

THE J.W. McCONNELL
FAMILY FOUNDATION

LA FONDATION DE LA
FAMILLE J.W. McCONNELL

CALL FOR PROPOSALS



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

ATTENTION CANADIAN SISTEMA-INSPIRED PROGRAMS

In support of a vibrant national movement in Canada, the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation has created a fund of \$60,000 to assist Canadian Sistema-inspired programs in operation for less than three years or to support research projects that could benefit Sistema-inspired programs nationally. Eligible organizations can access matching funds up to a maximum of \$10,000 for a variety of purposes, including operations, evaluation, research and administration. A National Review Committee made up of Kathryn Walker (St. James Music Academy), Barry Shiffman, (Royal Conservatory of Music), Jonathan Govias (Symphony Nova Scotia), and Genevieve Cimon, (National Arts Centre), will determine the fit of each application with the fund, and forward their recommendations to the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Demonstrate current or imminent operational plans to establish a program that uses or shares a Sistema-based approach to music education that includes:
 - Ensemble-based instruction and music-making
 - Multiple weekly sessions
 - Accessibility plan for socio-economically challenged participants
 - Support, financial or otherwise, of local community partners
- Is currently **1**) in a pre-launch/fundraising stage, or **2**) in operation for less than three years, or **3**) an established program that proposes a research project, the results of which would be shared with other Sistema-inspired programs throughout Canada
- Matches the amount requested on a one-to-one basis

OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Applications that speak strongly to the values of El Sistema will be rated most highly.

El Sistema, developed in Venezuela, is at the forefront of addressing social issues by leveraging the proven health and education benefits of music education. It is considered one of the most effective forms of arts for social change with children and youth. It integrates learning and making music together in an ensemble through the orchestra, choir, and other ensembles with skill development, community-based capacity building and peer mentorship.

In Canada, Sistema-inspired programs strive to be inclusive and meet several times a week. They are based on social objectives that arise from a specific community's context and need.

It is expected that successful applicants will commit to sharing experiences and lessons learned in order to create a robust network of Sistema-inspired centres in Canada. At the conclusion of each project, grantees are expected to submit a final report regarding their results and lessons learned.

Preference will be shown towards applications that have secured funds to be matched. For those organizations that do not have a matching funds in place but have presented a strong proposal, a conditional grant may be awarded which will be issued upon receiving proof of matching funds (no later than April 11, 2013).

SUBMISSIONS PROCESS:

1. Submit an application by email to the National Review Committee by January 11, 2013 at 5pm EST, comprised of:
 - a. Complete mailing address, phone number, email and web address (if available) and name(s) of program leader(s)
 - b. A short description (up to 250 words) of your organization including how long you have been in operation, or the stage of development of your program
 - c. A short description (up to 250 words) about the need in your community and how your program addresses those needs
 - d. A letter of intent (up to 500 words) with a description of your proposed project
 - e. A copy of your current budget or start up budget
 - f. Letter(s) of support regarding matching funds (one-to-one) from partner(s).
2. The National Review Committee will notify applicants of results within 3 weeks.

DEADLINE
Friday January 11th, 2013 5:00PM EST

Please submit applications to: Genevieve.Cimon@nac-cna.ca