NORTH AMERICA TOUR 2015
MUSICAL COLLABORATIONS

The Nile Project brings together artists from the 11 Nile countries to make music that combines the region's diverse instruments, languages and traditions. The concert experience aims to inspire cultural curiosity, highlight regional connections, and showcase the potential of trans-boundary cooperation.

DIALOGUE & EDUCATION

Participatory workshops and cross-cultural dialogues provide university students with unique intellectual experiences, deepening their understanding of the Nile ecosystem, and stimulating new ways of thinking, communicating, and doing.

LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

The Nile Fellowship and Nile Prize programs incentivize university students to apply their education and training toward mobilizing their peers and pioneering innovative solutions to the Nile Basin's complex and inter-related challenges.

The Nile Project is transforming the Nile conflict by inspiring, educating, and empowering an international network of university students to cultivate the sustainability of their ecosystem.
Egyptian ethnomusicologist Mina Girgis suggests the Nile Project to Ethiopian-American singer Meklit Hadero.

**NILE SCOUT TRIP**
5-week trip to identify musicians and partners in Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania

**NILE LEADERS GATHERING 1**
Convened 30 environment, education, and arts leaders from 15 countries to develop the project’s strategic plan in Aswan, Egypt.

**NILE MUSICIANS GATHERING 1**
Brought together 18 musicians from Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Uganda to collaboratively compose and record new music, culminating with 3 concerts in Aswan and Cairo, Egypt.

**NILE PROJECT ALBUM 1: ASWAN**
Recorded live during the Nile Project’s first concert and released to critical acclaim, with NPR Music naming it one of “five must-hear international albums” of Fall 2013 and Songlines magazine including it in the 2013 Top of the World collection.

**NILE PROJECT UNIVERSITY ROADSHOW - EGYPT**
Featured Nile Project film screenings and Nile Sustainability Workshops at universities in Aswan, Cairo, and Alexandria.

**NILE MUSICIANS GATHERING 2**
Brought together 14 musicians from Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi to collaboratively compose and record new music, culminating with 3 concerts in Jinja and Kampala, Uganda.

**AFRICA TOUR 1**
Took the Nile Project Collective from Uganda to Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Egypt for 13 concerts and workshops at 5 universities, in Cairo, the Nile Project was featured on El Bernameg with Bassem Youssef – the Middle East’s version of “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart.”

**NILE PRIZE 1**
First Nile Project competition will launch in October to incentivize university students to develop innovative solutions to Nile food sustainability challenges.

**NILE FELLOWSHIP CLASS 1**
Will launch at 4 university campuses in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda.

**NILE MUSICIANS GATHERING 3**
Will bring together 13 musicians in Minya, Egypt to compose and rehearse new repertoire for 2015 North America Tour.

**NILE FELLows GATHERING 1**
Will bring together first cohort of 20 student fellows for a week of hands-on learning and dialogues.

**NORTH AMERICA TOUR 1**
4-month tour featuring concerts and multi-disciplinary residencies in 30 North American universities and performing arts centers.

**EGYPT • Sudan • South Sudan • Ethiopia • Eritrea • Uganda • Kenya • Tanzania • Rwanda • Burundi • Congo DRC**
In January 2015, the Nile Project will embark on a 4-month North America tour, reaching 50,000 students, faculty, and community members through multi-day residencies with 30 university performing arts presenters. Through the tour, the project aims to create space for dialogue, raise awareness about local and Nile-related sustainability challenges, and equip audiences with the tools and resources to become active change-makers.

In addition to public performances, the Nile Project has designed a series of musically-rooted participatory workshops that explore a variety of cultural, political, and environmental issues. The sessions focus on the Nile Basin as a point of departure and also provide opportunities to integrate voices from local communities along the tour.

In using music as the starting point for conversation, the project seeks to create a space where people who would otherwise not meet come together, where discussions that would normally not occur take place, and where ideas that are not usually connected are linked. Through breaking conventional disciplinary barriers, the project hopes that these workshops will yield a fresh outlook, resulting in innovative thinking and new partnerships.

**Workshop Topics**

1. Musical Collaboration & Water Cooperation
2. Imagining the Nile
3. The Nile & African Identity
5. School Matinee: K-12 student outreach
6. The Role of Musicians in Social Movements
7. Women of the Nile: An Untapped Resource
8. Finding Opportunities in Challenges: Crowdsourcing Solutions for an Environmentally Sustainable Nile Basin
9. Music Master Classes
NILE PROJECT MUSICIANS

DINA EL WEDIDI
EGYPT / VOCALS

SELAMNESH ZEMENE
ETHIOPIA / VOCALS

ALSARAH
SUDAN / VOCALS

MEKLIT HADERO
ETHIOPIA / VOCALS

MOHAMED ABOZEKRY
EGYPT / OUD

KASIVA MUTUA
KENYA / PERCUSSION

MICHAEL BAZIBU
UGANDA / ENDONGO - ADUNGU
ENDINGIDI - PERCUSSION

SOPHIE NZAYISENGA
RWANDA / INANGA - VOCALS

STEVEN SOGO
BURUNDI / IKEMBE
GUITAR - BASS - VOCALS

NADER ELSHAER
EGYPT / QAWALA

HANI BEDAIR
EGYPT / PERCUSSION

JORGA MESFIN
ETHIOPIA / SAXOPHONE

DAWIT SEYOUM
ETHIOPIA / KRAR - BASS KRAR
# Nile Project Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bio</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mina Girgis</strong></td>
<td>President &amp; CEO</td>
<td>An ethnomusicologist with background in hospitality experience design, Mina explores new ways to cultivate environments conducive to learning, making, and experiencing music. He specializes in curating and producing innovative musical collaborations across diverse styles. Mina is a Synergos Pioneers of Egypt fellow, a Wired 2014 Innovation fellow, and a National Arts Strategies Creative Community fellow.</td>
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<td><strong>Miles Jay</strong></td>
<td>Musical Director</td>
<td>Contrabassist, composer, and arranger Miles Jay has collaborated with a wide range of ensembles from all over the world. After earning his BA in music from UCSB, he lived and worked for 6 years in Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, and Greece, immersing himself in the region’s modal music. Miles has worked extensively with Youssou N’Dour, Ziad Rahbani, Fathy Salama, Ross Daly, Naseer Shamma, Niyaz, Mashrou3 Leila, and the Cairo Symphony Orchestra.</td>
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<td><strong>Cindy Quezada</strong></td>
<td>VP - University Programs</td>
<td>Cindy has been an advisor to high-level U.S. government officials, bridging the worlds of foreign policy, international development, strategy and program development in higher education, science, technology and innovation, water policy and entrepreneurship. She has regional expertise in the Middle East, North Africa and Latin America.</td>
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<td><strong>Alexis Ortiz</strong></td>
<td>Music Program Director</td>
<td>Alexis has been working in the field of international arts management for nearly a decade. She has managed several U.S. State Department cultural diplomacy programs and produced tours and performances with artists from all over the world. Alexis holds a B.A. in Political Science &amp; Latin American Studies from Yale and an M.A. in International Administration from the University of Miami.</td>
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<td><strong>Tucker Wiedenkeller</strong></td>
<td>Music Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Tucker recently graduated from the University of Arizona with a B.A. in International Studies and a minor in Spanish. As a student, he received the prestigious FLAS Fellowship to study Modern Standard Arabic in Morocco and Egypt. Tucker wrote his thesis on the role of musicians and the modernization of tradition in the Berber Culture Movement in North Africa.</td>
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<td><strong>Brendon Johnson</strong></td>
<td>University Programs Director</td>
<td>Brendon is an international development and social entrepreneurship specialist. He has co-designed social entrepreneurial projects and developed multiple fundraising programs in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Europe. Brendon is a Rotary Scholar, with a BA in Political Science from West Chester University and an MA in Chinese Development from the University of Hong Kong.</td>
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