

# The Nile Project

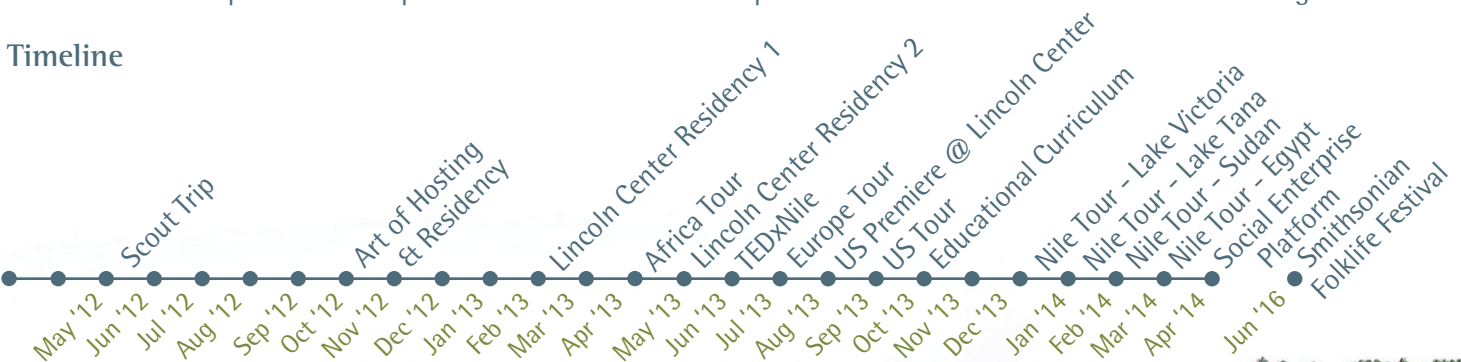
The Nile Project curates cross-cultural collaborations among musicians from the Nile region. Through these musical dialogues, we aim to foster cultural connections among the people living along the river to help us tackle our water-based environmental challenges. Inspired by Yoyo Ma's Silk Road Project, Egyptian ethnomusicologist Mina Girgis and Ethiopian-American singer-songwriter Meklit Hadero developed the Nile Project as a platform to spread environmental awareness and inspire change among Nile citizens.

## Stakeholders Touch Points



The Nile Project engages its stakeholders with a series of musical performances and recordings featuring musicians from the river's 11 countries (Congo DRC, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, and Egypt). These musical experiences will inspire our audiences to learn more about their ecosystem and their neighbors. With the help of a multidisciplinary group of academic and non-academic experts (environmental science, climatology, anthropology, sociology, economics, development studies, etc.) the Nile Project will roll out a number of educational initiatives including school curricula and a TEDxNile conference. Partnering with Ashoka and regional social entrepreneurs, the Nile Project will train a new generation of change makers to help bring about new solutions to the challenges we face along the Nile Basin. And through a devoted social enterprise platform, the Nile Project will empower these new entrepreneurs to implement their solutions to help us move towards a more sustainable Nile region.

## Timeline



Mina Girgis is an Egyptian ethnomusicologist and arts entrepreneur based in San Francisco, CA. He has participated in organizing many multicultural events such as the Smithsonian Silk Road Festival in Washington DC and Parah El Bahr Euro-Mediterranean Festival in Alexandria, Egypt. He is the cofounder of the Nile Project and the founder and Executive Director of Zambaleta, a nonprofit community world music school located in San Francisco.

[www.nileproject.org](http://www.nileproject.org)

Meklit Hadero is a critically acclaimed Ethiopian-American singer, musician and cultural activist based in San Francisco, CA. She has been an artist-in-residence at NYU, has completed musical commissions for the Fund for Artists, the Brava Theater, and the De Young Museum, and was recently awarded the 2012 TED Senior Fellowship with the Nile Project as her main focus. She is the co-founder of the Nile Project and the Arba Minch Collective.

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