

# Overview Music in Me projects 2008-2009

## Iraq

**Projectnumber: 25**

Location

Projectowner:

Supervisor:

Coordinator:

Partner:

Inauguration:

**Kirkuk Children Music Centre**

Kirkuk, Panga Ali Camp and Failaq Camp

Kirkuk Provincial Council

Mr. Rizgar Ali Hamajan

Mr. Mamo Baram Talabani

Maqam Group

April 2008



## Israel

**Projectnumber: 28**

Location

Projectowner:

Website:

Supervisor:

Coordinator:

Inauguration:

**Silwan Children Music Centre**

Silwan, Jerusalem

Madaa

[www.madaa.org](http://www.madaa.org)

Mr. Jawad Siyam

Mr. Danny Felsteiner

October 2007



Silwan is a poor, predominantly Arabic, neighbourhood of Jerusalem. Thousands of children live here in poverty and many children have to work and do not attend school. In Silwan, the Arab and Jewish communities are living separate lives from each other and do not have any opportunity for artistic collaboration or any exchange of cultural identities. This separation will lead to further segregation, exclusion and mutual misunderstanding.

In the local community centre of Madaa, music education and music activities is provided to about 150 talented children, irrespective of their religious background. They will have the opportunity to learn about their musical heritage, to play together, to share the joy of music and to communicate at an artistic level. This will foster mutual respect and understanding and hopefully, in the long term, contribute to the peace process.

In 2007, the first group of 50 children started with an introduction year. In October 2008, they will enrol in the instrumental lessons after they have chosen an instrument. Then a new group will start an introduction year.

## Jordan

<b>Projectnumber: 8</b>	<b>International Music Therapy Institute</b>
Location	Amman
Projectowner:	National Music Conservatory
Website:	<a href="http://www.nmc.edu.jo">www.nmc.edu.jo</a>
Supervisor:	Mr. Kifah Fakhouri
Coordinator:	Mrs. Dana Sakkijha
Partner:	Conservatory of Maastricht, The Netherlands
Inauguration:	February 2008

Music in Me has developed, in cooperation with the National Music Conservatory in Amman, an international Bachelor degree programme for Music Therapy. Students from Jordan and elsewhere in the Middle East, especially from conflict zones, will receive academically and professionally qualified education and training for work as music therapists in a field largely unknown in the region. Instruction in the Arabic-language medium, with sensitive regard for local cultures, will assist the music therapists to communicate with their clients and meet their needs in appropriate ways.

As an integral part of their studies and to acquire professional experience and attitudes, students will undertake internships in various health care, special education and social welfare and development institutions in Jordan. These internships will play a major role in introducing the music therapy profession to the Jordanian governmental and non-governmental sectors, thereby opening up new job opportunities for the graduating students. Students and graduates from elsewhere in the region will be assisted by the conservatory to find similar employment opportunities in their own countries.

During their course, the students will be in regular contact with visiting guest lecturers and, via internet communication, with music therapy experts and students at counterpart institutions in Europe, including the Conservatories of Enschede and Maastricht. The ongoing dialogue will enhance the professional knowledge of all the participating students, and assist the guest lecturers in the development of curricula compatible with Arab cultures.

## Lebanon

**Projectnumber: 3**

Location

Projectowner:

Website:

Supervisor:

Inauguration:

**Music Education for Refugee Children**

Rashidieh Camp

Naba'a, Developmental Action Without Borders

www.nabaa-lb.org

Mr. Qassem Saad

October 2007



In collaboration with Naba'a, a Lebanese organization that works with Palestinian children in the camps in Lebanon, Music in Me developed a music education project in the Nahr el Bared Camp. Unfortunately, in 2007 the camp was devastated during fights between the Lebanese army and Fatah al-Islam, which forced almost the whole population to flee. Many refugees found a shelter in the Rashidieh Camp in Southern Lebanon.

In 2008, the music education project will be implemented in the Rashidieh Camp. The project provides for the integration of music education in the curriculum of the UNRWA school and the Naba'a community center. 200 children will play and practice music during workshops and 40 days of music training will be conducted by 10 teachers in the camp.

## **Palestinian Territories**

<b>Projectnumber: 32</b>	<b>Establishment of a music school in Nablus and refugee camps</b>
Location	Nablus
Projectowner:	Project Hope Nablus
Website:	<a href="http://www.projecthope.ps">www.projecthope.ps</a>
Supervisor:	Mr. Abdulhakim Sabbah
Inauguration:	October 2008, <b>if funds are available</b>

Nablus is the most devastated of the Palestinian West Bank municipalities; its economy destroyed by the ongoing violent occupation and political instability. In cooperation with the NGO Project Hope, Music in Me will set-up a well administrated music school where music lessons and performances can take place, and where children can practice in peace and quiet. This will be a safe place where educational and recreational activities are carried out in a group setting. Project Hope will also extend its work to the community centers in the refugee camps near Nablus and will support local musical initiatives in the camps.

Music education and music activities will be provided to about 150 talented children, irrespective of their religious background. They will have the opportunity to learn about their musical heritage, to play together, to share the joy of music and to communicate at an artistic level. This will foster mutual respect and understanding and hopefully, in the long term, contribute to the peace process.

This project in Nablus will broaden the Palestinian musical network further into the West Bank.

At this moment, we're raising funds for

## Syria

**Projectnumber: 29+30**

**Children Music Centres for Palestinian refugee children and orphans**

Locations

Ein el Tal Camp – Aleppo  
Nairab Camp – Aleppo  
Yarmouk Camp – Damascus  
Khan Dannoun Camp – Damascus  
SOS Village – Qodsaya  
Homs Camp – Homs  
Latakia Camp – Latakia  
UNRWA Syria, SOS Village

Projectowners:

[www.unrwa.org](http://www.unrwa.org), [www.sos-childrensvillages.org](http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org)

Websites:

Coordinator UNRWA

Mrs. Rana Rahabi

Coordinator SOS Village

Mr. Bassem Badran

Supervisor:

Mr. Juan Karajouli

Music in Me Syria

Mr. Mahmoud Badran

Inaugurations:

throughout 2008



In 2004, Music in Me established the Nimreen Children's Music Center providing music education for 40 talented children in a school run by UNRWA in the Palestinian refugee camp Yarmouk, near Damascus. It turned out to be a great success: the children, who have grown up in a deprived environment, have reached after three years of tuition a high level of playing and are performing in Syria and other countries. In camp Yarmouk, more children have enrolled in the Nimreen Music Center.

This successful pilot project is extended to other refugee camps in Syria, creating a network throughout the country. In cooperation with UNRWA and the Solhi el Wadi Institute of Music the project is duplicated to other UNRWA schools in other refugee camps. Music in Me and Solhi el Wadi also started providing instruments and lessons for orphans living in SOS Village Qodsaya.

In the upcoming years Music in Me aims to provide music education at all UNRWA schools in Syria.

**Projectnumber: 33**

Location  
Projectowner:  
Coordinator  
Website:  
Inauguration:

**Choir project for Iraqi Refugees**

Damascus  
UNHCR Syria  
Mrs. Dalia Al-Achi  
[www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)  
October 2008

In Syria are living about 1,2 million Iraqis in harsh conditions. Last year, the UNHCR organized a choir project with refugee children from Iraq, of whom many did not have the chance to exercise a cultural activity. This choir brought them together, relieved some of their trauma and took out some of their daily stress.

With support of Music in Me, the choral program will be continued and extended. Four choirs will bring together unprivileged children from Iraq, regardless of their religion or their ethnicity and will reinforce their feeling of belonging to one project, one choir, all together.

**Projectnumber: 15**

Location  
Projectowner:  
Partner:  
Coordinator  
Website:

**Dar al Assad Opera production**

Damascus  
Dar al Assad for Culture and Arts  
Volksoper Wien  
Mr. Nabil Al Lao  
[www.opera-syria.org](http://www.opera-syria.org)



The Dar al Assad is a beautiful opera building in Damascus, equipped for professional opera productions. But it could only run properly with a professionally skilled staff. Hitherto, appropriate training opportunities has been lacking in Syria. In 2005, three project modules were developed through consultations between Dar al Assad, Music in Me and Volksoper Wien:

- The training of the technical staff
- The enabling of Dar al Assad to mount its own opera production and
- The institutional reform to strengthen Dar al Assad's legal, organizational and financial structures.

In the autumn of 2005, the project commenced with an internship for Dar al Assad's Technical and Artistic Director at the Volksoper Wien. In 2006 through 2007, nine staff members from Dar al Assad received technical and management training, also at the Volksoper in Wien. In 2007, Dar al Assad became semi-independent from the Syrian Government. This meant the legal structure had been changed in order to give Dar al Assad the indispensable organizational and financial structures to mount its own productions.

The opera production, Carmen, and an additional internship is planned for 2008 when Damascus is the Cultural Capital of the Arab World.



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