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## **Kids' Orchestra Begins School Year with New Mission and Vision**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BATON ROUGE, LA (August 17, 2020) – [Kids' Orchestra](#) (KO) has been a staple of the East Baton Rouge Parish (EBR) community for 10 years, providing afterschool music education and enrichment opportunities to local elementary-age children. As KO enters its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and looks forward to the school year ahead, KO has adopted new mission and vision statements to better exemplify the organization's current work in the community and its long-term visioning.

“Our new mission and vision statements are intended to provide greater clarity on our work internally for our staff and board of directors as well as our work externally with our community partners, families, and supporters,” said Jody Hanet, KO's Executive Director. “We are excited to share our new statements with the community and to continue working with families and partners to bring quality, beneficial music learning programs to young students across EBR.”

KO's [new mission](#) is to build a community of creative, confident, and socially engaged students through music education. KO's [new vision](#) is to bring Louisiana together through music.

“While we have new mission and vision statements, the core purpose of our organization has not changed; rather, it has been enhanced and reinvigorated through fresh, clearer language. What our new mission and vision convey is that we are here to serve our community—to provide music education that not only benefits kids on an individual level but also at a community level. Ultimately, we aim to bring together children from all across our Parish through the shared experience of music,” said Branden Barker, KO's Board Chair.

KO will continue working toward its new mission and vision with an expanded virtual learning model for this school year, a needed adaptation of its afterschool program due to the COVID-19 pandemic. KO's virtual learning program, [KO@Home](#), will soon include live virtual group lessons, live virtual private lessons, and pre-recorded lessons. Application information and program specifics will be released soon, but inquiries are welcome at [info@kidsorchestra.org](mailto:info@kidsorchestra.org) or by calling (225) 922-4656.

KO's music programming is made possible by Aetna Better Health of Louisiana, Capital Area United Way, Rotary Club of Baton Rouge Foundation, East Baton Rouge Parish School System, City of Baker School District, and Zachary Community School District, among other generous community supporters.

### **About Kids' Orchestra**

Kids' Orchestra's (KO) mission is to build a community of creative, confident, and socially engaged students through music education. KO serves 350 elementary-age students across East Baton Rouge Parish and gives them the opportunity to study music, play an instrument, and perform in an ensemble. Learn more: [www.KidsOrchestra.org](http://www.KidsOrchestra.org).

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