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# SHARING NOTES



## EL SISTEMA C O L O R A D O

### WELCOMING OUR NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR

#### Meet Johnny Szumski!



**El Sistema Colorado is pleased to introduce our fantastic Program Director, Johnny Szumski!**

Born and raised in Avon, Indiana, Johnny fell in love with music education as a young clarinetist and never looked back. He earned his Bachelor's of Instrumental Music Education from Indiana State University, and since then has worked with hundreds of students in dozens of ensembles, both domestic and international.

He has several years of experience as a private lessons teacher, an ensemble coach, a guest conductor, and most recently as a public school music and English teacher in Spain.

His passion lies at the intersection of music education and inclusivity, and as such, he's thrilled to put his talents to use in service of El Sistema Colorado's incredible mission.

Outside of the office, Johnny enjoys building community through music, adventure, and food. He's an avid performer, often seeking out weekend gigs as a singer, guitar player, and bassist. He has been known to disappear into the mountains for days at a time, chasing beautiful views and bouldering routes with his friends and his partner, Jennie. After any activity, be it a fundraiser, a performance, or a climbing trip, Johnny loves to relax in the kitchen and throw together a plate of spaghetti or a few tacos.

### ELEVATING THE VOICES OF OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Q: How has learning music changed your life?

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



***"Music has helped me in a lot of ways -***

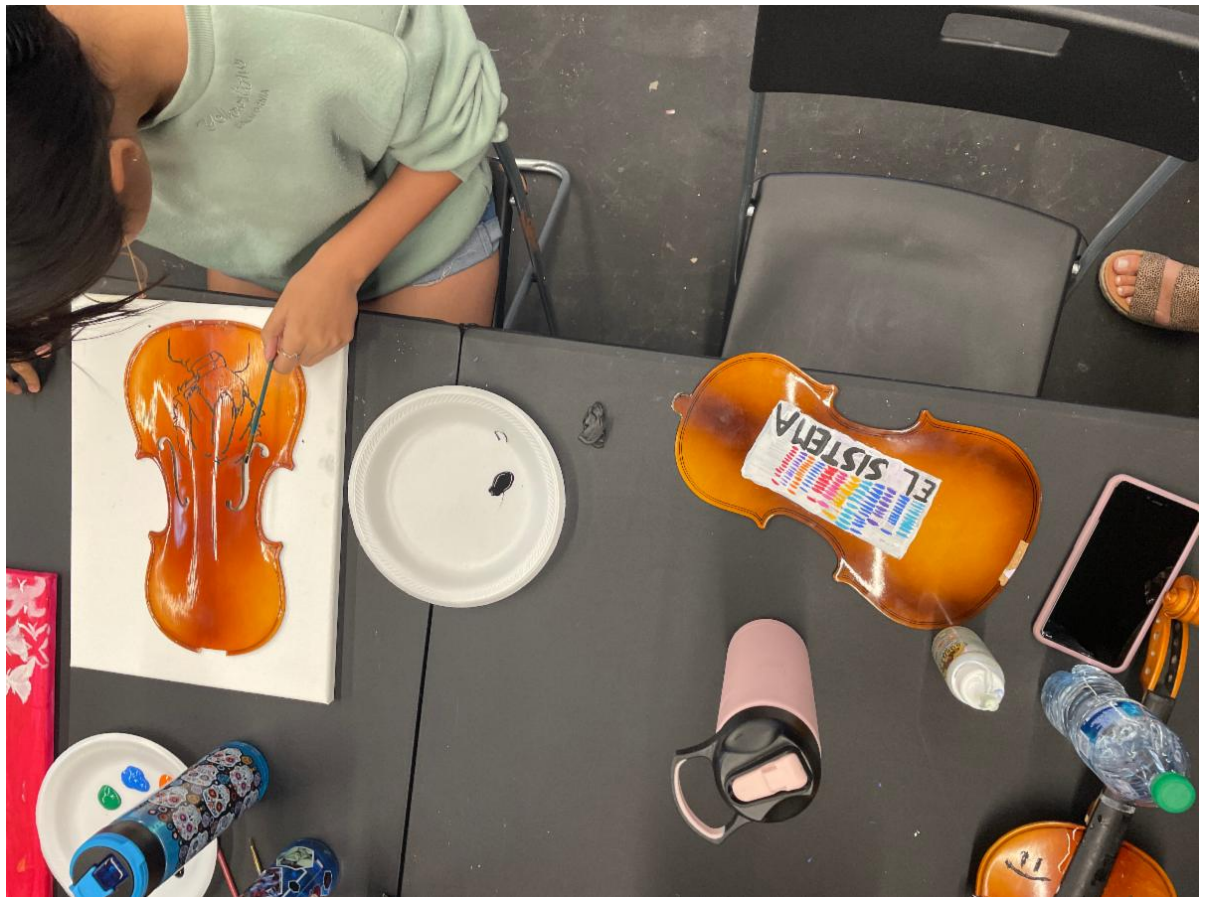
*It has helped me make new friends, meet new people and connect with them through music. Music has changed my life in ways I can't explain because I can't see myself doing anything but music. I feel as though if music wasn't in my life I wouldn't be who I am, so music helped me see who I am today as a person."*

## Summer Camp 2022

### Making Friends While Making Music

The Crescendo and Cadenza students have been having a great time this week at summer camp! They are learning new music and getting lots of time to play with friends.

Check out these unsalvageable instruments that have been repurposed for a creative project. Students took unusable violins and cellos and turned them into works of art!





They even made a trip up to Vail to make music with the young musicians from youth music programs at Bravo! Vail and in Aspen. Thank you to Bravo! Vail for hosting us!





## WE <3 Our Volunteers Thank you Deloitte Denver!

We are grateful for this incredible group of individuals from Deloitte Denver who volunteered their time to give back to the community! They helped make new paper violins for our Prelude students, weeded and tidied up the music center and even constructed our brand new performance risers.

If you or your group are interested in volunteering with us this summer, we would love to hear from you!

**VOLUNTEER WITH US!**





## OUR MISSION

*El Sistema Colorado harnesses the joy of music and ignites the potential in our future leaders through an immersive youth music education program that transcends socioeconomic barriers.*

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Join the mission of transforming lives through music.  
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**El Sistema Colorado**

is a proud founding member of the

**ALLIANCE FOR  
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