

December 2016

**Dear Friends** 

It's seems fashionable these days to blame the problems of our country on immigrants. Yet this country was and continues to be built by the many immigrants whose contributions enrich our lives with a plethora of color, flavor, music, innovation, and yes, hard work!

Sones de México Ensemble is actively breaking stereotypes, promoting greater appreciation of Mexican music and culture and helping raise the self-esteem of vulnerable immigrant populations through everything we do: concerts, school outreach programs, music lessons, lectures, radio, film, and more.

Our album *Esta Tierra es Tuya (This Land is your Land)* was dedicated to immigrants. The album got us national attention and two GRAMMY $^{\text{\tiny M}}$  nominations almost ten years ago. Our most recent album, 13 B'aktún, is a tribute to Mexico's indigenous cultures.

We have not done this alone! It takes a a little help from our friends to keep an arts organization operating 365 days a year.

Please consider us among the causes that you will support this fall. Here's why:

- In 2016, we performed **43 concerts, 14 school assemblies, 55 workshops,** we toured **10 different states** (CA, IL, IN, KY, MI, NJ, NY, OH, PA, WI), we **taught 54 children to play the guitar,** and we gave away **19 scholarships**.
- Every year we raise thousands of dollars to bring you the programs you have come to love and enjoy, **80% of them at no cost to the public**.

Your donation of any amount will be matched, up to \$3,000, by three generous individuals. Please help us further the reach of your donation.

¡Muchas gracias!

Queta R. Bauer

Interim President, Board of Directors CEO, Cultural Communications, LLC

ERBauer

Here are some examples of how your donation can help with even our most basic operating and program expenses:

- **\$10** will cover the cost of a 30-page textbook we developed for our guitar students.
- **\$25** covers the cost of a one-hour rehearsal for the band (we rehearse at least 3 hours every week).
- **\$50** covers the cost of one hour of music instruction.
- \$75 covers the cost of a half-scholarship for a student in our school.
- **\$100** covers the daily rental cost of a van to transport the band to other states.
- **\$150** covers the cost of 12 weeks of music lessons for a student in our school.
- **\$250** pays for a month's rent on our storage facility where we keep our sound system and musical instrument collection.
- **\$500** covers the cost of a day of workshops at a school.

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- **√** Donate online with PayPal or a credit card at

## www.sonesdemexico.com/donate/