



2024 - 2025

GUITARS OVER GUNS

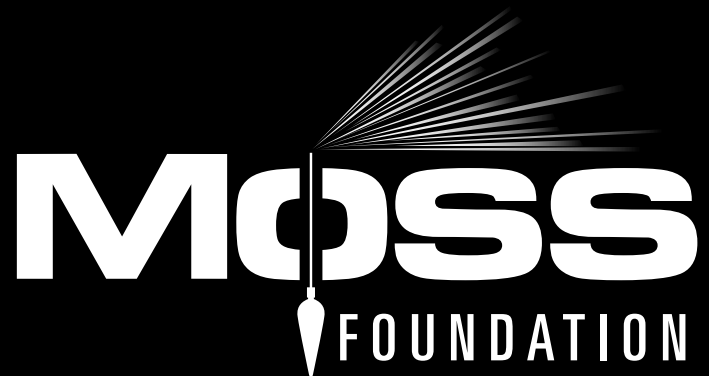
choose your sound





Striking a Chord for Change with Moss Foundation

At Moss Foundation, we believe in the power of music to transform lives. Music builds harmony, connection, and creativity—tools that unite communities and inspire peace. Let's put instruments of hope into the hands of our youth.



OUR MISSION

**IS TO EMPOWER YOUTH THROUGH
MUSIC, ART, & MENTORSHIP**

Guitars Over Guns offers students from our most vulnerable communities a combination of arts education and mentorship with professional musicians to help them overcome hardship, find their voice, and reach their potential as tomorrow's leaders.

**WE
ENVISION**

a world where all young people have the opportunity to discover and reach their full potential through the power of mentorship and the arts.

**DID YOU KNOW? OUR FULL NAME IS
"GUITARS OVER GUNS ORGANIZATION."
THAT'S WHERE WE GET THE NICKNAME...**

GOOGO

2024 - 2025

AT A GLANCE

• mentors •

105

school & community sites
59

• students •

1622

MIAMI

2916 N MIAMI AVE, FLOOR 6 OFFICE 602, MIAMI, FL 33127

CHICAGO

954 W WASHINGTON BLVD, SUITE 400, CHICAGO, IL 60607



OUR COMMUNITIES

11K OVER
11,000
STUDENTS
SERVED
SINCE 2008



OUR CURRICULUM

We use Positive Youth Development (PYD) measurements to evaluate key competencies, including:



Engage Authentically



Promote Peer Bonds



Expand Interests



Challenge Growth



Manage Goals



Share Power

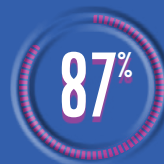
OUR IMPACT



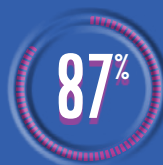
of students reported that their mentor encourages them to envision their future



of students demonstrated measurable growth in 2 or more Positive Youth Development capacities



of students reported that GOGO gave them opportunities to set and reflect on goals



of students felt encouraged to work through difficult challenges



of students reported that their mentor pays attention to their lives and can be counted on for help

HOW DO WE MEASURE IMPACT?

Guitars Over Guns mentees complete biannual surveys using Hello Insight, a nationally recognized platform that helps youth development programs evaluate and respond to the needs of their young people. In these surveys, mentees self-report their growth across six Positive Youth Development (PYD) pillars, including the ability to engage authentically and manage their goals. We also ask them to list the number of supportive adults in their lives who believe in them, broaden their interests, and challenge them to grow artistically, emotionally, and academically.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Retirement Solutions (ret.) CEO &
Founder, Prism Partners LLC (ret.)



CHAD BERNSTEIN

PRESIDENT & CEO



LISA ANASTOS

PARTNER,
TechHood Ventures & Advisors



SARAH FELL LEWIN

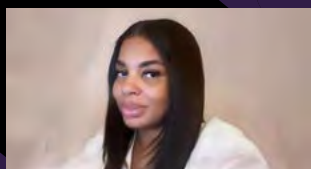
HEAD OF BUSINESS DEV.,
Tilden Park Capital Management
Co-Head & Director of Philanthropy,
Fell Lewin Family Office



SCOTT JACOBSON

DIRECTOR

Retirement Sales, Bank of
America Merrill Lynch (ret.)



EBONY HOWARD

PROGRAM MANAGER,
The ELMA Philanthropy
Services (U.S.) Inc.



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CEO
Nourishing Hope



GABRIELLE PIERRE

GUITARS OVER GUNS ALUM
Director of Acquisition, Fund-Max



ANDREW STROTH

Managing Director, Action Injury
Law Group Of Counsel, Handler
Thayer LLP



H. JORDAN WEITZ

SECRETARY

Senior Director, Compliance Risk
Intelligence, Carnival Corporation &
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Managing Partner, FON Advisors



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Founder & Executive Chairman,
Apex Order Pickup Solutions
CEO, Savage Content & Advisors



SHEILA ROCHE

Co-Founder & Partner, WRTHY



YONATHAN YEHEZKEL

VP Real Estate Services,
Sonny's The Car Wash Factory

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Shed Boren

Bianca Caviglia

Jeffrey
Diermeier

Carolina García
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Abby Portuondo

Mike Portuondo

Tom Vandenberg

Pam Phillips
Weston

Rand Weston

LETTER FROM THE CEO

To our village:

This has been a year of tremendous growth, resilience, and reflection. We overhauled our methodology, launched GOGO New York, celebrated 10 years in Chicago, broke a new ceiling on government funding, brought on 12 new full-time staff positions, developed an alumni program, built our teaching artis corps to over 100, fought through state budget cuts and hurricanes, and set our course to some of the most ambitious plans we've made to date.

Despite the national and global uncertainty afoot as we step into new challenges, I've never been more grateful, nor more confident. Budget cuts, the unsustainable rise in cost of living, global unrest, an election year... all reasons that would justify worry. But we have an incredible team, an incredible mission, an incredible track record, and an incredible community that surrounds this work.

In many ways, this moment feels like a point of arrival—and let me say, I fully appreciate the moment we are in and what it took to get here—but it really feels like a new beginning because we are just getting started. The vision for the future is big. And it's beautiful.

Now more than ever, we need to recognize that the arts are a fundamental part of our humanity. They are our vehicle for connection and for expressing ourselves, for sharing our lived experience, for understanding others' lived experience, for holding space for conversations that otherwise we aren't willing to have. The arts challenge us, they make us uncomfortable, they shape and are shaped by civil discourse, and they strengthen our democracy and society.

But what happens when we put the arts, this incredible power, in the hands of a young person? The results are magic; always unexpected but never a surprise. That is everything. That is GOGO's mission, but it's all of our responsibility. It takes all of us.

We're holding our heads high into this year of growth, challenges and all, guided by our values and by our students' voices. I couldn't be more grateful to be standing alongside each and every one of you in this work. Whatever the year brings, we'll grow through it, together.

In gratitude,



Chad Bernstein
President/CEO





T U R N E R
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF GUITARS OVER GUNS

*Working together to change the
lives of children through music*

Supporting **GUITARS Over Guns** is close to my heart. After years on boards for music-focused organizations, taking a leadership role here feels natural. As a sponsor since 2017, I've seen firsthand how music changes the lives of students from vulnerable communities. I invite you to join me in making a difference today.

Let's take control of your financial future! I'm here to help you build wealth, protect your assets, and plan for what's next. Let's start with a **FREE** consultation. Call me directly at **305-773-0507**.



CHAD TURNER
President, Financial Advisor

305-773-0507



*Carrying on their tradition of
philanthropy and love for the arts.*



OUR SUPPORTERS

MIAMI

MIAMI SUPPORTERS - \$10,000+



YONATHAN
YEHEZKEL



DANIEL LEWIS &
VALERIE DILLON



THE LOVETT-
WOODSUM
FOUNDATION



THE LYNNE &
NIGEL ROSS
CHARITABLE
TRUST



KENT & MARTHA
SAVAGE FAMILY
CHARITABLE
FUND



SHEILA
BECHERT

MJ & FRED
WRIGHT

AL & JANE
NAHMAD FAMILY
FOUNDATION



LESLIE
SAIONTZ
MILLER



BARBARA
GARRETT



BRAD
WILFORD



JULIANA
NEWMAN
FERNANDEZ &
ERIC NEWMAN

MJ & FRED
WRIGHT

MIAMI PROGRAM SERVICES



M-POWER MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERS



MIAMI COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

THE
BRIDGE
MIAMI



JEFF
WEIL



MIKE
BITTEL



BRONWEN
RUTTER



GIBSON
SHOWROOM



OUR SUPPORTERS CHICAGO, LOS ANGELES, NEW YORK & NATIONAL



CHICAGO SUPPORTERS - \$10,000+



NATIONAL SUPPORTERS - \$10,000+



NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



LOS ANGELES SUPPORTERS & PARTNERSHIPS



CHICAGO COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



CHICAGO PROGRAM SERVICES



NEW YORK SUPPORTERS & PARTNERSHIPS



Guitars Over Guns is funded in part by The Children's Trust. The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.

With the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

OUR TEAM



CHAD BERNSTEIN
PRESIDENT & CEO



JONO DE LEON
CHIEF OPERATING
OFFICER



CARLY GORDON
SPECIAL ASSISTANT
TO THE PRESIDENT/CEO



ANDREW DEMURO
DIRECTOR OF
PROGRAM QUALITY



**NATASHA SANTANA-
VIERA, LCSW**
DIRECTOR OF MENTAL
HEALTH & WELLNESS



AMANDA HALE
DIRECTOR OF
MARKETING



MJ DONNELLY
SOCIAL MEDIA &
CONTENT MANAGER



ISAIAH "ZAYA" WALKER
ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT
COORDINATOR



DIANNA DALEY
GRANTS
MANAGER



JESSICA DAVIDSON
MANAGER OF
CULTURE & PEOPLE



CARLOS GONZALEZ
SYSTEMS
SPECIALIST



LARRY COHEN
ACCOUNTANT

THE
INVICTUS
COLLECTIVE

Proud Supporter.

Bespoke Private Credit and Structured Product Solutions
for Family Offices.





THE GOGO ALUMNI PROGRAM

In January 2024 we welcomed our first Alumni Engagement Coordinator, Isaiah “Zaya” Walker, onto our full-time staff. The addition of this position is a major move for us to better support our young people. Zaya works with students to support job readiness, college prep, budgeting, and navigating transitions after high school.



STUDENT ASSESSMENT SURVEY

After connecting with students and mentors, we launched the first Student Assessment Survey to gauge interest in college and careers. The insights gathered were used to develop GOGO Pathways, which expose students to diverse career options within and beyond the music industry.

The survey uncovered two key observations:

- **COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS VS. SCHOOL ENJOYMENT:**

All students expressed a desire to attend college, even though only half reported that they liked school. This indicates that while students may not find school enjoyable, they still value the role of college in advancing their careers. At GOGO, we want to make sure that our students not only feel comfortable navigating their journey toward college, but that they also look forward to school and feel excited to attend their classes and GOGO sessions.

- **CAREER INTERESTS:**

Students showed a strong interest in music and the arts, with 75% interested in pursuing a music career. The remaining 25% expressed interest in fields such as science, visual arts, and law.

THE GOGO ALUMNI PROGRAM

GOGO PATHWAYS

Utilizing data from the Student Assessment Survey and insights from over 40 individual student interviews, we're excited that GOGO Pathways is officially ready for launch. **GOGO Pathways** is a roadmap of six career fields that Guitars Over Guns students are not only interested in, but may already be on the path to achieving, thanks to the guidance of their GOGO mentor.

- **RECORDING/ENGINEERING:**

This pathway focuses on the technical and artistic aspects of recording music.

- **SONGWRITING AND COMPOSING:**

This pathway explores the art of songwriting, composition, and arrangement.

- **AUDIO AND VISUAL DESIGN:**

This pathway emphasizes the integration of audio and visual elements in multimedia projects.

- **MUSIC PROFESSIONAL:**

This pathway is dedicated to students pursuing professional music careers as DJs, instrumentalists, or vocalists.

- **BEHIND THE MUSIC:**

This pathway delves into the broader aspects of the music business, exposing students to marketing, PR, tour management, and more.

- **FUTURE GOGO:**

Dedicated to students who aspire to be a mentor or staff member within GOGO. We are proud that we already have a cohort of former mentees who have returned to GOGO to mentor the next generation!

INTRODUCING "THE ROLODEX": YOUR KEY TO GOGO PATHWAYS

This year we're thrilled to launch "The Rolodex"—a valuable directory of professionals ready to share their expertise and insights within GOGO Pathways. This resource will connect youth with leaders across various fields, offering guidance, advice, and networking opportunities.

Our vision for GOGO Pathways is to provide career development and create a comprehensive ecosystem where students are connected to hands-on initiatives and real-world opportunities.

GOGO PIPELINE—WHERE WE'RE HEADED

We envision a "pipeline" that allows GOGO students to flow from their very first time holding an instrument, all the way through a comprehensive program designed to provide high school alumni with a structured pathway for continued engagement and career development. This initiative focuses on helping alumni build essential career skills and access exclusive internship opportunities within the organization. We can't wait to see what our alumni achieve!

"I DO NOT KNOW
WHERE MY LIFE
WOULD BE TODAY,
IF IT WASN'T FOR
GOGO." - ATLAS ALVAREZ,
MIAMI ALUM

In our New York City region,
4 professional musician mentors
served **23** students at **2** schools
and community sites.

5

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES TAUGHT
GUITAR • MUSIC PRODUCTION •
RAP • SONGWRITING • VOCALS

MAKING AN IMPACT



of students felt encouraged
by their Guitars Over Guns
mentors to work through
difficult problems



of students
would recommend
Guitars Over Guns
to a friend



of students demonstrated
measurable growth in at
least 2 core Positive Youth
Development capacities



of students reported that
their Guitars Over Guns
mentors value their ideas
and creative input



of students identified
Guitars Over Guns as
a safe and supportive
environment for them-
selves and their peers

STUDENT VOICES

**"I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE RELATIONSHIPS
WE MADE HERE. I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE MOMENT
WE SHARED THAT WAS NOT FUN OR JOYFUL."**

—Angie M.,
URBAN ASSEMBLY FOR FUTURE LEADERS

**"I'LL REMEMBER PRACTICING AND PERFORMING WITH
MY FRIENDS. I LIKE HOW IT FEELS TO HAVE SOMEONE
BY MY SIDE, LIKE I DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE."**

—Jonathan R.,
P.S. 197 JOHN B. RUSSWURM



We love our community! Students ended
the year with a BBQ celebration, showcase
performance, and awards ceremony.

Power Stations Studio hosted mentees
from P.S. 197 for a special field trip to
see behind the scenes at the studio.

Students rehearsed with their
mentors to prepare them for the
end-of-year showcase.

NEW YORK CITY MENTORS



**CHRISTIAN
BRAVO**
RAP



JUSTIN LOVE
SONGWRITING
& VOCALS



KRYS PINTO
GUITAR
& VOCALS



JUVI LAPORTE
MUSIC
PRODUCTION



**FRANKLIN
ROSSMAN**
REGIONAL
DIRECTOR,
NEW YORK



**DARA
SICHERMAN SALETT**
DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER

NEW YORK CITY OUR SITES HARLEM

- P.S. 197 John B. Russwurm
- Urban Assembly Academy for Future Leaders

This year a dream came to life with the opening of our first programs in New York City! Working with two incredible school community leaders, Principal Natasha Spann of P.S. 197 John B. Russwurm and Assistant Principal Darryll Barksdale of Urban Assembly Academy for Future Leaders, we brought in-school and after-school music-based mentorship to youth in Harlem.

We have an unbelievable mentor team in place, excellent partners in the community, the talent and leadership of our Regional Director of New York, Franklin Rossman, and classrooms full of students eager for opportunity and ready to embark on their musical adventure.

MENTOR OF THE YEAR

KRYS PINTO



Presented in recognition of a mentor who has made a significant impact on our organization, on our community, and in the lives of our New York City students.

Hailing from the Bronx, NY, Krys Pinto is a multi-talented musician, well versed in playing guitar, drums, and songwriting. Since joining Guitars Over Guns in January 2024, Krys has been instrumental in launching the first GOGO NYC program in Harlem, where they teach guitar. Krys describes their time with GOGO as a truly transformative experience, saying, "I have never felt more fulfilled or like I've found my purpose." Although they aren't classically trained, Krys gracefully embraces any challenges and is constantly inspired by their students to grow and push themselves, truly embodying what it means to expect excellence. In addition to being named GOGO's first-ever New York City Mentor of the Year, Krys is also a newly licensed massage therapist. GOGO NY's Regional Director, Franklin Rossman, notes, "The beauty of working with Krys is the purity and authenticity of their emotions. It's what connects so well with the young people in our program—the kids love Krys." Krys' passion, authenticity, and dedication make them an invaluable part of the Guitars Over Guns family and a role model for the young musicians they mentor.

2023-24

BY THE NUMBERS
YEAR IN REVIEW

In our Miami region,
54 professional musician
 mentors served **658** students at
31 schools and community sites.

12 ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES TAUGHT
 GUITAR • BASS • KEYS • DJING • DRUMS • MUSIC
 PRODUCTION • POETRY AND CREATIVE WRITING • RAP •
 SONGWRITING • SPOKEN WORD • VISUAL ART • VOCALS

MAKING AN IMPACT



of students demonstrated
 measurable growth in
 at least 1 Positive Youth
 Development capacity



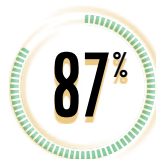
of students reported that
 their Guitars Over Guns
 mentor believes in
 their ability to succeed



of students reported that
 the Guitars Over Guns
 classroom engages
 them in activities they like
 to do



of students reported that
 their Guitars Over Guns
 mentor expects them to
 explore new interests and do
 their best



of students reported having
 opportunities to set and reflect
 on individual or group goals in
 Guitars Over Guns

STUDENT VOICES

"DURING MY TIME IN GUITARS OVER GUNS, I CAME OUT OF MY SHELL AND BECAME MORE CONFIDENT IN MYSELF. MY MENTOR SHOWED ME THAT THIS WAS A SAFE PLACE TO BE MYSELF AFTER ONLY A SHORT TIME BEING THERE."

—**Bianca**
 NORTH MIAMI MIDDLE SCHOOL

"I'VE FOUND THE GUITARS OVER GUNS CLASSROOM TO BE HIGHLY INCLUSIVE AND FUN. IT'S A SAFE SPACE FOR ME AND MANY OF MY CLOSEST FRIENDS."

—**Jocelyn S.,**
 HOMESTEAD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Our 5th annual Family Jam was the best yet. Over 200 parents, volunteers, mentors, and young people gathered at Tropical Park for a day of games and music.



GOGO students took the stage at the Miami Gardens Youth Music Festival together with our friends from the Miami Gardens Arts Access Alliance.



We celebrated the opening of the Papa Keith Music & Media Studio powered by Guitars Over Guns at Gwen Cherry Park.

OUR TEAM



WALKER MOSELEY
REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
MIAMI



BRAX TINKLER
DIRECTOR OF
ADVANCEMENT



**TIFFANY "TIF BOOM"
LUSAN**
PROGRAMS DIRECTOR



CHAYLIN JOHNSON
REGIONAL
COORDINATOR



**JESSE "RON GOT THE
RECIPE" DALRYMPLE**
PROGRAMS MANAGER,
MIAMI-DADE NORTH



ANTONIO CORREA
PROGRAMS MANAGER,
MIAMI-DADE SOUTH



CAMILO VELEZ
PROGRAMS MANAGER,
MIAMI-DADE SOUTH



RAIHA BAJWA
DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR



J. HOWARD
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
COORDINATOR



CALEB ALCIME*
OPERATIONS
COORDINATOR

*Guitars Over Guns alumni



Building a better
working world

Serving communities.
Changing lives.
What matters to you
matters to us.

At EY, we're proud to support Miami –
Guitars Over Guns. It's one of the ways we're
helping to make our community a better
place to work and live. A better and brighter
future starts with all of us.

Visit ey.com

OUR SITES

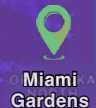


MIAMI GARDENS

- Carol City Middle School*
- Lake Stevens Middle School*
- Miami Carol City Senior High School*
- Myrtle Grove K-8 Center*
- North County K-8 Center*



Haulover Park



Miami Gardens

Miami Lakes

Opa-locka

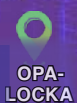
North Miami

Bal Harbour

Biscayne Park

OPA-LOCKA

- North Dade Middle School



OPA-LOCKA

NORTH MIAMI

- Linda Lentini K-8 Center
- North Miami Middle School
- North Miami Senior High School



Miami Beach

BROWNSVILLE / ALLAPATTAH

- Brownsville Middle School
- Georgia Jones-Ayers Middle School



LITTLE HAVANA

- Citrus Grove K-8 Center



Miami



Fisher Island

COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS

- Demps Park
- GATE Program @ Jackson Health
- GOGO Studio Homestead @ Live Like Bella Park#
- North Dade Ambassador Band
- Oak Grove Park
- Overtown Youth Center
- Papa Keith Music & Media Studio @ Gwen Cherry Park
- South Dade Ambassador Band – The Atomic Lollipops



SUMMER PROGRAMS

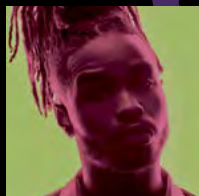
- Genesis Hopeful Haven @ Live Like Bella Park
- Miami-Dade County Parks Music Camp @ Live Like Bella Park
- Music Camp @ Little Havana Leadership Learning Center
- Music Camp @ North Miami Middle School
- Music Camp @ Overtown Youth Center
- Music Camp @ Oak Grove
- Music Camp @ Dennis C. Moss Cultural Arts Center
- Music and Art Camp @ Lake Stevens Middle School
- Papa Keith Music & Media Studio @ Gwen Cherry Park



*powered by the Arts Access Miami Fund at The Miami Foundation

#powered by the Office of Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins, Miami-Dade County District 8, SafeSpaces and SafeSummers grants

MIAMI MENTORS



**Efrem "7ranquil"
Alexander**
VOCALS



Kaley Howard
BASS, DRUMS,
VOCALS



Kelly Blake
DRUMS,
BASS, VOCALS



Kevin Bodniza
MUSIC
PRODUCTION



Kalil Bohannon
DRUMS



Bryce Bottomly
GUITAR



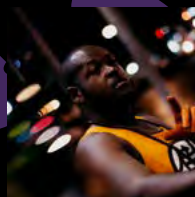
Bertrand Boyd II
POETRY & CREATIVE
WRITING



Aaron Bradley
BASS



**Gerald "Nova
Sound" Campbell**
MUSIC PRODUCTION



Edward Collins
MUSIC
PRODUCTION



**Jefferson
Joseph**
GUITAR



Juner Etienne
KEYS



Jean Ferreiro
DRUMS



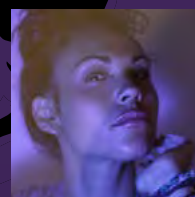
Karen S. Feldner
VOCALS



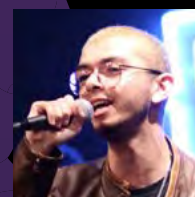
Jada Forbes
VOCALS



Dylan Fraticelli
DRUMS



Jessica Freitas
WELLNESS
MENTOR



**Jeimar "Zeth
Phoenix" Gomez**
STUDIO DIRECTOR,
GOGO STUDIO
HOMESTEAD



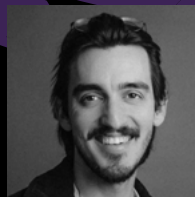
**Faith Michelle
Gonzalez Berrios**
VOCALS



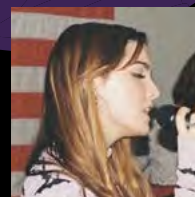
**Santiago Gordillo
Benjumea**
GUITAR



**Raymond
Gordon**
DRUMS



**Emmanuel
Gorin**
GUITAR



Aime Guache
VOCALS



J. Howard
MUSIC
PRODUCTION



Salam The Poet
SPOKEN WORD
POETRY



Ronnie Smith
VOCALS



Seth Yaman
DRUMS



**Just John
Persaud**
SPOKEN WORD
POETRY



Vania Junco
KEYS



Dave Karmiol
GUITAR



**Andy
Thelemaque**
DRUMS



**KeAndre
"K2Stfixx" Kelley**
DRUMS



Isaac King
KEYS



Tiana Lanier
WELLNESS
MENTOR



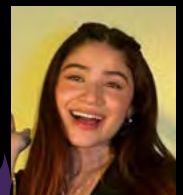
**Timothy
LaRoque**
GUITAR



Max Leon
DRUMS



**Nilka
Maisonet**
VISUAL ART



**Natasha Perez
Villafranca**
VOCALS



**Leo "DaVincci"
Mayorga**
MUSIC
PRODUCTION, RAP,
SONGWRITING



**Andrew
McCoy**
PRODUCTION



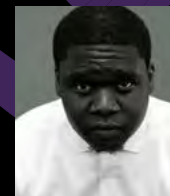
**Larren
Mellerson**
DRUMS



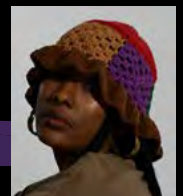
**Johann C.
Muñoz**
VISUAL ART



Julian Munro
PRODUCTION



**Jean Petit-
Homme***
DRUMS, KEYS



**Valeena
White**
VOCALS



**Alejandra
Pizarro Leon**
GUITAR, KEYS



**Isaiah
Rodriguez**
DRUMS



**John
Rodriguez**
DRUMS



Lula Rios
VOCALS &
KEYS

**Guitars Over Guns alumni*



Bradesco Bank is a proud partner of **Guitar Over Guns**

May you continue empowering the next generations of leaders through music and mentorship.

We believe that music education and mentorship have the ability to shape new perspectives and will inspire and empower students from our most vulnerable communities to find their voice.



FROM STUDIO TO SCREEN

This year, students across 19 Miami-Dade schools and GOGO's community-based programs banded together for our annual music video project. Mentors and staff cultivated a nurturing environment for students from all walks of life, from Homestead to Miami Gardens and everywhere in between, to come together and create a professionally produced music video. Empowered by the themes of culture, community, and mental health, student artists created a mashup of "All My Life" and "Free Mind." From crafting original lyrics in various languages to incorporating multiple music genres like salsa and trap, students enthusiastically explored the intersection between culture and the arts. In addition, the video's focus on mental health reflects GOGO's impact as a support system for students. Creative Director J. Howard recounted an anecdote about how staff transformed a student performer's nerves on filming day into a learning experience for all. By normalizing mental health struggles and encouraging the GOGO community to seek support in one another, staff reassured the performer and she confidently shined in the following takes.

Recording at the Papa Keith Music & Media Studio, GOGO's community-based recording studio housed at Gwen Cherry Park, enhanced production quality and deepened the music video's fusion of its culture and mental health themes. The professional recording space and talents of on-site staff facilitated an atmosphere where students felt like true pop stars. J. Howard describes the feeling of bringing so many talents into one cohesive project as "phenomenal...Everyone was all hands on deck, which speaks to the organization as a whole." He explains that the music video amplifies the uplifting nature of the Guitars over Guns community, a culture of its own that inspires artists of all ages to positively support one another.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS: **MIAMI**

GRAD JAM

In May, we hosted our second South Miami-Dade showcase, known as Grad Jam, an unforgettable event presented in partnership with Miami Dade College Homestead and Cristina's Academy. After the Miami-Dade College Health Fair, students from eight GOGO schools took the stage. Our student band, the Atomic Lollipops, headlined the concert! Not only did the event celebrate our students' achievements over the course of the year, but it was also a meaningful opportunity for parents, friends, teachers, and the South Dade community to come together and cheer our students on with the applause they deserve.

Miami-Dade County School Board Member, Luisa Santos, attended and delivered a heartfelt proclamation. During the event, Miami Dade College Homestead offered tours of their campus and food trucks were sponsored by Cristina's Academy. We'd also like to thank Liquid Death and Farm Share for keeping everyone hydrated.



NORTH & CENTRAL DADE

SPRING SHOWCASE

We returned to the Miami Beach Bandshell in Spring 2024 for our North & Central Miami-Dade student showcase. The energy was high and the quality of the performances was outstanding. A total of 10 schools performed with their mentors in a safe space where students came together to support and celebrate one other's achievements. They showed up like the true rock stars that they are and shone in the spotlight. A memorable highlight was when C Major, the student band from Lake Stevens Middle School, performed their high-octane original hit, "Popular."

The night was emceed by Social Media & Content Manager, MJ Donnelly, and our board member/alumnus Gabriel Pierre kept the energy up with his DJ set. Special thanks to our event sponsor, Gelber Schachter & Greenberg!



Photos by Passion Ward

GROWING OUR IMPACT

NEW SITES WHERE STUDENTS SHINE IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY



In developing new parks and school partnerships, Guitars Over Guns is able to reach more students across South Florida. This school year, GOGO is expanding to over five Miami-Dade County-run parks and four local public schools in South Miami-Dade.

The parks programs began with the launch of GOGO Studio Homestead at Live Like Bella Park. Following the studio's success as a hub for community engagement, GOGO partnered with the Miami-Dade County Department of Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces as a subcontractor dedicated to delivering dynamic parks programming with The Children's Trust and Fit to Lead.

Together with Miami-Dade County Parks and Gwen Cherry Park Foundation, GOGO then partnered with radio personality and youth advocate Papa Keith to open the Papa Keith Music & Media Studio at Gwen Cherry Park. This vibrant studio space fosters a community of creative individuals through weekly scheduled classes with music and wellness mentors. Recently, students were further inspired to embrace their artistry by recording an original album and participating in the annual GOGO music video, which was both recorded and filmed on location.



This year's school and parks expansion furthers GOGO's impact as a hub for free music and arts education. As one of the architects of the South Dade Arts Access Alliance, expanding our footprint to four new schools in the Homestead area provides more opportunities for youth in South Miami-Dade County to access quality arts education. While parks programs offer specialized open enrollment opportunities and an individualized and flexible learning track, school locations offer a more defined curriculum highlighted by a closing showcase. By engaging in either program, GOGO inspires and instills confidence among the youth of tomorrow.

THE ATOMIC LOLLIPOPS



GOGO Studio Homestead has been the home away from home for our South Dade student and alumni ambassador band, The Atomic Lollipops. The Lollipops have been hired by numerous organizations to perform live across the community, and recently won first place in the Best Group/Musical Instruments category of the Young Talent Big Dreams competition!

FROM CLASSROOM TO CENTER STAGE:

C-MAJOR'S CLIMB UP THE SCALE

C-Major, the vibrant student band from Lake Stevens Middle School, has been wowing audiences with their unique fusion of classic hits and original rap verses. Made up of 6th to 8th grade students, along with a few high schoolers, C-Major puts a fresh spin on songs like "Hit the Road, Jack" and "Ordinary People," while also showcasing their own original music.

Throughout the year, they've performed at major Miami events, including the Miami Gardens Youth Music Festival and Papa Keith's Family Fun Day, even playing for audiences that included Board of County Commissioners Chairman Oliver Gilbert III. Their mentors, Kaley Howard and Tim LaRogue,

have been instrumental in their journey, nurturing both their musical talents and leadership skills.

Kaley shared, “We planted a seed three years ago at Lake Stevens, and we’re all watching it grow beautifully—both musically and characteristically.” Tim added, “C-Major doesn’t just play music—they tell their stories and inspire others.” C-Major’s journey is a true testament to the power of community, and we’re deeply grateful to the Arts Access Miami Fund and Miami Gardens Arts Access Alliance for their unwavering support of our young people, helping us bring the magic of music to Miami Gardens, South Miami-Dade, and beyond.



ARTS ACCESS MIAMI

We are thrilled to grow our collaboration with Arts Access Miami. Arts Access Miami is a collective impact model that brings together arts education service providers from across Miami-Dade County to create an ecosystem working together toward a world where every child has access to free, quality arts education. Following the success of the inaugural Miami Gardens Arts Access Alliance, in 2024-25 GOGO is honored to join the brand new South Dade Arts Access Alliance as well. Since launching, Arts Access Miami has seen improved learning in 13 schools and 609 classrooms, with 75% of students playing an instrument every week.

We're honored to be joined in this work by Superintendent Dr. Jose Dotres, School Board Member Luisa Santos, CEO of Miami Foundation Rebecca Fishman Lipsey, CEO of Young Musicians Unite Sammy Gonzalez Zeira, philanthropist Daniel Lewis, Interlochen Center for the Arts, and our incredible peers at local organizations that make up the Alliance:

2024 AWARD WINNERS

MENTOR
OF THE YEAR**MICHELLE "MJ"
DONNELLY**

Presented in recognition of a mentor who has made a significant impact on our organization, on our community, and in the lives of our Miami students.

Michelle "MJ" Donnelly is a dynamic singer, rapper, and songwriter from Harlem, New York City, who began her journey with Guitars Over Guns as a vocal and songwriting mentor. Her artistic passion was nurtured early through diverse cultural experiences in ballet, dance, and chorus. As a teenager, she studied vocals and music production as a peer mentor with the Harlem Children's Zone. MJ has performed in the underground music scenes of New York and Miami, and her latest projects include collaborations with community activists to raise awareness about social causes such as prison reform and LGBT support. After managing social media for nearly three years, MJ joined the Guitars Over Guns staff as Social Media & Content Manager, where she aims to continue amplifying the voices of communities nationwide. "Community is everything to me. If I can change one person's perspective for the better, I know I've made progress—because that person will share that perspective with others. The youth are the key to making real change. Let's pour positivity, love and music into them and build better communities."



LOUIS SALGAR LEGACY AWARD

KEVIN PEREZ

This award is given annually to the Miami student who most exemplifies Louis Salgar's ability to elevate the lives of people around him through his unmistakable passion, uncompromising drive, infectious sense of humor, and positive attitude.

At just 18 years old, Kevin Perez is already on the path to a promising career as a professional guitarist—a journey that began only two and a half years ago when he joined Guitars Over Guns without knowing how to play a single note. Through GOGO, Kevin found more than just an introduction to music; he discovered a passion that would shape his future. It was during a high school session with GOGO that Kevin and a group of peers formed the band The Atomic Lollipops. The mentorship and encouragement Kevin has received through GOGO didn't just teach him how to play an instrument—it provided him with a support system that fueled his determination to pursue music as a career. "I don't know if I would have ended up having such a passion for music and guitar without GOGO," Kevin reflects. One of Kevin's proudest achievements came when he was accepted into the prestigious Interlochen Arts Camp—a milestone made even more impressive by the fact that it followed a severe injury to his left hand, requiring eight stitches. Despite this setback, Kevin's dedication never wavered. His perseverance through challenges is a testament to the resilience, dedication, and positive spirit that make Kevin a respected peer at school, in GOGO, and beyond.

THE HITMAKERS **GUITARS OVER GUNS AT OVERTOWN YOUTH CENTER**



At Overtown Youth Center (OYC), our future pop stars originated their own fresh and youthful twist on the RnB genre. Mentors Julian Munro and Ronnie V. guide students along a transformative musical journey, inspiring our young artists to explore their self-expression through songwriting and production.

A staple of Miami's historic Overtown neighborhood, OYC is a hub for community empowerment and enrichment. In partnership with the Playing for Change Foundation and DJ Khaled's We The Best Foundation, OYC reached out to Guitars Over Guns to envision growing a music program at the center's state of the art music studio facility. With a program launch in December 2023, GOGO hired and trained dedicated mentors in our trauma-informed curriculum, who now facilitate OYC programming both after-school and during the summer for middle and high school youth.

During GOGO's summer camp at OYC, students created original RnB songs that appeal to kids like themselves. From learning production with Julian to singing their hearts out with Ronnie, students encouraged one another through what Ronnie describes as "friendly competition." He recalls this dynamic as a "great way to see how badly the kids wanted to prove themselves from all levels of confidence and musical experience." From brainstorming to songwriting, recording, and feedback, Julian and Ronnie emboldened students with the confidence to collaborate and let their true voices shine. This process culminated in the creation of the two catchiest hits of the summer: "All I Do" and "Future Role Model."

Performing their original songs at OYC's final summer showcase further drove students to shine and reflect on the impact of their newfound GOGO family. By the way the songs captivated the showcase's young audience, "you would've thought a celebrity walked in," recalls Julian. This fun atmosphere and the success of GOGO's OYC program opens the door for an exciting future, with students' musical growth and Julian and Ronnie's powerful mentorship culminating for an unforgettable summer highlight.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM: **MIAMI**

From curtain call to final bow, our Partners make an impact every step of the way. As an official Guitars Over Guns Partner, you're a VIP in every audience we entertain. From our student showcases to our Choose Your Sound Benefit Concert – and all things in between – you'll groove to the music, watch our kids shine on stage, and know that you are making a difference. Learn more at guitarsoverguns.org/become-a-partner




TITLE PARTNER - \$100,000+

ROCK STAR - \$75,000+

RECORD EXEC - \$50,000



MJ & FRED WRIGHT

PRODUCER - \$25,000

COMPOSER - (\$10,000 - \$24,999)








MUSICIAN (\$5,000 - \$9,999)





BAND MANAGER (\$2,500 - \$4,999)





CHOOSE YOUR SOUND & REGIONAL BOARD

BANDMATES **EVENT COMMITTEE**

Andrew Berkowitz	Veronica Crego-Flores	JP Melo	Monica Christine Rollins	Brax Tinkler
Kathy Bernstein	Dafna Gold	Karla Menzel	Katherine Salazar	Stephan Toupin
Michael Bittel	Abraham Kromah	Denise Minakowski	Adam Savage	Chad Turner
Stefano Campanini	Sarah Feil Lewin	Duane Miranda	Susan Schein	Yonathan Yehezkel
Maria Carricarte	Melanie Masterson	Iris Marrero	Amy Simons	

ROCKSTARS **HOST COMMITTEE**

Aviva Abrams & Yonathan Yehezkel	Dr. Mary Beatrice De Leon & Jono De Leon	Anne Lehner Garcia	Sarah Feil Lewin	Kent Savage
Wynn & Jeff Adam	Veronica Crego-Flores	Cathy Gordon	Denise Minakowski	Chad Turner
Andrew Berkowitz	Scott & Becki Etzler	Dr. Kimberly Green	Cindy Wallace & Allen Moseley	Tamara & Dave Walsh
Kathy & Bob Bernstein	Ed Fay	Christian Habit	Chad Moss	Robin & H Weitz
		Tanner Lee		MJ and Fred Wright

ROAD CREW **LOGISTICS COMMITTEE**

Caleb Alcime	Jessica Davidson	Carlos Gonzalez	J. Howard	Amy Simons
Chad Bernstein	MJ Donnelly	Carly Gordon	Chaylin Johnson	Brax Tinkler
Antonio Correa	Amin De Jesus	Carlos Gonzalez	Tiffany Lusan	Camilo Velez
Jesse "Ron" Dalrymple	Jono De Leon	Amanda Hale	Walker Moseley	Isaiah Walker

UNDERWRITING **COMMITTEE**

Andrew Berkowitz	Adam and Ben Savage
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MIAMI **REGIONAL BOARD**

Andrew Berkowitz	Mary De Leon	Tom John	Duane Miranda	Yonathan Yehezkel
Veronica Crego-Flores	Dafna Gold	JP Melo	Jacque O'Malley	
Tanner Lee	Cathy Gordon	Denise Minakowski	Chad Turner	

ALIVE WITH POSSIBILITY

GOGO STUDENTS SPEND A MAGICAL SUMMER AT INTERLOCHEN ARTS CAMP

This past summer, nine talented students from our Miami-Dade programs packed their bags and headed to Michigan, where they immersed themselves in creativity at the renowned Interlochen Arts Camp. For these young artists, the experience was nothing short of magical. As participant Ray T. described, "Interlochen felt like a movie. There was even a soundtrack wherever we walked, literally because the orchestras would be playing when we'd get our breakfast."

What made Interlochen special wasn't just the music but the atmosphere. Set in a picturesque forest, the camp brought together a diverse group of artists from around the world. Musicians, animators, poets, band members, and theater enthusiasts mingled to create a rich, artistic environment that felt alive with possibility.

A highlight for several of our students was their participation in the camp's pop music program. Members of our very own student band, The Atomic Lollipops, attended the camp, where they improved their musical skills and formed lasting bonds. "The pop camp lasted three weeks, and we formed a tight-knit community," said Kevin P., one of the band members. "We've stayed in touch through a group chat of 12 people. My favorite part was the final pop showcase—it was one of the most fun performances ever."

The students embraced every aspect of the camp from jam sessions to bonding over meals in the dining hall. For many, it wasn't just an opportunity to learn and grow as musicians but also a chance to step outside of their comfort zones, meet like-minded peers, and be inspired by the sheer talent surrounding them.

Looking back, our students can't help but rave about the experience. Interlochen Arts Camp was more than just a summer program; it was a transformative journey, one that will continue to inspire their creative endeavors for years to come. Thank you to Interlochen, Arts Access Miami, and Daniel Lewis for making this experience possible for our deserving mentees!



2023-24

BY THE NUMBERS
YEAR IN REVIEW

In our Chicago region, **43** professional musician mentors served **440** students through **21** school and community sites.

13 ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES TAUGHT
BASS • DRUMS • GUITAR • KEYS • LATIN PERCUSSION • MODERN BAND
• MUSIC PRODUCTION • PHOTOGRAPHY & DIGITAL MEDIA • POETRY &
CREATIVE WRITING • RAP • SONGWRITING • SPOKEN WORD • VOCALS

MAKING AN IMPACT



of students reported that their Guitars Over Guns mentor expects them to explore new interests and do their best



of students would recommend Guitars Over Guns to a friend



of students demonstrated measurable growth in at least 2 core Positive Youth Development capacities



of students felt encouraged by their Guitars Over Guns mentors to work through difficult problems



of students reported having opportunities to set and reflect on individual or group goals in Guitars Over Guns

STUDENT VOICES

"EACH MENTOR I'VE MET HAS DONE SOMETHING FOR ME TO CHANGE MY VIEWS ON MUSIC AND IN LIFE. I'VE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE EVERY PIECE OF ADVICE THEY'VE GIVEN AND ADAPT IT TO MY ENVIRONMENT."

—Kyla W.,

CURIE METRO HIGH SCHOOL

"DURING MY TIME IN GUITARS OVER GUNS, I'VE FELT THE SUPPORT I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN I NEEDED, BUT WAS AFRAID I'D NEVER FIND."

—Delani F.,

CURIE METRO HIGH SCHOOL



Guitars Over Guns took the stage at "We Dare" TEDxChicago 2023.

Our students from Kenwood Academy High School visited NBC Sports Studio.

Our students performed at the DuSable Museum for our annual Spring Showcase.

OUR TEAM



ANDRE "ADD-2" DANIELS
REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
CHICAGO
FOUNDER, HAVEN STUDIOS



AYRIKA CRAIG
DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT



DOMINIC "I.B." PETTIS EL
PROGRAMS DIRECTOR



MARK ANDERSON
PROGRAMS MANAGER



ALYSHA MCELROY-HODGES
PROGRAMS MANAGER



JEREMIAH "RE@L" FRISTOE*
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
MANAGER



JEREMY JERVIS
PROGRAMS MANAGER,
WAUKEGAN



ALEX PEYTON-LEVINE
REGIONAL
COORDINATOR



**CHRISTOPHER
ROBBIN HORACE**
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR,
HAVEN STUDIOS



DENNIS THOMPSON
MIXED MEDIA SPECIALIST
DIRECTOR, HAVEN CINEMA



DR. LARRY REINER, ED.D.
LEGISLATIVE LIAISON/
PROGRAM ADVOCATE



MINDY TAYLOR
M-POWER REGIONAL
MANAGER

**Guitars Over Guns alumni*



"LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS: WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?" -MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Congratulations to the Guitars Over Guns Organization for their unwavering commitment to transforming the lives of young people in the Miami and Chicago communities. It's an honor to support the GOGO team, which is not only making a meaningful difference but also sets the standard for youth mentorship programs. Your dedication to nurturing the talents and aspirations of the next generation is truly inspiring.

TANNER LEE



CHICAGO OUR SITES



WAUKEGAN

- Mosaic Hub#
- Waukegan High School Brookside Campus#
- JNAC Creatives#
- John R. Lewis Middle School#
- Boys & Girls Club of Lake County#



SOUTHWEST SIDE

- Evergreen Academy Middle School
- James Shields Middle School
- Curie Metro High School*
- A.O.N. Productions Career Pathway*+



South West Side

SOUTH SIDE

- Art in Motion
- Chicago Collegiate High School+
- CICS Prairie +
- CICS Lloyd Bond Charter School
- Gary Comer College Prep Middle School +
- Kenwood Academy High School*
- Gary Comer Youth Center +
- Haven Studios +
- Juvenile Probation Program @ TASC
- Haven Cinema+
- Cinema Career Pathway



WEST SIDE

- Roberto Clemente Community Academy*
- Rusu-McCarten Boys & Girls Club
- Washington Irving Elementary School
- William H. Brown STEM Magnet School
- William P. Nixon Public School



SUMMER PROGRAMS

- Camp GOGO @ Covenant Harbor
- Haven Studios Writing
- Kenwood Academy High School*
- Curie Metro High School*
- Roberto Clemente Community Academy*
- Haven Cinema



*Powered by After School Matters

With the support of Senator Adriane Johnson

+ With the support of Senators Mattie Hunter and Elgie R. Sims, Jr.

MENTORS



Ryan Anthony
PHOTOGRAPHY



Venisha Buckley*
STUDENT LIAISON,
HAVEN STUDIOS



Bobby Cooper
MUSIC
PRODUCTION



Neko Cortez
KEYS



**Cameron
"C.A.M." Currie**
RAP



Blake Davis
VOCALS



Troy Downey
GUITAR



**Zaria
"Zeenith" Evans***
PHOTOGRAPHY &
DIGITAL MEDIA



Joaquin Garcia
EVENT
PRODUCTION



Dana Gatzolis
SONGWRITING &
WELLNESS



**David "D Major"
Gueringer**
KEYS



**Gerard "Geelewie"
Gueringer**
VOCALS



Dolan Heard
DRUMS &
PRODUCTION



Chris "Robbin" Horace*
STUDIO ENGINEER,
HAVEN STUDIOS
KEYS



William Howard
BASS



Shanae Kemp
VOCALS & GUITAR



Max Lazarus
KEYS



Kenneth Leftridge, Jr
MUSIC PRODUCTION



Josh Levine
KEYS & WELLNESS



**Ian
"Matt Nai" Lewis**
MUSIC
PRODUCTION



Ryan Mayer
PERCUSSION &
GUITAR



**Sakyrh
"S-O-S" Morris**
AUDIO ENGINEER



Jesse Parks
GUITAR



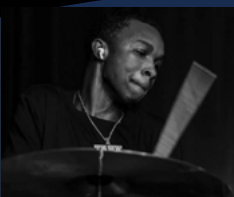
Ron Parks
RAP & EVENT
PRODUCTION



Darius Peterson
DRUMS



Andí-A'ja Prophet
WELLNESS MENTOR



Tyvon "Tank" Rice
DRUMS



**Ashley
"Nicole" Russell**
VOCALS &
SONGWRITING



**Jarmiah
"Heart Cry" Scott***
POETRY &
SPOKEN WORD



Dexter Sims
BASS



Michael Damani
KEYS



Evan Thompson
GUITAR



Khari Troutman
MUSIC PRODUCTION



Michael Damani
KEYS & GUITAR



Jackson Shepard
GUITAR



Christopher Perez
GUITAR



**Bernard
"B" Lilly, Jr.**
VOCAL PERFORMANCE



Temuel "Cream" Jones
GUITAR



**Janetta "Netta
Sherrell" Goines**
BASS

SAVAGE[®] CONTENT

ORIGINAL CONTENT

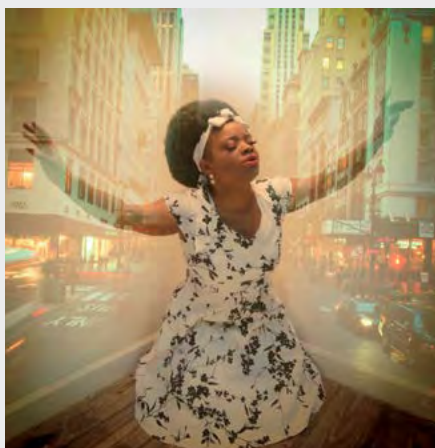
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DEEP ROOTS, STRONG TIES

GROWING OUR REACH IN CHICAGO

Guitars Over Guns has experienced significant growth in the Chicago region, expanding our reach to serve more students and communities than ever before. Since our launch in 2014 as a team of one, we've grown to a full-time team of nine, with five new team members hired in the last year alone. The need to grow our team highlights the depth of opportunities in Chicago to engage with different communities through our music and mentorship programs and the critical impact of our partnerships. Over the past decade, we've served over 4,000 Chicago students, demonstrating the ongoing need for our work in the city's most underserved neighborhoods.

This expansion has been driven by increased demand for youth mentorship, allowing us to partner with more schools and community organizations, including the Rusu-McCartin Boys & Girls Club, Waukegan High School Brookside, William H. Brown STEM Magnet School, CICS Prairie, Chicago Collegiate High School, and the Juvenile Probation Program at TASC. The results have been inspiring, as we are able to connect more youth, families, school administrators, and community members to opportunities for access to music, building confidence and developing essential life skills.

The growth we've experienced is a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when a community comes together with a shared mission. Looking ahead, Guitars Over Guns remains committed to deepening our impact in Chicago, continuing to provide safe, creative spaces for young people to express themselves, build leadership skills, and find their voice.



WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

New Chicago Staff 2024

Alysha McElroy-Hodges
PROGRAMS
MANAGER

Jeremy Jervis
WAUKEGAN
PROGRAMS
MANAGER

Jeremiah Fristoe
COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS
MANAGER

Mindy Taylor
M-POWER MENTAL
HEALTH PROGRAM
MANAGER

Guitars Over Guns' Chicago expansion is made possible by those in the Illinois Legislature including Governor Pritzker, Senate President Harmon, Senate Appropriations Leader Sims, Assistant Majority Leader, Mattie Hunter, Education Chair, Senator Adriane Johnson and Senator Robert Peters, Vice Chairperson of Public Safety Committee, as well as the Illinois House of Representatives, for their overwhelming support and continued efforts on behalf of Guitars Over Guns and the children we serve.

DAY OF GRATITUDE



We hosted our first annual Day of Gratitude at the South Shore Cultural Center in December 2023. Our organization gathered for an afternoon of deep gratitude, where our students, families, mentors, school partners, and community members could enjoy a meaningful celebration of their collective achievements—all capped off by a very special Community Impact Awards ceremony. We enjoyed the

beautiful atmosphere, interactive activities, and live music by our own mentor team, not to mention electrifying performances by GOGO youth. Special thanks to Ignite Promise, who gathered winter gear donations, and Corky's Catering for the delicious food. This day was so special and impactful that we decided to make it an annual GOGO Chicago tradition!

2 0 2 3 - 2 4

GOGO Community Impact AWARD WINNERS

**Senator
Elgie R. Sims, Jr.,**
Illinois State Senate,
17th District

**Senator
Adriane Johnson,**
Illinois State Senate,
30th District

**Senator
Mattie Hunter,**
Illinois State Senate,
3rd District

**Principal
Marcell Kirk,**
CICS
Lloyd Bond

**Bobby
Wonderfull,**
Mentor

**Principal
Diana Gomez,**
William P. Nixon
Elementary School

**Principal
Marian Strok,**
Evergreen
Academy Middle

Steve Wilson,
Mt. Pisgah
Missionary
Baptist Church

**Holland
Minkens,**
Gary Comer
Middle School



EMBRACE YOUR WEIRD

CHICAGO MUSIC VIDEO PROJECT

What makes YOU unique? Here at GOGO, we believe that all kids should have a safe space to show up authentically and let their passions shine. We call it, embracing our weird! During the 2024 spring break, nearly 80 students from 10 Chicago schools gathered to produce their annual music video. This year, the students took on "All My Life" by Lil' Durk, adding their own twist with original lyrics that celebrate our core value of "Embrace Your Weird." Students gathered at Columbia College for a day of recording vocals and instrumentals. This partnership enabled

students to experience a professional recording studio. Next, they filmed the visuals at Chicago's longest-running GOGO program site, Evergreen Academy Middle School.

We're thrilled to showcase the growth and creativity of these talented young individuals. A special thanks to the videography and cinematography mentors and mentees from our Haven Cinema program for beautifully capturing the magic of this experience!

Watch Now!



10 YEARS OF IMPACT



2015

GOGO begins programming with its first Chicago Public Schools partner, Evergreen Academy Middle School.



2014

Guitars Over Guns Chicago is launched with a five-person mentor team at UCAN.



2017

Evergreen Academy Middle School launches Chicago's first advanced and alumni band, the Wild Tigers.

Guitars Over Guns receives its first multi-year grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Family & Support Services, facilitating expansion to new partners.



2016

Guitars Over Guns is introduced to a national audience on the Steve Harvey Show.

Haven Studios, Guitars Over Guns' first community recording studio, launches.

Andrew DeMuro starts as Chicago's first Regional Director.



2019

Guitars Over Guns released its first region-wide music video, "Sunflower," which engaged 75 students across five partner sites.

After School Matters partnership provides paid apprenticeships for Chicago Public Schools high schoolers and Guitars Over Guns middle school alumni.



2018

Haven Studios is named a Community to Watch by the Obama Foundation and earned entry to the My Brother's Keeper Alliance for programs serving boys and young men of color.



OBAMA.ORG/MBKA

GOGO Chicago expands to reach new community areas in Bronzeville, Back of the Yards, and Altgeld Gardens, including a new arts partnership at CICS Lloyd Bond.



2021

Chicago mentee Chris "Robbin" Horace and the alumni band produced a remixed version of "America the Beautiful" in collaboration with Teach For America.



Haven Studios launches "In The Yard," a safe, accessible, outdoor open mic series for young people to perform during the COVID-19 pandemic



2023

President Barack Obama visits Haven Studios and spent over an hour talking with Haven mentees. CBS Mornings broadcasts the visit nationally.

Funding from the National Endowment for the Arts supports the first Camp GOGO, a region-wide artistic retreat and camping experience for graduating 8th graders.

2025

The Waukegan expansion continues by adding two more sites for a total of 5 programs in the community, with the support of Senator Adriane Johnson.



2020



Haven Studios Mixed Media Specialist, Dennis Thompson, launches Haven Cinema, an in-house photography and videography

program in which mentees are paid to provide multimedia services to the region.

Dominic "I.B." Pettis EL joins full-time staff as Guitars Over Guns' first Programs Manager in Chicago.



2022

Andrew DeMuro transitions to new, national role as Director of Program Quality. Haven Studios founder Andre "Add-2" Daniels becomes Chicago's second Regional Director.



Longtime mentor Mark Anderson joins as full-time High School Programs Manager.



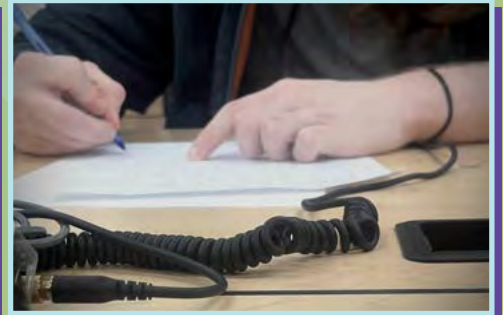
2024

The regional team has grown to nine full-time positions, including a new M-Power Mental Health Program Manager role. The team oversees 31 middle school, high school, and community-based programs.



A DIFFERENT OUTLOOK IN LIFE

HOW GOGO IS USING MUSIC & MENTORSHIP TO IMPACT JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH



Too often, youth involved in the justice system have stories told about them, but don't always have the chance to tell their own story. In 2023 - 24, with the support of the Marx Fund, GOGO piloted a program at the Juvenile Electronic Monitoring Program at the TASC Reporting Center, working with 39 Cook County juvenile probation clients. Our mentors guided them to learn skills in songwriting, rap, and music production, ensuring the presence of caring, dedicated adults in their lives while creating safe spaces for them to express themselves, tell their stories, and improve their self-esteem.

Youth involved in the justice system face an increased risk of adult incarceration, decreased likelihood of high school graduation, and worsening of mental health. "Many of our youth lack strong social support and resources to help them navigate difficult circumstances," says Angela Blunt, Reporting Center Supervisor. "The TASC Reporting Center believes that having Guitar Over Guns here teaching music twice a week benefits them in the most fundamental way."

Our partnership with TASC presents a unique, challenging, but very rewarding program for GOGO mentors. Due to the nature of the program, mentees will come and go from the

program on unpredictable schedules, placing a premium on building trusting relationships quickly and building a space that the mentees want to keep coming back to.

To hear it from our mentees, the impact couldn't be clearer. "It makes me look at a different outlook in life when it comes to changing myself and changing my decisions," says James, a TASC mentee. "Really, I see Guitars Over Guns as a way to express myself," adds another mentee, Elijah. "Before I got into music production I didn't know what I wanted to do. [My mentors] Ron and Dolan helped me figure out what I wanted to do, and it helped me work with other people a little better."

This program addresses GOGO's belief that every child deserves equitable access to a fair shot in life, the opportunity to self-actualize, and contribute meaningfully to society. "Guitar Over Guns assists the TASC Reporting Center in redirecting our youth to a more constructive manner of expressing themselves, identifying inherent skills that they possess, and how it can benefit them in making the positive changes required to be a productive citizen," says Angela. We couldn't be prouder of this partnership and of our mentees for taking the mic and telling their authentic stories.

GOGO's program at the TASC Reporting Center is supported by the Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust.



MENTOR
OF THE
YEAR

ALYSHA
MONIQUE

Presented in recognition of a mentor who has made a significant impact on our organization, on our community, and in the lives of our Chicago students.

Bold, sensual vocalist Alysha Monique mesmerizes audiences with sultry vocal stylings of jazz and soul music. Her endearing aura bewitches listeners into the essence of love, individuality,

and self-actualization. Surrounded by incredible musicians who strive to push their music to an innovative level, Alysha's creativity and originality continue to ascend upward. An experience with Alysha is striking, genuine and poignant.

Alysha has been a mentor with GOGO since 2022, and in 2024 was brought onto the Chicago full-time staff as Programs Manager. "Alysha is a game-changer in every space in which she is present, and she is a true example of an A-player when it comes to our core values," says Dominic "I.B." Pettis EL, Chicago Programs Director. "This year, we could see how prepared her students were for the music video project; they were in sync and delivered at the highest level. This is a testament to Alysha's leadership as a mentor, and also the trust that she built with her mentees. Congratulations, Alysha! I am so excited to see the impact that you will bring to our team and programs."

CHOOSE YOUR SOUND
AWARDEES

Students awarded the Choose Your Sound award were selected for embodying GOGO's core values, demonstrating consistent attendance and active participation in sessions, and showcasing strong leadership among their peers.



Dexter B.
WASHINGTON
IRVING
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



Ximena D.
JAMES
SHIELDS
MIDDLE
SCHOOL



Akylah G.
KENWOOD
ACADEMY
HIGH
SCHOOL



David B.
ART IN
MOTION



Pedro R.
WILLIAM P.
NIXON
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



Jamiyah A.
WILLIAM H.
BROWN STEM
MAGNET
SCHOOL



Brandon C.
CHICAGO
COLLEGIATE
HIGH
SCHOOL



Delani F.
CURIE
METRO
HIGH
SCHOOL



Yohan C.
EVERGREEN
ACADEMY
MIDDLE
SCHOOL



David A.
CICS
PRAIRIE
CHARTER
SCHOOL



Yue D.
RUSU-
MCCARTIN
BOYS & GIRLS
CLUB



Cassidy L.
GARY
COMER
MIDDLE
SCHOOL



Nadia R.
CICS
LLOYD BOND
CHARTER
SCHOOL

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DREVER

RYAN
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COMMITTEE

Vanessa Abron
Sarah Moss
Brandon Kossack



KNIGHT
FOUNDATION



WE BELIEVE IN:

freedom of expression and in the values expressed in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

an informed citizenry as essential for a representative democracy to function effectively.

engaged, equitable and inclusive communities.

2023-24

BY THE NUMBERS
YEAR IN REVIEW

In our Los Angeles region,
2 professional musician
mentors served 24 students
at 1 school site.

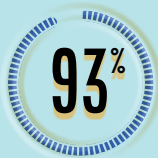
3 ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES TAUGHT

- DRUMS • GUITAR •
- MUSIC • PRODUCTION

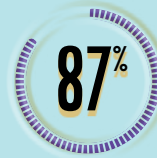
MAKING AN IMPACT



of students surveyed felt
encouraged by their
mentors to work through
difficult problems



of students surveyed said
that their mentor pays
attention to their lives outside
the program and can be
counted on for help



of students surveyed
would recommend
Guitars Over Guns
to a friend



of students reported that
their Guitars Over Guns
mentors value their ideas
and creative input



of students surveyed
demonstrated measurable
growth in 2 or more core Positive
Youth Development capacities

STUDENT VOICES

"I've changed a lot this year. I've grown my confidence and started to prove myself on my instrument. Now, I feel comfortable teaching my friends what I know and exploring new things on other instruments, too."

—Bryan, Student, USC HYBRID HIGH

"During my time in Guitars Over Guns, I've learned that a little practice goes a long way in helping you reach your goals."

—Anai, Student,
USC HYBRID HIGH

"Our students have come alive in Guitars Over Guns, it's amazing to watch! I really appreciate the program's ability to take our feedback and make meaningful adjustments each year."

—Katie MacMillan,
Assistant Principal of Student Life, USC HYBRID HIGH



We held an epic "recruitment concert" performance that captivated the entire school and left everyone buzzing with curiosity about what GOGO was all about.

Alumni Engagement Coordinator Isaiah "Zaya" Walker and mentor Marcelo Araujo-Cox were special guests at the National Student Leadership Conference on Music Industry & Production

Our inaugural lunchtime concert brought the school together in a celebration of music and talent.

LOS ANGELES MENTORS



MARCELO ARAUJO-COX
GUITAR,
MUSIC PRODUCTION



AUREE "HONEY BLU" EDMUNDSONE
VOCALS, RAP &
SONGWRITING



LUCAS LENNY
DRUMS,
PERCUSSION

OUR SITES SOUTH CENTRAL

- USC Hybrid High School

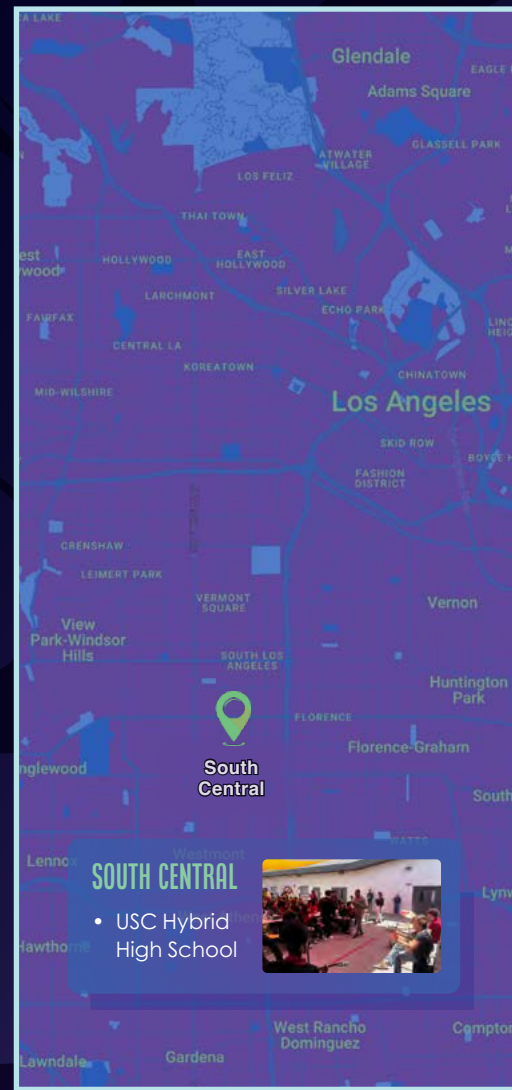
MENTOR OF THE YEAR

LUCAS LENNY

Presented in recognition of a mentor who has made a significant impact on our organization, on our community, and in the lives of our Los Angeles students.



Lucas Lenny is a musician from Paris, France, based in Los Angeles. After a few years studying jazz in his hometown, heavily influenced by legends like Elvin Jones or Jack DeJohnette, he ventured to new horizons to find other inspirations. After graduating from Los Angeles College of Music, his passion for West African music led him to collaborate with Elhadji Sora, a kora player from Senegal. The polyrhythmic and lyrical aspects of this music led him to develop a melodic and unique approach on the drumset, reinforced by his left-handed abilities that helped shape another conception of the instrument. His curiosity for new sounds brought him to the California Institute of the Arts, where he completed his Master's program. In an open and creative environment, he refined his skills and shaped his own voice. He started composing and producing his own songs. Through his sensitivity to melodies and understanding of rhythm, Lucas is creating a music full of colors, groove and soul, that is grounded in traditions yet refreshing and innovative.



THE GREEN FAMILY FOUNDATION THANKS
GUITARS OVER GUNS FOR THEIR
IMPACTFUL WORK IN THE COMMUNITY



GREEN FAMILY
FOUNDATION

FON congratulates
Guitars Over Guns
on **15 years** of
empowering youth through
music & mentorship



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a special thank you to board member Cathy Gordon
for her dedication to the organization's mission

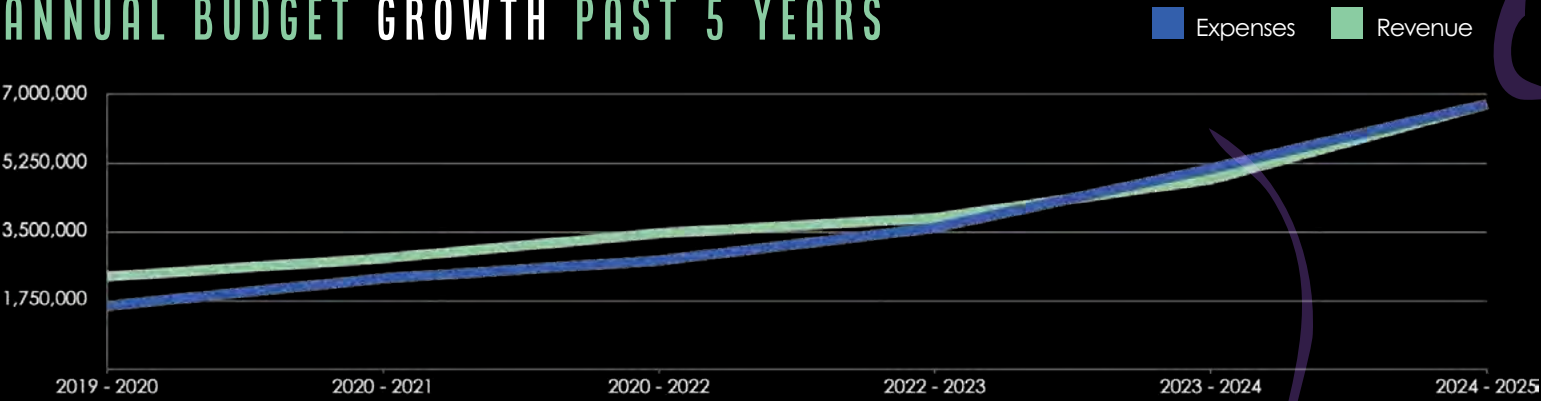
In tune with our community.

WSVN 7

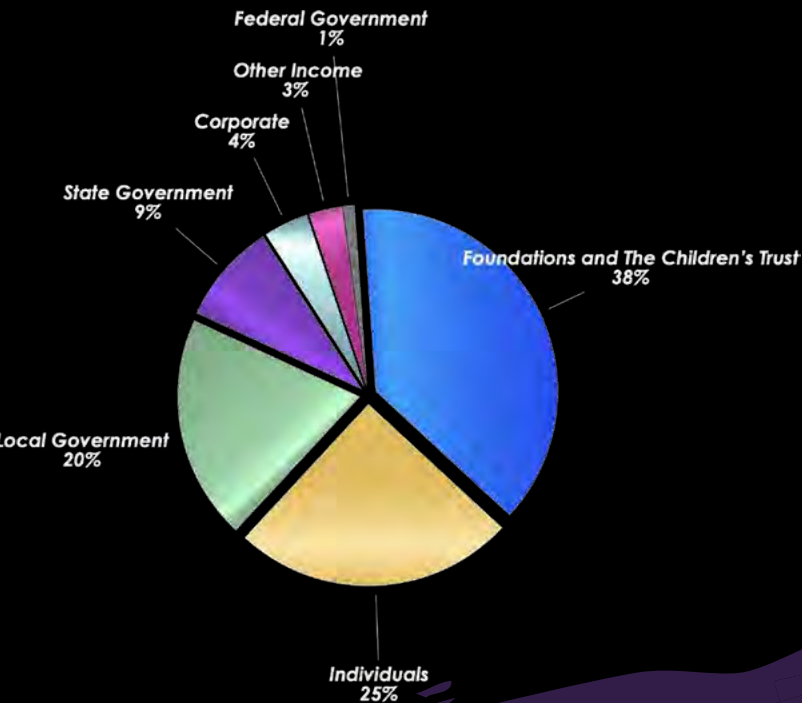
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ANNUAL BUDGET GROWTH PAST 5 YEARS



WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



WHERE THE MONEY GOES

IN 2023 - 2024, YOU SUPPORTED...

- More than 12,000 hours of arts-based mentorship and mental wellness programming for youth at 55 school and community sites
- 60+ student field trips and community performance opportunities
- 5 fully equipped community-based recording studios
- 2 EPs of original student music, professionally produced and recorded
- Increased pay rate for our professional mentors, providing economic sustainability to the artist community
- Our outstanding mentors and alumni elevated into positions of leadership. In 2024-25, 42% of our full-time staff are former mentors, and 6% are program alumni.



Debuted a powerful new version of our signature music/arts and mental wellness curriculum, equipping mentors with the training and resources to carry out the GOGO methodology, stronger than ever.



Launched GOGO New York with a pilot program in two Harlem schools, serving 23 young people and establishing lasting partnerships in the community.



Expanded our relationship with the Miami-Dade County Department of Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces, now serving four public parks including the launch of the Papa Keith Music & Media Studio at Gwen Cherry Park.



Strengthened key community partnerships like Lollapalooza, TEDxChicago, the Obama Foundation's MBK Alliance, and Illinois State Senators Johnson, Sims, Hunter, and Peters to elevate opportunities for our youth in Chicago.



Grew our M-Power mental wellness department nationally with the addition of Wellness Mentors in Miami and Chicago, new partnerships with local universities' social work intern programs, and the implementation of Youth Mental Health First Aid certification for our mentors and staff.

**OUR GOAL
IS TO SERVE
10,000
STUDENTS
ANNUALLY
ACROSS THE U.S.
AS A NATIONAL
LEADER IN ARTS-
BASED YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT.**

M-POWER

RESILIENCE,
HEALING,
GROWTH

Over the past year, our M-Power Mental Health and Wellness program has experienced remarkable growth and expansion across all regions, underscoring the ever-growing need for comprehensive support services for both youth and mentors.

A major leap forward for the program has been the expansion of our team. We've welcomed a dedicated M-Power Regional Manager in Chicago, bolstering our presence and deepening our impact in the region. Additionally, we've increased the number of Wellness Mentors across all regions, while expanding the program in Miami to include a record number of interns. These critical additions enable us to provide more holistic, wrap-around care, ensuring our youth receive support that goes far beyond music and mentorship.

This school year, we've further honed our M-Power curriculum, enhancing its ability to foster positive youth development and healing through intentional dialogue and community-building. Our front-line mentors now lead dynamic, interactive sessions using circle-keeping lesson plans, incorporating powerful opening and closing circles. With a variety of engaging exercises at their disposal, mentors guide their mentees through reflective practices that deepen connection and promote personal growth.

In keeping with our mission, all mentors and staff across the country have received rigorous training in Youth Mental Health First Aid, equipping them with the skills to address and support the mental health needs of the young people they mentor.

From its inception, M-Power has been seamlessly integrated into every aspect of Guitars Over Guns, ensuring that mental health and wellness are central to our mission. By continuously evolving our training, expanding our team, and designing thoughtful, interactive programming, we are better prepared than ever to support our youth on their journey toward resilience and personal growth.

Guitars Over Guns' M-Power program is powered by the Florida Blue Foundation, with additional support from United Way Miami and Zephyr Impact.

MAKE AN IMPACT



The Childhood Global Assessment Scale (C-GAS) is a widely recognized tool to measure young people's psychological and social well-being. In 2023-24, 62% of students scored 81 or higher, indicating they were doing well.

FALL 2023

Percent of students with no change or increase of CGAS

85%

Percent of students who scored 61 or lower, who increased by 5 or more points

93%

SPRING 2024

Percent of students with no change or increase of CGAS

84%

Percent of students who scored 61 or lower, who increased by 5 or more points

37%

2023-24 | M-POWER INTERNS

WELLNESS MENTORS:



Wisty Andre
MIA

Dana Gatzolis
CHI

Josh Levine
CHI

Jessica Freitas
MIA

Tiana Lanier
MIA

A'ja Prophet
CHI

M-POWER INTERNS

We partner with universities to bring social work interns to our sites, pursuing degrees in social work and music therapy. Interns are fully integrated with the music and arts mentor team to support students' creative and holistic growth.

Kayla Jean Baptiste,
FLORIDA
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Gabriela Cabrera,
FLORIDA INTL. UNIVERSITY

Alex De Rosa,
FLORIDA INTL. UNIVERSITY

Stella Diez,
FLORIDA INTL. UNIVERSITY

Benjamin Eisenberg,
FROST SCHOOL
OF MUSIC

Jeannette Ferriera,
BARRY UNIVERSITY

Shadrack Jeanbaptiste,
FLORIDA
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Daniella Lexine,
BARRY UNIVERSITY

Anaya Miller,
FLORIDA
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

David Ossa,
JEWISH COMMUNITY
SERVICES SOUTH FLORIDA

Katherine Queirolo,
FLORIDA INTL. UNIVERSITY

Daniela Soto,
FLORIDA INTL. UNIVERSITY

Judelle White,
BARRY UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

"In my very first session with the students, I brought up the idea of living life unapologetically yourself. Being able to stick to your values and do what makes you your own person. As I reached my final session with the group, one of the students shared their song from our songwriting activity. She was asked what her inspiration was and she responded that her 6th and 7th grades of middle school were terrible for her but as she went through her 8th-grade year, she lived her life as her own and didn't try to follow anyone else's footsteps. She followed up by saying that this year was immensely better and she is super proud of herself for doing so."

—**Benjamin Eisenberg,**

M-POWER INTERN, SPRING 2024

"While interning with Guitars Over Guns, I've had the privilege of working alongside many young, bright, and talented students, and witnessing the amazing impact that music has on the student's wellbeing. One of our students shared how helpful these wellness discussions and activities were in assisting her through a traumatic experience she faced and how the exposure of Guitars Over Guns' resources assisted in her healing process. She also expressed how grateful she was to have an understanding of why she wants to become a singer and how music has always been an outlet that has brought her so much joy, peace, and serves as her very own therapy. From students from single-parent homes, to students dealing with depression, anxieties and traumatic experiences, the M-Power program provides students with a strong support system and exposure to positive coping strategies to help the students better express their emotions, cope through life's challenges and overcome through the support of music.

—**Daniella Lexine,**

M-POWER INTERN, SPRING & SUMMER 2024



2024 Mentors of the Year, Miami, NY, Chicago and LA: Michelle "MJ" Donnelly, Krys Pinto, Alysha Monique, Lucas Lenny

"I WANT TO BE THOROUGHLY USED UP WHEN I DIE, FOR THE HARDER I WORK, THE MORE I LIVE. LIFE IS NO 'BRIEF CANDLE' – IT IS A SPLENDID TORCH WHICH I HAVE GOT HOLD OF FOR A MOMENT, AND I WANT TO BURN AS BRIGHTLY AS POSSIBLE BEFORE HANDING IT ON TO FUTURE GENERATIONS." GEORGE BARNARD SHAW

To our extraordinary GOGO mentors – true torches lighting the way for our kids to believe in themselves, strive, and thrive. THANK YOU!

BOB & KATHY BERNSTEIN





Celebrating a year of
incredible growth and
success transforming the
lives of countless young
people. Congratulations
GOGO Family.

THE WALLACE MOSELEY CREW



Forever Young: The Timeless Impact of Music on Our Youth

Centella is thrilled to once again be a sponsor for this wonderful Guitars Over Guns annual fundraising event.

Congratulations to all of the students in the program for your dedication and desire to reach your full potential. The future is as bright as you make it!

#ChooseYourSound





EXCELLENCE, SEEN & UNSEEN



At Guitars Over Guns, we believe in the power of a strong plan—while it may not always unfold as expected, it allows us to lean into who we are as a community of artists and educators: embracing our weird, placing relationships first, holding ourselves accountable to excellence, and finding joy in unlikely places.

Our ninth annual Mentor Institute in Miami offered us countless opportunities to exemplify our values. Despite Tropical Storm Debby's best efforts to hold us down, our 120 professional musician-mentors overcame travel delays, flight cancellations, downpours, and brutal Miami traffic to spend four days engaging in activities designed to enhance their knowledge and skills. This year's highlights included training on the growth of our M-Power Mental Health Program and Modern Band curriculum, innovative sessions facilitated by friends from Music Will and the Teaching Artist Training Institute, field trips to two community partner sites in Overtown and Liberty City, and a powerful alumni panel discussion recorded for release as part of a new podcast series.

Despite the disruptions, our team showed up ready to learn, grow, and celebrate the arrival of many first-timers, including our newest mentor team from New York City, as well as half a dozen members of our staff who stepped into new leadership roles since the previous Institute. Most inspiring of all, we were joined by a core of program alumni who have transformed from students to mentors, staff members, and even board members—the truest testament to the excellence we strive for.

Though the week did not go entirely as planned, the unexpected lessons only add to its incredible value. By equipping our team with resources to light the way through the challenges and triumphs of the program year, we are advancing the core tenet of Guitars Over Guns' mission: that an effective mentor can positively transform the trajectory of a young person's life.





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FOUNDATION



The Miami Foundation is proud to stand in partnership with Guitars Over Guns. Empowering young people through music & mentorship is their *forte*.

Organizations like Guitars Over Guns fundraise on Give Miami Day, where your donations count as flexible dollars- meaning more sound equipment or instructors or software for this rocking org. This Give Miami Day (Nov. 21, 2024), we encourage you to invest in causes you care about, like Guitars Over Guns.

Give Miami Day is always the 3rd Thursday of November.



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How Handy Helps

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Career Development

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OVER GUNS!

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Congratulates Guitars Over Guns

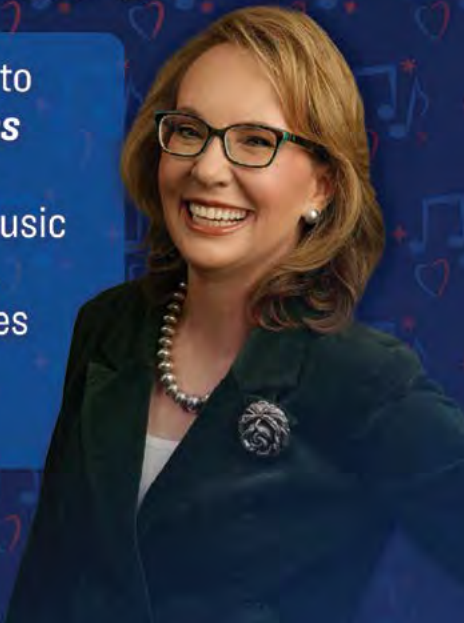


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Congratulations to
Guitar Over Guns
for empowering
youth through music
and mentorship.
Your work inspires
and uplifts our
future leaders.



Mentorship Changes Lives

We are proud to support
the incredible students
and mentors of the
Guitars Over Guns family!

Sasser & DeLeon
OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY CARE





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COMMISSIONER
**DANIELLE
COHEN HIGGINS**
Miami-Dade County, District 8

supports

Guitars Over Guns
Annual Choose Your Sound Benefit Gala

I support Guitars Over Guns' mission to empower and inspire our youth through music. Music possesses a remarkable ability to positively shape the minds of our youth, fostering creativity, and instilling values. I thank Chad and Guitars Over Guns for all their work in our community.



@DanielleCohenHiggins



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"It is easier to build strong children, than to repair broken men." - Frederick Douglass



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**GUITARS
OVER
GUNS**

**MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY**

CHOOSE YOUR SOUND
forever young

Thank you, Guitars Over Guns, for the incredible work you do in empowering our youth through music and mentorship. Your dedication to fostering creativity, self-expression, and resilience in students from vulnerable communities is truly inspiring. We are moved by the beautiful music your students create—it's a powerful testament to their talent and the transformative impact of your program!



COMMISSIONER EILEEN HIGGINS

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The power of music can transform lives. Guitars Over Guns is making music to address gun violence and give back to our youth. Thank you for nurturing and inspiring our future leaders.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA



@MayorDaniella



@MayorDaniella



@mayordade



Many
congratulations to
the Bernsteins and
Guitars Over Guns
for all they do.

SCOTT & BECKI ETZLER



It is with great appreciation and respect that we recognize the leadership of the following Legislators for their vision in securing significant State Funding to sustain and expand Guitars Over Guns' direct services. This commitment will greatly impact the lives of our children and their families, in their respective legislative districts and the surrounding communities.

Senator Elgie R. Sims Jr.

Majority Caucus Appropriations Leader
17th State Senatorial District

Senator Mattie Hunter

Assistant Majority Leader
3rd State Senatorial District

Senator Adriane Johnson

Chairperson, Education Committee
30th State Senatorial District

Representative Nicholas K. Smith

Majority Officer & Sargent at Arms
34th State Representative District

Representative Kimberly du Buclet

Appropriations – Higher Education
Committee Member
5th State Representative District

Representative Rita Mayfield

Appropriations – Public Safety
Chairperson
60th State Representative District

Senator Robert Peters

Chairperson, Labor Committee
13th State Senatorial District

Representative Kam Buckner

Assistant Majority Leader
26th State Representative District

Representative Daniel Didech

Ethics & Elections, Committee
59th State Representative District



Special thanks to Governor of the State of Illinois, J. B. Pritzker,
Senate President, Senator Don Harmon, 39th State Senatorial District, &
Speaker of the House, Representative Emanuel "Chris" Welch, 7th State Representative District



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The Good Luck Wine



Gifted performances inspire us to reach beyond our limits

Experiencing music with others can build connections that last a lifetime. AT&T is once again honored to support Guitars Over Guns and its mission to impact communities through music and mentorship.



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& GenStone Realty
are proud to support
Guitars Over Guns



Veronica Crego-Flores
Managing Broker
Veronica@GenStoneRealty.com





Thank you for making the world a little easier and happier, GOGO! We are so proud of all the young people and the mentors for making amazing impact! Keep up the great work!

**MJ & FRED
WRIGHT**

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Music Changes Lives

Fay Servicing is proud to support Guitars Over Guns and their unwavering commitment to empowering youth through music.



Forever Young
CHOOSE YOUR SOUND
80s Gala