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The World Doctors Orchestra

The World Doctors Orchestra (WDO) was founded in 2008 and combines the pleasure of fine music with global medical responsibility. The orchestra now includes over 1.600 doctors from more than 50 countries. Three times a year, some 100 physicians from all over the world exchange their white coats for evening attire and perform a benefit concert for medical aid projects. The proceeds from each concert go to one or two selected medical aid organizations. The World Doctors Orchestra is set up as an independent non-profit association driven by the spirit of the players. The participants cover their own travel expenses and local costs are kept at low level.

Although all of the physicians share a passion for music, this is not an end in itself. Indeed, the driving force behind the WDO is the conviction that neither national borders nor political or economic interests should limit access to adequate healthcare. With its series of benefit concerts, the WDO strives to raise global awareness that healthcare is a basic human right and a precondition for human development.

The World Doctors Orchestra made its debut in May 2008 with the first charity concert in the Berlin Philharmonic Hall. After the orchestra's 2009 US premiere in Cleveland, concerts have taken place in Armenia (2010), Taiwan (2010), Washington (2011), Beijing (2011), South Africa (2012), Essen (2012), Vienna (2013), Bonn (2013), Japan (2014), Chile (2014), Dresden (2015), Seattle/Vancouver (2015), Barbados (2015), Thailand (2016), Romania (2016), San Francisco (2016), Munich/Salzburg (2017), Lugano/Como (2017) Barcelona/ Girona (2017), Dubai (2018), Warsaw/Krakow (2018), Jerusalem/Tel Aviv (2019), Paris/Reims (2019), Houston (2019) and Lisbon/Porto (2019) and regularly in Berlin (2009/10/12/13/15/18). In June 2018 the WDO celebrated its jubilee of 10 years existence and 25 concert sessions with phenomenal concerts at the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg and the Berlin Philharmonie. The last concerts took place in Dortmund/Bonn (Germany), London (UK) and Frankfurt/Koblenz (Germany) in 2021.