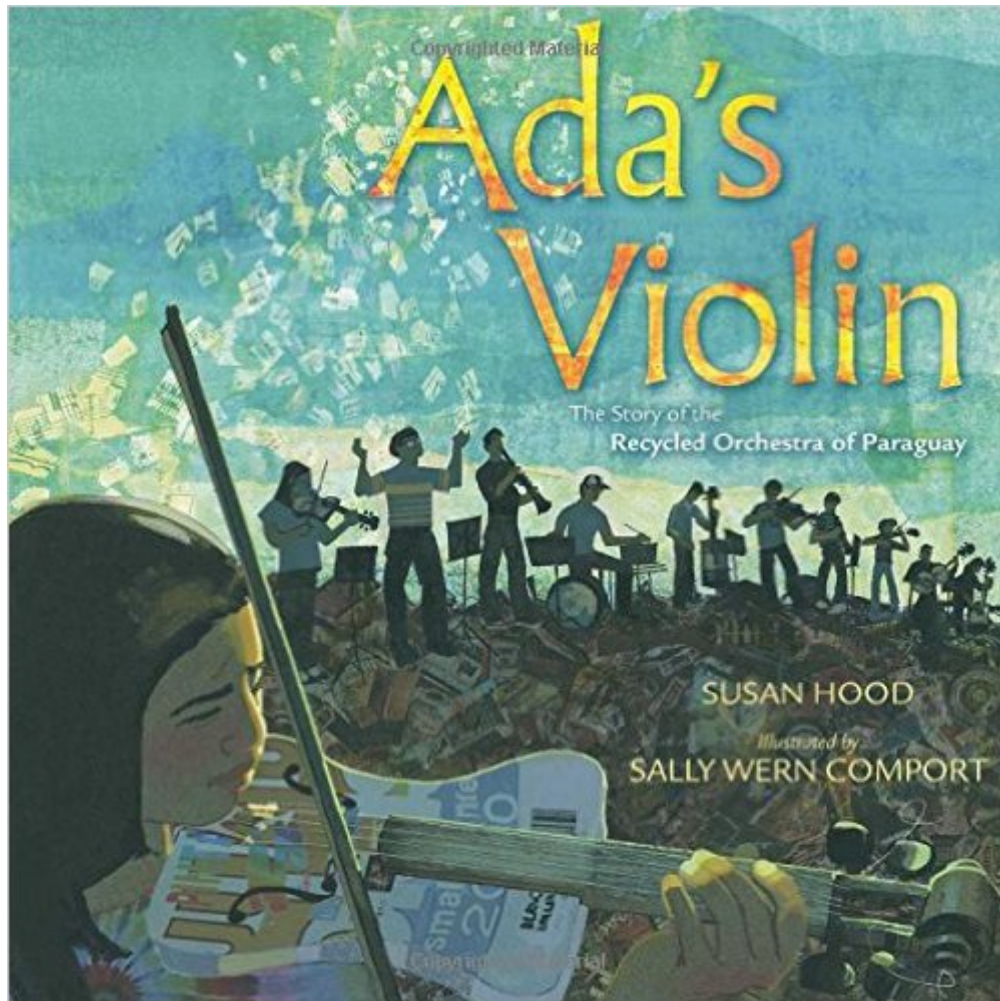# Ada's Violin: The Story Of The Recycled Orchestra Of Paraguay

Synopsis

From award-winning author Susan Hood and illustrator Sally Wern Comport comes the extraordinary true tale of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay, an orchestra made up of children playing instruments built from recycled trash.Ada RÃos grew up in Cateura, a small town in Paraguay built on a landfill. She dreamed of playing the violin, but with little money for anything but the bare essentials, it was never an option...until a music teacher named Favio ChÃ¡vez arrived. He wanted to give the children of Cateura something special, so he made them instruments out of materials found in the trash. It was a crazy idea, but one that would leave Adaâ€"and her townâ€"forever changed. Now, the Recycled Orchestra plays venues around the world, spreading their message of hope and innovation.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 820 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers (May 3, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1481430955

ISBN-13: 978-1481430951

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.6 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,314 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #2 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Instruments   #2 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Classical   #10 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Central & South America

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

I love stories like that told in Ada's Violin. While the story begins in a shantytown built around a garbage dump and seems like it will be depressing, that quickly changes when Favio Chavez arrives to teach the local children to play musical instruments. The problem is that none of these children's families can afford a music instrument, especially since they are all struggling just to survive. So, what do they do? They create instruments out of garbage. The ingenuity expressed in

the creation of these instruments is truly inspiring. And Comport's beautiful illustrations show this wonderfully. The amount of work the children and their teacher undergo to develop their musical ability in the midst of hardship and heat and the smell of garbage. Amazingly enough, this seemingly simple idea changed not only their town, but the world beyond. I love stories like this one because they remind me that no matter how ugly the world can get, there is still hope. A beautifully told, truly inspiring true story about the impact that one person or small group of people can have on the world around them.

Wow, this book will touch your heart and inspire you, no matter what age you are! You may have seen the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay on 60 Minutes or elsewhere, but now here is a beautifully written and illustrated picture book about them, told through the eyes of one participant, Ada Rios. I loved it! Ada lives with her family in a landfill (!) in Cateura, Paraguay. An environmental engineer (Favio Chavez), sent to work on the landfill, wants to help the children there and offers free music lessons. Instruments are devised from materials collected from the garbage, the children learn musical skills and discipline, and an orchestra is born that shares beauty, hope and inspiration. The writing is lovely (Ada "could soar on the high, bright, bittersweet notes to a place far away. She could be who she was meant to be.", and the illustrations are full-page and powerful. The author includes notes, links, sources and a quote from Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." This book is a wonderful way to share this idea with children.

Summary: Ada lived in one of the poorest places on earth, Cateura, Paraguay, home of the garbage dump for the capital city of Asuncion. Most adults make a living picking through trash, finding items they can recycle and resell to make a bare subsistence living. Ada and her classmates appeared to be heading for the same lives as their parents, until a man named Favio Chavez came to town and offered music lessons. The only problem was, he only has a few instruments, and they were so valuable, the kids were afraid to carry them home. So Chavez got to work making instruments from objects he found in the trash. Before long, there were enough kids playing to form an orchestra. Ada loved music and worked so hard that she became first violin. The orchestra has traveled all over the world, and even opened for a Metallica concert. Back matter includes an authorâ ™s note, sources, and photos of the orchestra and some of their instruments. 40 pages; grades 1-4.Pros: An inspiring story of how one man has made an amazing difference in the lives of an entire community. The illustrations do a great job of capturing the designs of the different instruments, as well as the

emotions of their players.Cons: I wanted to hear the music! Fortunately, YouTube helped me out. Just search for â œRecycled Orchestra of Paraguayâ • to learn more and to see and hear these amazing instruments in action.

My third and fourth graders loved hearing this story read aloud! I read it the same day the students made recycled instruments with the art teacher during a whole-school "arts integration celebration day." There are several videos on YouTube about this particular group, including a 60 Minutes segment with interviews from Ada and her family, as well as other members of this orchestra. LOTS to supplement a read aloud lesson if you have the time!

This is such an inspiring story of a community that has grown and started to support itself through the work of a musical conductor who has brought music and international experience/exposure to some amazing children. Everyone should read this! and then also watch the movie (Landfill Harmonic) which tells the story from a lot of other people's perspectives as well.

Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay El violÃƒÂn de Ada (Ada's Violin): La historia de la Orquesta de Instrumentos Reciclados del Paraguay (Spanish Edition) Ada's Ideas: The Story of Ada Lovelace, the World's First Computer Programmer Alex + Ada Volume 2 (Alex + ADA Tp) Ada's Algorithm: How Lord Byron's Daughter Ada Lovelace Launched the Digital Age ADA Programming Success In A Day: Beginner's guide to fast, easy and efficient learning of ADA programming Programming in Ada: Plus an Overview of Ada 9X (International Computer Science Series) Software Components With Ada: Structures, Tools, and Subsystems (The Benjamin/Cummings Series in Ada and Software Engineering) Reusable Ada Components Sourcebook (The Ada Companion Series) The Story of the Incredible Orchestra: An Introduction to Musical Instruments and the Symphony Orchestra A History of Organized Labor in Uruguay and Paraguay Look What You Can Make With Recycled Paper Recycled Robots: 10 Robot Projects Mosaic Today: Create Contemporary Projects Using New and Recycled Material Meet the Orchestra: A guide to the instruments of the orchestra through star constellations and Greek myths Sound Innovations for String Orchestra -- Sound Development (Advanced): Warm-up Exercises for Tone and Technique for Advanced String Orchestra (Viola) (Sound Innovations Series for Strings) Sound Innovations for String Orchestra: Sound Development (Intermediate) for Cello: Warm up Exercises for Tone and Technique for Intermediate String Orchestra (Sound Innovations Series for Strings) Sound Innovations for String Orchestra: Sound Development (Intermediate) for Viola: Warm

up Exercises for Tone and Technique for Intermediate String Orchestra (Sound Innovations Series for Strings) 115VN - String Basics: Steps to Success for String Orchestra Violin Book 1 Sound Innovations for String Orchestra, Bk 1: A Revolutionary Method for Beginning Musicians (Violin), Book, CD & DVD (Sound Innovations Series for Strings)