



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KIDZNOTES WELCOMES DR. THOMAS HOWARD JR. AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DURHAM, NC — Kidznotes Inc is thrilled to announce the appointment of Dr. Thomas Howard, Jr. as its new Executive Director, effective January 2, 2024.

Kidznotes is a Triangle local nonprofit catalyzing social change by providing comprehensive music education, leadership opportunities, and character-building experiences to children with the fewest resources and the greatest need.

Howard, a passionate and creative leader, brings a wealth of experience to Kidznotes. With over three decades of leadership marked by a deep commitment to enhancing educational experiences and outcomes for young learners, Howard is poised to lead Kidznotes into its next chapter of innovation and growth.

“My approach centers around the belief that every child has the potential to excel when given the right opportunities and support,” said Dr. Howard. “This belief is not just a guiding principle but a measurable impact, evident in the increased accessibility to quality music education under my leadership at Kidznotes.”

Dr. Howard holds a bachelor’s degree in Music Education from Winston-Salem State University, a master’s in Education Administration from Rider University, and an EdD in Education Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. His previous role in establishing *Music in Motion*, a K-8 music education program, laid the foundation for a career dedicated to nurturing young talent. Most recently, Howard was at Bronx Charter Schools for Better Learning and Boys & Girls Harbor Inc. where he was instrumental in expanding programs, fostering community partnerships, and leading successful fundraising initiatives, raising over \$1.6 million for youth programs.

“Howard’s experience and enthusiasm is exactly what we need,” said Kidznotes Board Chair, Blake Shiver. “He is already working extremely hard, bringing innovative ideas to the table, and showing that he truly understands the mission of Kidznotes. We are thrilled to have him and can’t wait to see what’s in store for the organization.”

As he steers Kidznotes towards new horizons, Howard invites collaboration and support from like-minded individuals and organizations. Together, there is a shared vision of unlocking every child’s potential through the transformative power of music and education.

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About Kidznotes:

Kidznotes is inspired by the El Sistema model from Venezuela which empowers students through music education. Our program enrolls students 1st grade through 12th grade in an intense out-of-school program using music education to provide the structure, responsibility, and opportunities for success. Our tool is music, our goal is to build the next generation of community leaders.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Howard as he embarks on this journey as our new Executive Director. We look forward to an era of continued social change, music education, leadership opportunities, and character-building experiences under his direction.

For media inquiries or more information, please contact communications@kidznotes.org

Website: www.kidznotes.org

Instagram: [@kidznotes](https://www.instagram.com/kidznotes)

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