

Project: "An orchestra at junior secondary school"

Institution: "Collège Victor Hugo", created in 1969

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Project goal

To create an orchestra during school time with a 2nd-year junior secondary class made up of students with academic and/or behavioural difficulties with the aim of using music as a real instrument to combat exclusion.

Presentation of the project

The Collège Victor Hugo is located in a Priority Education Zone.

In partnership with the Bourges Municipal Music School, the project "An orchestra at junior secondary school" caters for 24 pupils in a 2nd-year class with serious academic and/or behavioural difficulties. The goal is to use the practice of music in an orchestra to develop technical (musical quality) and behavioural skills (attention, listening, regularity and working with others). The project will span three years on the basis of three hours a week, two of which are devoted to individual instrumental playing and one hour to group playing.

Involvement of parents / mentors

A mentoring system has been set up to monitor the project: each teacher involved will have particular responsibility for three students. Another person working for the secondary school has special responsibility for relations with families. This person will be assisted by interpreters for meetings with non-French-speaking parents to facilitate their involvement. Some 90% of families attend the meetings.

Support requested from the Fondation HSBC pour l'Education

Funding: The Foundation grant will be used to finance purchase, insurance and maintenance of the instruments required.

Grant awarded for 2007: **€15,000** (<75% of the project budget)

Human resources:

- Help with designing advertising material jointly with the students
- Media training for the school's teaching staff to help them promote the project.