

Interview given by David Hannay during a visit to ACER Brasil

On January 9th, we received a visit from one of our long term supporters, David Hannay, father of our current Secretary General, Jonathan. He was British Ambassador to the United Nations from 1990 to 1995, when he returned to London for a part-time job helping the UN and the European Union to resolve the dispute over the division of Cyprus, which we failed to do. In 2004 he was made a Member of the House of Lords and has since been very active on a wide range of international issues relating to British foreign policy, defense policy, development policy and so on. With the establishment of CARF-UK, a sister foundation of ACER Brasil in 1997, he became engaged with our work in Brazil.

ACER Brasil: What are you engaging with nowadays?

David Hannay: I remain a member of the House of Lords which means that four times a week I go down to



parliament and participate in debates; I am also a member of the Parliament's European Relations Committee and I am committed to a range of causes such as the UK's relationship with other European countries now that we have left the European Union, unfortunately, in my opinion. I have a pretty active life doing this. I also have three of my grandchildren living with me in London since they started their professional lives, so I have a lot to do.

ACER Brasil: Speaking of Brazilian culture, what do you know about

the history of Brazil and its relationship with the United Kingdom?

David Hannay: I don't have a lot of knowledge about Latin America, as I was never a diplomat here. So my knowledge was basically acquired through books and travel; I've been to Peru, Brazil on many occasions, Mexico, but I don't know much about Latin America, I know more about Europe and Asia. Because of Jonathan's studies in Latin America when he was at Columbia University in New York, he made me more interested and I try to read about Latin American history, and Brazil is of particular interest because it is the main focus of Jonathan's professional life and I try to do my best to support the work he does, because it is a job that is very worthwhile; Brazil has enormous potential but also serious social and economic problems. Centres like ACER Brasil do a wonderful job of dealing with these problems and making people change economically, socially

and educationally so that they can achieve a better life.

ACER Brasil: How do you feel about being at ACER Brasil after a few years since your last visit?

David Hannay: It is very interesting to observe that ACER Brasil has developed after all the time since its foundation. Now there is a large activity centre with capoeira, a theatre, a library and a volunteer house. It's quite impressive and I appreciate how Jonathan and the entire staff at ACER Brazil were able to develop the project into what it has now become. It is a fascinating demonstration of what can be done with determination and good plans to help people who live in Eldorado have a better education, better social contact and, in general, a better life.

ACER Brasil in partnership with Ilumina Festival promote music concert in Diadema's main theatre



ACER Brasil: Would you like to leave some last thoughts for this interview?

David Hannay: I'd like to say that I'm rooting for this work to continue. I believe that what Jonathan does now when developing kinship care with children who are abandoned, abused and mistreated, continue to be successful so that these children can be cared for by a wider family and with public support, of course. These programmes are being implemented in the UK and in other countries, but I don't think they were as well understood a few years ago (...). Kinship care is today a big discussion around the world, it is with it that Jonathan has been focusing many of his efforts today and I think it is a noble cause and that it is very worthwhile.

The Ilumina Festival brings a live music show entitled Theory of Chaos, with 30 musicians from 13 countries never seen before and free of charge in Diadema. The project is carried out by the Special Secretariat for Culture, Ministry of Tourism, Federal Government, with the Culture Incentive Law and support from ACER Brasil.



As presented on its official website (www.iluminamusic.com/br/festival), the festival gained international prominence for providing access to live music to thousands of people every year, generating initiatives of great social impact, such as the participation of young musicians without opportunities to develop in music in educational institutions. "I have been a professional dancer for more than 20 years and I am very close to the city of Diadema,

due to my personal professional and artistic history, being a regular at important spaces such as Teatro Clara Nunes, Casa do Hip Hop, Centro Cultural Beija Flor, among others. At Ilumina, we aim to democratize access to first-class classical music, and, over the 8 years of activity, we have already presented concerts in several cities in the interior of São Paulo and in several public and cultural spaces in the capital, but never in the ABC region of São Paulo. The city of Diadema was chosen due to the high levels of violence and inequality, in addition to being the birthplace of great artists, such as pianist Cristian Budu, today one of the most famous internationally recognized Brazilian pianists, brought up in Diadema.", declares Miwa Kozuma, Brazil Executive Director of Ilumina.

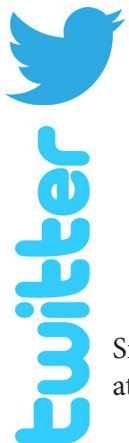
ACER Brasil provided a bus so that members of our team, from Eldorado and the surrounding area could travel to the central region of Diadema and thus watch the unprecedented concert in the city, since this was the first time most of the young people had seen something of this size. "I'm more used to listening to rap and I went more to get to know it after I received the invitation from ACER Brasil. I decid-

ed to go and watching the show, I felt several things, it was a unique experience. I play the violin and I saw a new form of playing the violin, because at the same time it was the form of the violin that I knew, it was a new version, it was something faster and more rhythmic. I am also very interested in piano and in the first act of the concert to see it together with cello and violin was something innovative for me. (...) I had never been to a concert and seeing the story of the pianist who is from here in Diadema I saw that this possibility also exists and that it is something I can follow", says Vinícius, 17 years old and who was a of our teenage reading mediators last year. "The type of music I listen to the most has a lot of beats, like funk and rap, so listening to classical music I got a different vision of music", also declares Victor, 17 years old and our receptionist in the morning.

Miwa also points out that cultural events like this, in addition to providing an alternative for leisure and, consequently, a sense of well-being, can also be catalysts for the transformation of the social environment, positively affecting the reality of young people from poorer regions. "The Ilumina concerts

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are different, from the artistic curatorship, the creative process, to the scenic proposal and presentation format. Ilumina has gained international prominence due to its boldness and innovation, bringing the young public closer and consequently bringing greater interest and adherence to music. With this, opening up new possibilities for a future for children, young people and adults from all social classes. The benefits are countless - access to culture, diversity, innovative proposals that expand knowledge and sharpen individual creativity and provide an experience that can contribute to your intellect and social interaction”, she reiterates. We hope to be able to participate in the 9th edition of Festival Ilumina in 2024, bringing a concert to our city again.



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Siga-nos no Twitter para atualizações regulares

The beginning of the year holidays are here and ACER Brasil is opening registration for our free activities, aimed at children and teenagers between 6 and 15 years old 18 Jan

ACER Brasil offers tutoring classes for children and teenagers from the community on Saturdays. This year, we opened 05 new vacancies for the different classes distributed at different times and periods with Professor Milena. 31 Jan



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AGENDA February

- 25 - Parent Council
- 26 - Start of English classes
- 27 - Beginning of courses at Fundação Florestan Fernandess