



APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FORM

Please complete this form accurately. All personal data will remain confidential and will be used solely to assess eligibility for assistance.

SECTION A – ORGANIZATION'S INFORMATION

1. Organization/Community Name: Elite Steel Orchestra

2. Type of Organization: Public Charity
 / Educational Institution
 / Community Association
 Non-Government Organization

3. Date of Formation: May 2002

4. Registered Address: Elite Steel Orchestra Kingstown St.Vincent

5. Phone Number: 1784-532-1279 Email Address: _____

6. List of the Executive/Leadership Team of the Organization:

Name	Position in Organization	Length of Time in Position
Kesslon Wilson	Manager/Musical Director	15 yrs
Roshaun Peters	Secretary/ Treasurer	3 yrs
Jaynecea Glasgow	Public Relations Officer	3yrs
Gabriel Bess	Band Leader	2 yrs
Kimmya Glasgow	Trustee	4 yrs



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7. Describe previous projects undertaken by the organization (include objectives dates, costs, and outcomes):

Annual 4 week summer steelpan training programme (July-August)

Objectives:

1. To transfer and transmit cultural artforms to ensure continuity and longevity.
2. To develop musical interest, skills, talents and dexterity in individuals
3. To foster and nurture confidence and promote and develop proper socialization skills
4. To provide opportunity to buffer against deviant behavior and negative social cohesiveness
5. To enhance retention skills in children.
6. To act as a conduit for the longevity and player sustainability of senior steel orchestras in the country.
7. To provide skills which can be used for immediate and future means of employment.

Outcomes:

The 2025 edition of our summer steelpan training programme broke expectations. We had in excess of eighty participants which included children from as young as seven years to adults over forty years of age. The programme began on July 14th and concluded August 15th. Many students were recognized as having natural talent and dexterity and every effort was made to hone these skills and encourage these students to continue to seek musical opportunities/experiences. There was a grand closing ceremony and graduation which featured the participants rendering songs, from varying genres on the steel pan. Parents of these children express extreme satisfaction with the children's prowess and progress and express the wish to have them continue as full members of the Elite Steel Orchestra.

Costs:

The steelpan is a very delicate instrument which needs to be constantly maintained to preserve the quality of the sound. Having inexperienced players use these instruments normally causes extreme deterioration of the instruments' sounds as the players are very overly enthused about playing and most often play very loudly and aggressively. Re-tuning the instrument is only done by professionals who are sourced overseas from the neighbouring island of Trinidad.



1. Tuning: \$2500.00
2. Payment to programme facilitators (4 persons managing two groups of students): \$100.00 weekly-\$500.00 each (5 weeks)
3. Laminating Certificates (83 X 5): \$401.00
4. Contribution to snacks at closing graduation: \$302.00
5. Total : \$3203.00

8. Has your organization previously received funding or support from Sandals Foundation or other entities? If yes, please specify:

The Elite Steel Orchestra performed at the Sandals St. Vincent and the Grenadines as musical entertainers from April-June 2025. We also did an Independence Cultural March, consisting of a blend of marching drums and steelpans at the resort on October 27th 2025 as they joined in commemorating our independence.

SECTION B – PROJECT INFORMATION

9. Project Title: **Acquisition of Steelpan Instruments to Replace Old Instruments and Have Adequate Amount of Instruments For Teaching and Performances.**

10. Project Location (Community and Country): Kingstown St. Vincent

11. Strategic Focus Area (Tick One that Applies):

Community Development & Health (Youth Engagement, Sports, Culture, Mental & Physical Health)

Education (School Infrastructure, Teacher Training, Digital Literacy, Scholarships)

Environment (Biodiversity Protection, Marine Conservation, Environmental Education, Coral Restoration)

Economic Empowerment (Skills Training - Artisans, Farmers, Fisherfolk; Social Enterprise)

Disaster Preparedness & Relief (Crisis Support and Leadership Building)

Other, please specify: _____

12. Project Summary (150 – 250 Words):

The instruments currently being used are over twenty years old and have many cracks, holes and rust which seriously affects sound quality. Additionally, there are not enough instruments to engage the number of students who attend training sessions and not enough quality instruments available for use at performances.
The Elite Steel Orchestra further, allows the C.W.Prescod to use its instruments to teach their students the artform of steelpan playing, giving this activity a spot on the daily time-tables of classes ranging from Grades 3-Grade 6. Adversely though, this daily use of the instruments is the catalyst for the deteriorating quality of the instruments. To sustain the programme at the school and the annual training programme whereby students of other schools and communities get opportunities to develop musical dexterities, the Elite Steel Orchestra is in dire need of instruments.

13. Problem Statement & Community Needs Assessment:

The Elite Steel Orchestra has as one of its mandate, to do its part in transferring and preserving culture in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Moreover we are aware of the power of the steelpan to create community cohesiveness, decrease juvenile delinquency and school truancy and to provide opportunities for immediate future employment, and serve as a vehicle for putting St.Vincent and the Grenadines, and by extension the entire Caribbean, on the world stage. This can only be done with having adequate amounts of steelpans and by extension, comparable quality instruments to other steel orchestras and countries.

14. Project Objectives (use SMART Method):

1. To have and provide adequate quality instruments for teaching the playing of the steelpan to individuals to transfer cultural practices and ensure the longevity and viability of steel orchestras in St.Vincent and the Grenadines.
2. Provide opportunities for players to discover and nurture talents and skills, increase dexterity and versatility, learn and demonstrate social cohesion and monitor, improve and reward the acquisition of these positive skills



and attributes.

3. Through continuous practice and rehearsal sessions as well as performance opportunities, the Elite Steel Orchestra will continue to contribute to cultural acquisition of our country by nurturing relevant skills in our citizens.

4. The Elite Steel Orchestra highly prioritizes decreasing negative attitudes and mannerisms in our citizens. It is our mandate to use our skills and other resources, particularly the steelpan, to combat declining values, restore social cohesion and raise and promote cultural awareness.

15. Target Beneficiaries (include approximate number of Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries):

1. Students of the C. W. Prescod Primary School Grades 3-Grade 6(approximately 360 students)

2. Students from other schools and other persons from rural and urban areas (approximately 50 persons)

16. Implementation Plan (key activities, timelines, responsible parties and partners):

1. Providing all participants with musical experiences and opportunities through the use of the steelpan
2. Structured and informal weekly practice and rehearsal sessions ranging from thirty minute to 3 hour sessions.
3. Sessions will be conducted through partnerships with Elite Steel Orchestra personnel, teachers of the C.W. Prescod Primary School, and other professional steelpan enthusiasts.

17. Project Start Date: Ongoing Project End Date: Ongoing

18. Project Manager Name: Kesslon Wilson.

Contact No.: 1784-532-1279 Email: kesslonwilson@hotmail.com/ roshaunpeters@gmail.com

SECTION C – BUDGET & FUNDING

19. Total Amount Requested from Sandals Foundation (in USD): US\$14 981.27



20. Other Sources of Funding (indicate sources and confirmed/pending amounts):

The Elite Steel Orchestra over the years has been striving to meet the instruments demands of its entity. This is an ongoing and continuous expense and therefore has no price cap.

21. Estimated Payment Schedule (timing of disbursement needed):

Training, practice, rehearsals and public performances, are ongoing continuous activities making the immediate replacement of instruments of paramount necessity.

22. Budget Summary (attach detailed breakdown as separate document):

Attached is a quote for the instruments of approximately EC\$40 000.00 from a reputable steelpan supplier in Trinidad and Tobago.

SECTION D – COMMUNITY SUPPORT & SUSTAINABILITY

23. Community Contributions (labour, materials, accommodation, meals, etc.):

The school and communities will be fully engaged by allowing their children/wards to participate in the playing of the steelpan during school timetabled classes, attending after-school practices and rehearsals, and allowing them to join senior steelbands during and after their primary education journey.

24. Sustainability Plan (how the project will continue beyond Foundation support):

The project will be sustained by ongoing and continuous practice and rehearsal sessions, annual summer pan training programmes and public and private performances.

25. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (how success will be measured and reported):

Success will be evaluated by the number of participants who continue playing the steelpan, by the amount of



public performances done, the special events at the C. W. Prescod Primary School that the steelpan is an integral part of, and performances at national and cultural events. Besides an annual written report, augmented by photos of rehearsal and public performances, the Elite Steel Orchestra is open to performing free of cost or at a negotiable reduced rate, at least twice per year, barring having no other scheduled engagements, at the request of the sponsor. It is also hoped that negotiations can be arrived at to have the Elite Steel Orchestra carry the name of Sandals through public performances/engagements.

26. Please state any Local Authority or Partner Endorsements (attach letters if applicable):

Since 2023, the Elite Steel Orchestra has been a fully functioning member of the Youlou Pan Movement, which is the governing body for steel bands in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and since 2005, has been assisting and supporting the C.W. Prescod Primary School in its endeavours to create a vibrant time-tabled music programme.

SECTION E – SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

Please ensure the following documents are submitted with your application (where applicable):

- Detailed Budget
- Quotations for Equipment/Furniture (if applicable)
- Photographs of Project Site or Initiative
- Evidence of Community or Government Support
- Approvals for Construction Projects (where applicable): Title, Building Permissions, Ministry/Parish Council Approvals
- Written Endorsement from the relevant Local Authorities



SECTION F – DECLARATION

I hereby certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information may disqualify me from receiving assistance.

Applicant's Name: Kesson Wilson (for) Elite Steel Orchestra

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kesson Wilson".

Applicant's Signature:

Date (DD/MM/YYYY): 26th/09 /2025

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (To be completed by the Sandals Foundation)

Application Received By: _____

Date Received (DD/MM/YYYY): _____ / _____ / _____

Supporting Documents Checked: Yes No

Recommended Action:

Approve Decline Hold for More Info

Comments/Notes:



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Please ensure that all questions are answered and all required documents are attached to facilitate the review of your application.

CONTACT US:

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E-mail: foundation@grp.sandals.com