

2024

# GUITARS FOR LIBRARIES

Community Partnerships and Lifelong  
Music Education



# Our Team



Nick Passabet  
He/Him  
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# Our Sponsor



David Endicott  
CEO  
Music4Life™


# Information Opportunity

*Music4Life* is in possession of a large number of guitars and amplifiers donated to them which cannot go to their existing local partners. They are interested in the potential of donating these to a public library to be lent out to the community.





Musical instruments are expensive, making music education inaccessible to many people. As performers and librarians we are interested in the potential of musical instrument lending collections for enriching communities.

# Objectives

 Increase our overall understanding of the landscape of musical instrument lending

Preliminary: Write short report on the overall landscape of musical instrument lending collections.

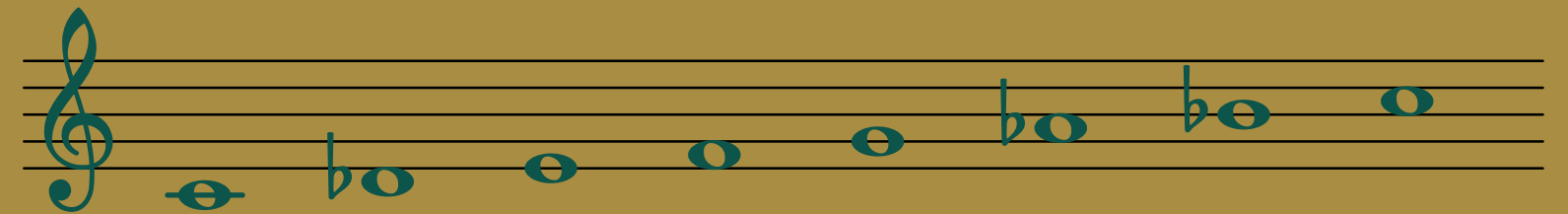
 Final: Create report on benefits, risks, and best practices for public libraries creating these collections

 Establish a relationship between *Music4Life* and a public library to begin the process of getting these instruments to learners.

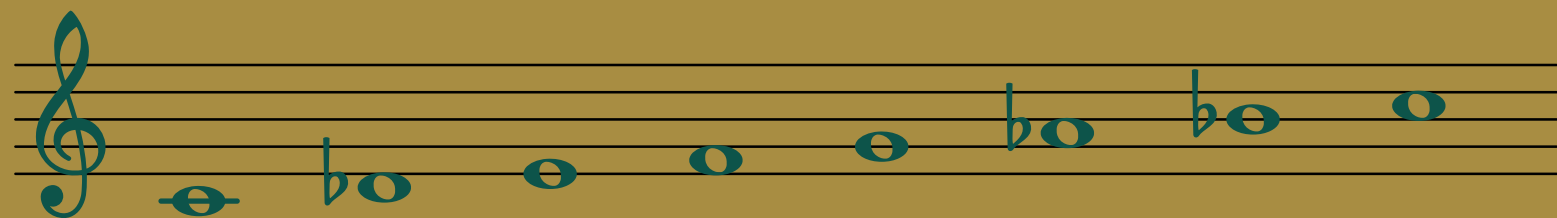
 Gain familiarity with the process of creating community partnerships.

# Key Insights

A crucial consideration for libraries establishing instrument lending collections is the cost of maintenance and the frequent need to replace instruments. This is a major risk for these programs, but also make partnerships with organizations like *Music4Life* extremely valuable.



Smaller libraries are somewhat more likely to have musical instrument collections than large, urban libraries. This may be due to issues with scaling to the size of an urban community.



Publicly available data about musical instrument collections and their usage is limited and can be difficult to find, complicating research.

# Our Journey (Part 1)

A decorative background featuring a musical staff with various notes and symbols, including a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and several notes with stems and beams. The staff is positioned diagonally across the page, starting from the bottom left and moving towards the top right.

We began by looking into local public libraries with existing instrument collections and reaching out to them about our project. While waiting for their responses, we attempted to schedule an inventory of the guitars and began our basic research.

Halfway through capstone we had been unable to schedule an inventory and were not hearing back from libraries. With the help of our instructors we made the difficult choice to pivot so that our primary deliverable would be a more robust report on benefits, risks, and best practices for musical instrument collections.

# Our Journey (Part 2)


Towards the end of our project, we were thrilled to be able to establish a connection with a public library. Their building is currently undergoing renovations, making them unable to accept the collection at this moment. However, they are interested in the potential of working with *Music4Life* once renovations are completed.

As we conclude our capstone, we are handing off this relationship to our sponsor by establishing direct contact between him and the library for future collaboration. We are also finishing our report which has expanded to include relevant programming and services as well as non-lending instruments such as grand pianos.

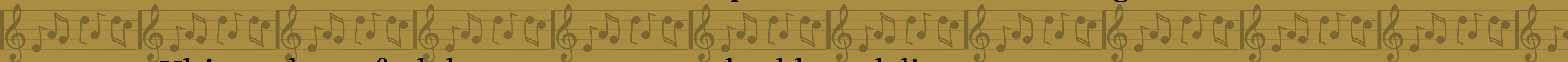


# Reflection


Although there were times when we felt out of control and worried, we are overall deeply proud of the work that we accomplished on this project.



We learned an incredible amount of valuable lessons. Going forward we feel more confident about our ability to communicate with a team and outside organizations. We've gained insight into how to build a community partnership. We've also learned a lot about managing expectations and establishing reasonable timeframes.



Ultimately we feel that we were not only able to deliver our initially stated goals but also expanded upon our research project in valuable ways. We are immensely grateful for this experience.





# Next Steps

Due to the library's current renovations and our own movement into the career field, we do not anticipate being able to contribute to this project beyond capstone. However, we greatly look forward to seeing what's next.

It is our most sincere hope that the work we have done on this project will result in an ongoing, sustainable relationship between the public library and *Music4Life* going forward that will provide significant benefit to the community.

Thank you!