

Dear [NAME],

Guitars Over Guns is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that offers students from vulnerable communities in Miami, Chicago, LA and New York a powerful combination of arts education and mentorship with professional artists and musicians to help them overcome hardship, find their voice and reach their potential as tomorrow's leaders. By sharing skills and experience, rooted in our common passion for the arts, we inspire our students to see a future that's filled with potential - and help ignite their excitement for and ownership of that future.

Established in 2008, we have served over 10,000 students. In Miami, we currently operate programs at 16 middle schools, 4 high schools, 6 community centers and 6 summer camps. All of our mentors receive trauma informed care training and leverage a shared songbook and teaching curriculum. Every 8 weeks our students participate in a showcase where they take healthy risks, such as getting on stage. Built into our curriculum is our M-Power Mental Health Program and Career Readiness Program. Our end game is to ensure our young people all have a pathway after high school and are given the support to become the best versions of themselves.

**On behalf of the Guitars Over Guns family, I'd like to personally invite you to participate in our 11th Annual Choose Your Sound, Forever Young, 80'S Gala on October 19, 2024 held in Miami, by donating an item for the evening's silent auction.** Last year, with the community's support, we raised over \$700,000. With these funds, more than 1,490 kids were served at 52 school and community sites.

Our Choose Your Sound gala is an epic evening of music, meaning and fun memories in the name of our community's most deserving youth. Products, services, one-of-a-kind experiences, signed sports items, art, amazing restaurants and travel packages are all items that we are looking to include in our silent auction. Our auction is marketed well beyond our Choose Your Sound guests, utilizing an online platform to open bidding to our stakeholders and networks across the country. Auction donors will receive exposure of their brand before, during, and after the event. And, **all proceeds from the silent auction directly benefit our students and programs, supporting them not only with mentorship and the arts, but with mental wellness and career readiness.**

This year, our goal is to raise \$800,000 for this event, allowing us to transform the futures of deserving youth. We hope that you will consider joining us in support of our students on Saturday, October 19, 2024 by donating an item or experience. You can learn more at [Home - Guitars Over Guns | Empowering Young People](https://www.guitarsoverguns.org). **Our community partners are the key to success!**

Thank you in advance for supporting our mission. We hope to see you out on the dance floor!

With gratitude,



Chad Bernstein

President/CEO