

*Public Diplomacy Office
U.S. Embassy, P.O. Box. 114
Vientiane, Laos.
Tel: (856-21) 48 7312
Fax: (856-21) 48 8002
Website: <http://Laos.usembassy.gov>*

Vientiane, January 22, 2016

U.S. Embassy's Announcement - the 2016 Onebeat program

BACKGROUND: Now in its fifth year, **OneBeat** is cultivating a groundbreaking international network of leading artistic, technological, and social innovators in music. An initiative of the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in collaboration with the groundbreaking New York-based music organization Bang on a Can's Found Sound Nation, OneBeat employs collaborative original music as a potent new form of cultural diplomacy. Onebeat brings together emerging musical leaders from around the world to collaboratively create original work and to develop a global network of civically engaged music initiatives.

The OneBeat Philosophy: OneBeat is designed with the belief that the creation of high-quality original music is an ideal vehicle for crossing cultural and political divides. This creative process exemplifies how people from dramatically different musical backgrounds, with diverse training, conceptions of music, and aesthetics, can negotiate differences and find an interplay of cultures that maintains the integrity of each tradition. At OneBeat we encourage musicians to listen deeply to each others' musical voices, and to create work that values the complexity and idiosyncrasies of each tradition, creating risky, wholly unique musical works. This type of egalitarian, cross-cultural interaction continues in our discussions of social issues, as we find ways to use music to catalyze positive change in our communities and internationally.

ELIGIBILITY:

Individual musicians between the **ages of 19-35** from pre-selected eligible countries apply through a free and publically accessible online application found on www.1beat.org.

More information, program details, videos and photos from past years, and more can be found at <http://redirect.state.sbu/?url=http://1beat.org/apply/>.

The deadline for applications is February 5th, 2016.