

UNITED STATES UNIVERSITY and PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE!

Advance Strategic Alliance Into School Implementation Phase

Multi-Award-Winning Music & Wellness Program Moves Forward Following LAUSD Vendor Approval, Expanded Educator Training and California Program Development

LOS ANGELES, August 2026 - United States University (USU), together with PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE! (PMEL) and RADCO Music Group, today announced significant progress in the strategic educational alliance first introduced earlier this year, as the organizations move from program development into the next phase of implementation within California schools.

Since announcing their collaboration in March, the organizations have completed substantial operational, instructional and administrative development designed to support the expansion of PMEL's innovative after-school group piano and Music & Wellness program for K-12 students.

A major milestone was recently achieved with United States University receiving vendor approval through the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), positioning USU to serve as the educational and contracting partner supporting delivery of the PMEL program within participating schools.

PMEL serves as the program creator, curriculum and instructional platform, while United States University provides the institutional infrastructure and educational partnership supporting the program's expansion.

The alliance represents a distinctive combination of university resources, professional educator development, music education, wellness programming and large-scale after-school learning.

FROM DEVELOPMENT TO IMPLEMENTATION

During the months following the original announcement, the organizations have continued building the infrastructure necessary for broader deployment.

- LAUSD vendor approval has been obtained through United States University, clearing an important administrative milestone toward implementation within participating Los Angeles schools.
- More than 300 educators have participated in PMEL training and professional-development activities, creating a growing pool of instructors capable of delivering the program as additional schools are activated.
- PMEL has continued operating and developing programs at test locations in California while preparing for substantial expansion throughout Southern California.
- A dedicated Music & Wellness training, curriculum and video-production facility in Pasadena, California is nearing completion and will serve as an important center for instructor training, curriculum development, educational content production and program support.
- Discussions and implementation planning are underway with school and educational leaders regarding the first participating Los Angeles-area campuses.

The organizations ultimately envision serving hundreds of schools throughout California as the program develops.

MUSIC, EDUCATION AND WELLNESS

PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE!'s class-piano program combines active music participation with academic enrichment, confidence building, social interaction, performance and emotional wellness.

Students learn on professional Roland digital pianos in a group environment while receiving individualized instruction through headphones when appropriate.

The program is designed to make meaningful music education accessible to students who may otherwise have little or no opportunity to receive private instrumental instruction.

- After-school group piano instruction
- Multiple weekly classes at participating campuses
- Teacher and instructor professional development
- Student performances and end-of-semester recitals
- Music-based wellness and confidence-building activities
- Summer programming
- Large community concerts and student celebrations

The organizations believe the model can provide schools with a highly scalable approach to music education while creating meaningful instructional opportunities for qualified educators.

A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO REACH THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS

As the California school program expands, PMEL and USU anticipate the potential to serve tens of thousands of students each week.

The long-term development model contemplates approximately 370 or more participating schools, with the potential for additional expansion as school districts adopt the program.

At scale, the initiative could become one of the largest privately developed class-piano education programs of its kind.

One of the program's most distinctive long-term initiatives is the planned Annual Piano Scholarship Giveaway, through which qualifying students may receive Roland digital pianos so that children who otherwise might not have access to an instrument can continue making music at home.

As participation reaches the required scale, PMEL anticipates awarding up to 1,000 digital pianos annually through the scholarship initiative.

Major student concerts and celebration events are also envisioned at prominent Southern California venues as the program expands.

SHARED MISSION

United States University and PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE! share a commitment to expanding educational opportunity and reaching communities that historically may not have had access to specialized music instruction.

USU brings extensive experience in accessible higher education and educator development, while PMEL brings more than a decade of experience developing Music & Wellness programming for children, families and communities.

The combination creates an educational model connecting higher education, K-12 schools, professional educators, music instruction and community wellness.

LEADERSHIP

Dr. Scott Burrus, President of United States University, has described the collaboration as closely aligned with USU's commitment to expanding educational access while creating meaningful opportunities for university students, graduates and educators.

The partnership also allows USU to extend its educational reach into an age group it has not traditionally served while supporting an innovative model designed to positively affect young students throughout California.

Rick DePiro, Founder and President of PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE!, said the developments since March demonstrate how quickly the alliance has progressed.

"When we announced this partnership earlier this year, we knew that United States University was the right organization to help us build this at scale. What has happened since then has exceeded even our expectations. We now have the university relationship, the training infrastructure,

hundreds of educators who have participated in training, LAUSD vendor approval and tremendous interest in bringing this program to children throughout Southern California."

"The exciting part is that we are no longer simply talking about what this program could become. We are now building it. Our goal is to give thousands of children access to music education, great teachers, professional instruments and experiences that can stay with them for the rest of their lives. We believe this is only the beginning."

ABOUT UNITED STATES UNIVERSITY

United States University provides accessible educational opportunities designed to meet the needs of working adults, aspiring professionals and underserved learners.

USU continues to expand its educational reach through innovative academic and community partnerships, including its strategic collaboration with PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE!.

For additional information, visit usuniversity.edu.

ABOUT PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE!

PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE! is a multi-award-winning Music & Wellness nonprofit organization founded in 2013.

The organization has developed Music & Wellness programs serving children, families, cancer survivors, caregivers, individuals affected by Alzheimer's disease and other communities through the active participation of music making.

Its expanding K-12 initiative combines class piano instruction, educator development, wellness, academic enrichment and student performance opportunities into a scalable after-school educational model.

Working with United States University, RADCO Music Group and industry and educational partners, PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE! intends to dramatically expand access to music education throughout California.

CONTACT INFORMATION

PLAY MUSIC-ENJOY LIFE!

(818) 292-9400

administrator@playmusicenjoylife.com

playmusicenjoylife.com

RADCO Music Group

radcomusicgroup.com

United States University

(855) 313-0885

usuniversity.edu