

Tambores de Siloé: A CSR-funded project in Cali, Colombia through which marginalized children learn social abilities through percussion-based music.

Based in the hillside Siloé neighborhood of Cali, Colombia, *Tambores de Siloé* is supported by local steel-mill corporation SIDOC. SIDOC's Corporate Social Responsibility wing provides funds for three teachers to give biweekly music classes to four groups of children in different areas of Siloé. Children learn to play and collaborate in making instruments built from recycled and recyclable materials. The instruments and musical ideas are based on typical formats of the neighborhood (*diablitos*: bass-and snare-drums), Pacific region (*marimba* ensemble, *chirimía*) and country (*cumbia orquesta*). The music education program includes training in social skills such as listening, collaboration, respect for the opinions, bodies and possessions of others, and the promotion of non-violence. The project has been running for over 7 years and some long-time students are becoming teachers of other groups. Groups perform individually and together at cultural events. The importance of uniting groups and individuals from different parts of Siloé lies in the divided nature of the neighborhood where illicit gangs restrict the movement of locals to minute areas divided by "invisible frontiers."

UIUC PhD candidate Ian Middleton has worked with the group since 2014 as part of applied ethnographic fieldwork for his doctoral dissertation. His research was funded in part by the SEM 21st Century Fellowship grant in 2014.