



OFEK LIYLADENU

# **"Musical Dreams"**

## **Musical Education for Children with Visual Impairments**

Ofek Liyladenu - Israel National Association  
of Parents of Children with Visual  
Impairments

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# Musical Dreams

Music has an **essential role** in the lives of blind or visually impaired children

- Develops & enhances sense of hearing, **compensates** for the visual impairment.
- Way to **communicate**, experience the world and exercise **personal growth**.





# Musical Dreams

Music has an **essential role** in the lives of blind or visually impaired children

- Develops the child's **creativity, self-expression and skills, emotional, sensory and social development.**
- Impacts many factors of his/her **daily learning experiences.**





# Musical Dreams

Music has an **essential role** in the lives of blind or visually impaired children

- Provides a wide spectrum of **stimulations** and **opportunities**, otherwise unavailable.
- Music **levels the playing field** with children without visual impairment.





# Musical Dreams

Music has an **essential role** in the lives of blind or visually impaired children

- Music studies - significant impact on blind or visually impaired children, e.g. improved **spatial perception; academic achievements.**
- **Leisure** activities available to these children.





# Musical Dreams

## Program Goals:

**To promote the sensory capacities of blind and visually impaired children, while improving their quality of life:**

- **To nurture hearing** in children and youth to compensate for visual impairment, and **develop musical, social, communicative skills.**
- To raise awareness among families and educators of the value of musical education in **nurturing sensory capacities.**
- To enlist a **broad range** of blind and visually impaired children and youth in the “Musical Dreams” program, including those not affiliated with Ofek Liyladenu.





# Musical Dreams Program Goals:

- **To cultivate musical talents** to pursue careers as performers and music educators.





# Musical Dreams Program Goals:

**To engage musical instructors in teaching blind and visually impaired students in “Musical Dreams” program and encourage them to apply accessible methods for blind and visually impaired children.**

- **To reach out to, and retain, greater** numbers of music teachers in the Musical Dreams program.
- To **enhance and build** upon Ofek Liyladenu’s programs to train music teachers in making the study of music more accessible to blind and sight impaired students.
- To **increase the inclusion** of blind children in performances and varied musical activities, and to advance greater social inclusion in Israeli society.





# Musical Dreams Evaluation Research

## Survey of participants, parents and teachers (2007-2017)

- High levels of **satisfaction** in all three groups of the program: frequency, length and location of the lessons, and of the quality of the teaching.
- Parents and participants indicated of significant positive impact on **self-confidence**. Also, indication of a **sense of success, experience of excellence and personal competence**.
- 50% of parents and participants indicated that participation in the program contributed to their **integration in society**.



# Musical Dreams

The story of Dina, Anael and Guy – the Shalva Band





# **Musical Dreams**

## **proud of Shalva Band**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhRewe-uElw>