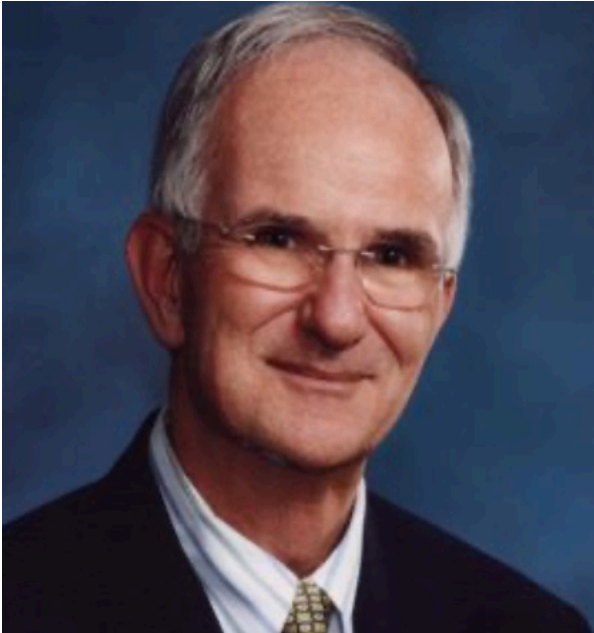
The object of the Charity is:

- the advancement of the arts, in particular music, for young people living in poverty or in difficult circumstances anywhere in the world by providing musical instruments and access to musical tuition and by providing opportunities to perform in public and listen to live performances. In addition to poverty, the context of "difficult" includes suffering due to illness, the aftermath of a natural disaster, conflict or an epidemic).

Activities

During 2021, Keys of Change USA was engaged in a number of musical education projects, including in Ecuador, Mexico, Serbia, Japan, Ghana and India.

A WORD FROM THE MANAGING TRUSTEE



What an amazing year for Keys USA in 2021. In spite of all of the obstacles which could have been deterrents, I encourage you to emotionally internalize while reading here what actually occurred in the various Keys projects around the globe. These accomplishments are solely because of who and what Panos Karan is all about made possible because of your belief and support. Reflect for a moment on the objective of Keys USA as written by Panos years ago: "The advancement of the arts, in particular music, for young people living in poverty or in difficult circumstances anywhere in the world..." Think about how lonely the year could have been for

these children if they had not been involved weekly in caring, learning and growth.

Yes, music was the vehicle for "changing the world" for these youth, but peel a little deeper into their experiences as individuals. The use of technology provided connectedness with other young people around the world. Surely, they grasped that those they are seeing and playing with by video are young people just like them who are living in similar circumstances as their own.

Please go to the videos on the Keys of Change USA website. You can see by the expressions on the student's faces that they are growing in self-confidence, developing a positive self-identity, and importantly, perhaps even for the first time in their lives, developing a sense that they are capable of having positive control in their lives.

Next, I encourage you to flip to the financial statement in this report. Grasp that these projects are being achieved with frugal spending. Only Japan exceeded \$10K in expenditures for the year and that was due to making the 10-year celebration exceptionally meaningful for the young people who have spent more than half of their lives growing with their companions from the tsunami tragedy.

Reflect back to the picture of Panos in his first visit to Japan, playing for tsunami victims on his portable keyboard in a gymnasium stacked with boxes of donated clothing. Contrast that

with years later, the same young people playing a symphony in the Suntory Hall in Tokyo.

The point here is the Keys USA experience is a journey for all of these young people. In Quito, the Andes, Oaxaca, Ghana, they begin with different but analogous circumstances. Their growth through the years is quite evident. It is fascinating to observe how the adult community begins to be pulled into the growthful experiences as well. Yes, "Music can change the world!"

You are encouraged to share what you are experiencing with Keys USA with others. If you know of someone who is still holding on to the musical instrument they played in high school, encourage them to donate it as a tax-deductible contribution while making the world a better place. If you know of a Foundation which might participate in what is being accomplished with the youth around the world, please send me their contact information so that I can submit an application.

Yes, 2021 was a good year for Keys USA with more yet to come.

Please accept my deepest gratitude for your support. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Roy Thornton

A WORD FROM PANOS

More than ever before, in 2021, the value of music has been appreciated by people all around the world. This year music united us, inspired, motivated and encouraged us by the sense of a new beginning.

This has been a year of adjustment, as the pandemic kept most of the world idling. There was a time that it would have seemed inconceivable that the music would stop, and the concert halls would go dark. As 2021 progressed, some music started returning, although for most of the year, this silence, the pause, the fermata in the music, kept resonating in our lives. As a musician that has always relied on travel and gathering people together to listen to music, the wait seemed endless and the adjustments painful.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic during 2021, the Keys of Change trustees have continued to work closely with our partners, students and teachers around the world. We found creative ways to keep delivering the music education we are committed to, to create performance opportunities in the rare places where this was possible, and to continue to inspire young people around the world with music. In Chennai, Oaxaca and Accra we continued, almost daily, with online music classes and rehearsals. In the mountains of Ecuador, we delivered instruments and founded a new

brass band. In Fukushima, Japan, our young musicians created an emotional documentary to commemorate 10 years since the disaster, and then performed an electrifying concert in the heart of Tokyo immediately after the Olympic Games. We are also particularly proud to have supported the creation of the World Youth Sinfonietta, where young musicians from five corners of the world, most of whom had never met each other before, came together to make music in a spirit of unity, determination and hope.

In 2020 and 2021, the value of music has perhaps been appreciated by people all around the world more than ever before. For some of us, this has meant looking for entertainment, distraction or inspiration through online concerts. For the young students supported by Keys of Change, from Ecuador to India, our online music lessons and rehearsals have sometimes provided their only opportunity to move away for the harsh realities around them. One thing is certain, in 2021 music united us, inspired, motivated and encouraged us by the sense of a new beginning.



OAXACA, CHENNAI, ACCRA

The Covid-19 pandemic, and the global restrictions and lockdowns, did not stop us from continuing our work with some of the most vulnerable children around the world.

Like most of our projects, our work in Oaxaca (Mexico), Chennai (India) and Accra (Ghana) was severely affected by travel restrictions and social distancing regulations, which made it necessary to keep all music activities virtual. All these projects benefitted, however, from music lessons online, using our network of music teachers from around the world.

Our programme in Oaxaca supports the musical education of 50 young students living on the outskirts of the city, in a community next to the landfill. The motto of the community is "while Oaxaca gives us their garbage, we give them back music". In 2021 Keys of Change USA enabled two teachers to be based there or to visit regularly. Together, they were able to provide more than 60 hours of classes a month.

In Chennai, while waiting for social distancing rules to ease, we continued weekly group rehearsals with the young musicians who are now known as the Chennai Youth Sinfonietta (CYS). Using our teachers from Europe, South America and Australia, we provided online guidance for string and wind players. Keys of Change founder Panos Karan also held a number of online workshops.

In Ghana, our teachers in Europe and South America were able to provide daily online music classes for approximately 10 children living in Kinder Paradise, a children's home on the outskirts of Accra, which supports young people from extremely challenging backgrounds. Starting in 2022, Keys of Change USA is increasing its involvement with Kinder Paradise: we will be sending two full-time music volunteers, to be based in Ghana for six months at a time, who will provide around 160 classes a month to more than 50 children. In preparation for this new activity, in 2021 we advertised the positions, held interviews, together with our Ghanaian partners, and chose the four teachers who will be taking over the teaching from January 2022.

**In collaboration with Keys of Change
CIO, Kinder Paradise, La Banda de la
Música, Musée Musical**



FUKUSHIMA, JAPAN

"Although the disaster was a tragic event, there was also hope there. We are all playing music for the reconstruction of our community. We want to convey the feeling of motivation we have, the motivation within us, the motivation of people trying to rebuild Fukushima." –FYS musician

**In collaboration with
Keys of Change CIO
and NPO Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta**

On 11 March 2011, an earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident devastated the Fukushima area of north-eastern Japan. Ten years later, a group of young musicians, the Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta, is spreading the message that disasters and pandemics can be overcome and communities built back stronger. The Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta (FYS) is one of the most positive things to have emerged from the devastation of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in northern Japan. With the support of Keys of Change, they have performed around the world, including at Tokyo Opera City, Suntory Hall, Boston Symphony Hall and Bangkok Siam Pic-Ganeesha Theatre.

In 2021, to commemorate the ten-year anniversary, the orchestra made a video showing how individual members and the whole community have benefitted from coming together and making music in the wake of the tsunami. In this hour-long documentary, made by the musicians themselves, thoughts and emotions about the past, present and future, particularly relation to the 2011 disaster and the positive effects of music activities and concerts, are shared by members of the orchestra. "Just as we recovered from the earthquake, we want people to know that the world can escape from Covid-19 and go forward strongly" says the young director of the video.

In August 2021, Keys of Change was able to organise a commemorative concert at Suntory Hall, hosted by founder Panos Karan, which included musicians from the FYS. Because of the draconian Covid-19 rules in Japan, which restricted any movement between cities, we were only able to include those FYS members who were based in Tokyo. At a time when the majority of concerts in Tokyo were being cancelled, and while, at the time of writing, the FYS is still waiting to fully restart its activities, performing in their nation's capital was a powerful opportunity for at least a small group of Fukushima musicians to share a positive message with the world.



Click on the image above to view the documentary "Music from Fukushima"

QUITO, ECUADOR

**In collaboration with Keys of Change CIO,
and the Condor Trust for Education**

In the country where we started teaching music in 2011, our music program expanded in 2021 with the launch of a new brass band in the Andes mountains.

Ecuador is the first musical project Keys of Change created back in 2011. With the help of our local partner, the Condor Trust for Education, we continue to support the musical education of twenty children from deprived backgrounds who live in and around Quito. While restrictions were in place, we briefly had to pause the classes, but in 2021 we were able to restart the group guitar lessons that take place weekly under the roof of the Condor Trust for Education.

NEW PROJECT

In 2021, responding to a request from local community representatives, we launched a new programme in Ecuador involving 20 young people. This group, who live in a village deep in the Andes, had been dreaming of creating a wind and brass band in order to preserve their unique culture and ancestral traditions. With the help of Keys of Change, this dream is now becoming a reality. Keys of Change relies on the help of five teachers from inside and outside Ecuador, and also on the logistical support of our local partners, so that even during the pandemic we were able to ship more than 10 musical instruments to the community. Step by step, overcoming obvious and unexpected obstacles, the young people started learning music - first the clarinet, then the flute, followed by the trumpet and the saxophone. Keys of Change founder Panos Karan and Keys of Change teacher Renzo Carranza from Peru were finally able to visit the group in November 2021 and observe how the students were making progress, as they were finally able to sit next to each other and play together.



Click on the image above to view the video "The Birth of the Banda of Cerritos".

WORLD YOUTH SINFONIETTA

Our dream of connecting young people around the world through music remained alive with the establishment of the Keys of Change World Youth Sinfonietta.

In collaboration with Keys of Change CIO and our young musicians all around the world

We have long used music to connect young people around the world, and give life-changing opportunities through music exchanges. It has long been our dream to create a global youth orchestra that captures this message.

Back in 2020, despite the challenges the arts and live music faced, we were able to take the first step towards this direction, with the establishment of the Keys of Change World Youth Sinfonietta. With the help of technology, we our dream of connecting young people around the world through music came to life with the establishment of the Keys of Change World Youth Sinfonietta. This activity started in 2020 during the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic, and was so successful that we decided to continue in 2021.

In the Keys of Change World Youth Sinfonietta, young musicians from five corners of the world, all of whom are learning music in the Keys of Change projects described above but most of whom had never met each other before, came together in a positive and creative spirit, to use music and music learning to improve themselves and share with the world something that would have never otherwise been expected from them: unity, determination, hope. The piece they performed online was Nimrod from Elgar's Enigma Variations.



Click on the image above to view the performance of the World Youth Sinfonietta.

LOOKING AHEAD

At the core of Keys of Change is its message “music can change the world”. In 2022, we plan to make our aim of bringing together young musicians from different parts of the world a more concrete reality.

Research, and our own experience, have shown time and time again that music can be beneficial for people in many ways, from helping establish close connections with others to improving a sense of confidence and control. The importance of these benefits has emerged even more clearly during the pandemic: Keys of Change has seen in all its projects the motivation and inspiration that music-making can bring. We are looking forward in 2022 and beyond to once more fully embracing our purpose of spreading these benefits of music even more widely.

**Strengthening our partnerships,
expanding our teaching programme,
sustaining our youth orchestras.**

In 2022, we plan to do this in a number of ways:

- Sending our teachers to all our projects to resume face-to-face teaching, while at the same time continuing to make the most of the advantages of online teaching;
- Preparing for and putting on live performances involving all the young people we are working with;
- Providing more instruments for our new groups to use;
- Creating more opportunities for young people to hear live musical performances.

We hope this will include a debut performance for the Chennai Youth Sinfonietta, performances in Japanese cities for the Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta, local concerts given by our young musicians in Ghana, the first performances of the newly formed Banda in Ecuador and the further development of the World Youth Sinfonietta.

Through these activities, we aim to continue to inspire our students and help them, through music, to create a future for themselves and their communities that is brighter, more purposeful and more hopeful.

Keys of Change will continue to work to support the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, to build a better world for people and our planet by 2030. The goals most closely connected with our activities are:



Keys of Change USA
Income Statement Calendar Year 2021

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| Beginning Bank Balance (12/31/20) | | \$50,671.09 |
| Revenue (1/1 thru 12/31/21) | | |
| Contributions | | \$68,600.49 |
| Adjust +\$100.00 for 2020 Net Anderson Contribution Deposited 1/4/2021 | | |
| Adjust -\$400.00 for 2021 Net Berliner Contribution Deposited 1/3/2022 | | -\$300.00 |
| Net 2021 Contributions | | <u>\$68,300.49</u> |
| <u>Expenses by Category</u> | | |
| Independent Contractors (Teachers) | \$13,695.45 | |
| Printing, publications, postage, shipping | \$507.88 | |
| Travel to project sites, accommodations, meals | \$7,095.81 | |
| Instrument purchase and repair | \$2,582.24 | |
| Performance expenses including publicity | \$16,633.25 | |
| Office, Admin Supplies, Website Fees | \$581.01 | |
| Stripe Fees - Credit Card Donations | <u>\$288.80</u> | |
| Total 2021 Expenses | | <u>\$41,384.44</u> |
| Net Income | | <u>\$26,916.05</u> |
| Ending Bank Balance (12/31/21) | | <u>\$77,587.14</u> |