

Music Fund, winner 2021 of the Prize for Democracy and Human Rights of the Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels



"Music allows us to bring together people, so different and diverse, around the same instrument, sharing the same values. Music then becomes an actor of dialogue, of uniting people, and thus an instrument of peace."

Rudy Demotte
President of the Parliament of
the Wallonia-Brussels Federation

On Wednesday 10 March 2021, Music Fund had the honour of receiving the prestigious Prize for Democracy and Human Rights from the Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels. This prize, worth 10,000 euros, rewards the association for its action in favour of music schools and social-artistic projects in conflict areas and developing countries, as well as in Belgium.

Since 2015, the Parliament of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels has awarded an annual prize for Democracy and Human Rights. The main objective is to draw attention to a specific achievement within the framework of the International Organisation of the Francophonie and the values it defends with regard to the promotion of peace, democracy and human rights. For the Parliament of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, it is also a question of increasing its openness towards the civil society and citizens.

Music Fund collects, checks, repairs and donates instruments to music schools and social-artistic projects active in the field of music. Its partner projects are mainly located in countries of the South (DRC, Haiti, Morocco, Mozambique, Palestine, Israel) but the association also regularly supports social-artistic projects in Belgium by donating instruments (for example: music projects with refugees and music academies that want to accommodate young people who cannot afford an instrument).

The creation of instrument repair workshops in the South and the training, through regular exchanges with Belgium, of local repairers are at the heart of the mission of Music Fund. They consolidate the sustainable character of their actions by enabling the partners to take care of the maintenance of the instruments themselves and thus their autonomy.

Music Fund is well aware that music practice and education alone cannot prevent conflict or promote economic development. However, experience in difficult regions shows that well-structured music education contributes to building and rebuilding societies by focusing on culture, rather than just on the difficulties related to war or poverty.

We would like to thank all those who, from near and far, help us accomplish our mission: volunteers, partners, donators, funders ... With a special thanks to the schools and projects that we support in the South who, through their work, their commitment, and their energy, continuously work towards the democratisation of access to quality music education.

"With Music Fund, the history of the instrument continues. [...] The association creates imaginary bridges between people from very different worlds."

Lukas Pairon
Founder of Music Fund

MUSIC FUND IN FIGURES

- **9,905** instruments collected
- **4,993** instruments repaired and donated
- **16** partner projects in Palestine, Israel, DR Congo, Haiti, as well as Morocco and Mozambique
- **19** instrument repairers trained in partner schools in the South
- **9** repair workshops set up in partner projects
- **20** permanent collection points in 6 European countries

MORE ABOUT MUSIC FUND

>> [Music Fund presentation video](#) (in French)

>> [Website Music Fund](#)

>> [Logos and pictures of Music Fund and the award ceremony](#)

CONTACTS

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