

# Orgelkids

Let children meet the pipe-organ!



Orgelkids is a Dutch project, shared in over 25 countries around the world.



# Our mission

The motto of Orgelkids is "**organising the future**". Because what use are beautifully restored church organs if there will soon be no more organists?

By engaging young people, the organ has a future.

That is the goal of Orgelkids: to ensure that we can continue to enjoy organs and organ music in the future.





# The project

We want to achieve our goal by offering:

- Information, tips and ideas for anyone who wants to develop an organ project. Including train-the-trainers workshops.
- Materials, sheetmusic, videos shared online, including best practices from all project-leaders.
- The rental of a Do-organ, specially made for Orgelkids, to let children assemble a real organ.
- Developing (teaching) material for all kind of organ projects with children, with focus on music, technology and cultural/religious heritage.
- Collaboration and advising on projects that strive for the same goal.





# The Do-organ

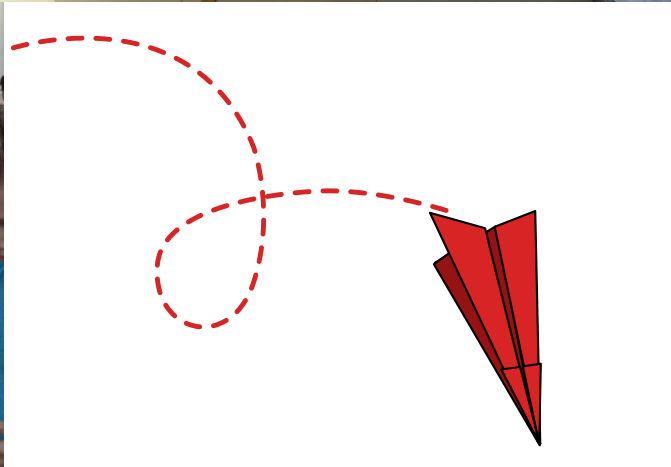
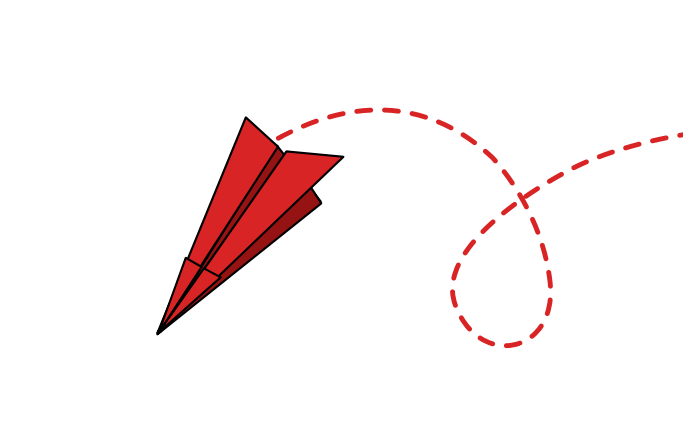
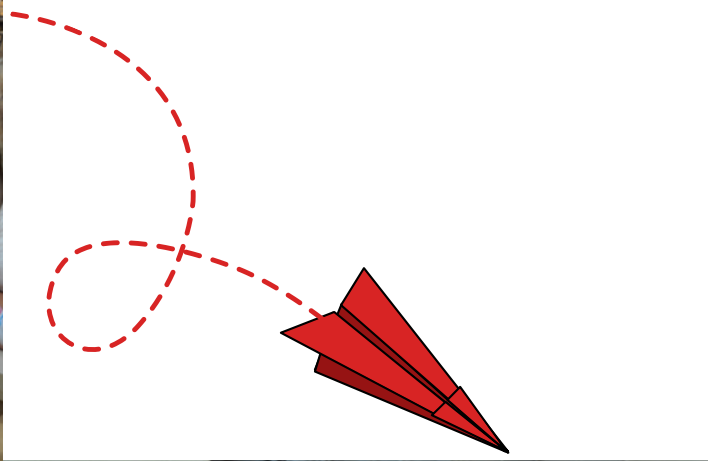
The Orgelkids Do-organ is a set of 128 pieces in a box. This organ is especially designed for children and can be repeatedly assembled and disassembled.

The Do-organ is suitable for children to discover how an organ works by building one.

The Do-organ is empowering children to discover how the pipe-organ is constructed and how it works by building it. The design is almost self-teaching with the help of illustrated instruction sheets. Organ builder Wim Janssen designed it, carefully considering how it would be most appealing and educational to children (especially age 7 to 12). They must be challenged to discover and to ask technical questions about the construction. And, of course, when the organ is built, they are able to play music on it. The Orgelkids organ has it all. That's why we call it a 'Do'-organ (from the verb 'to do') rather than a demonstration organ.









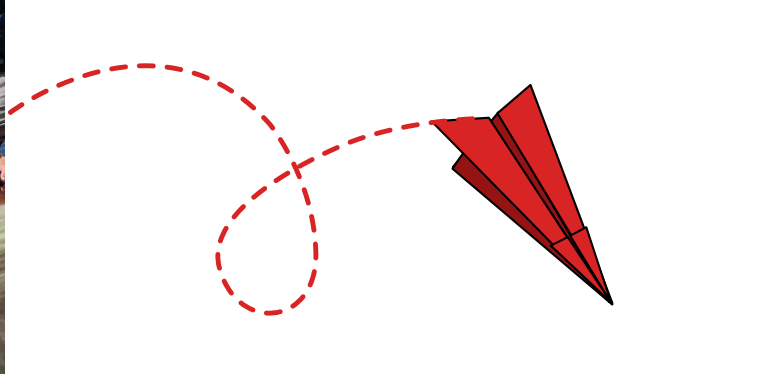
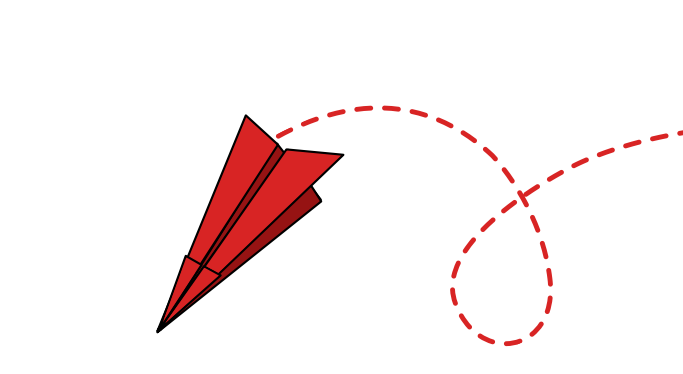
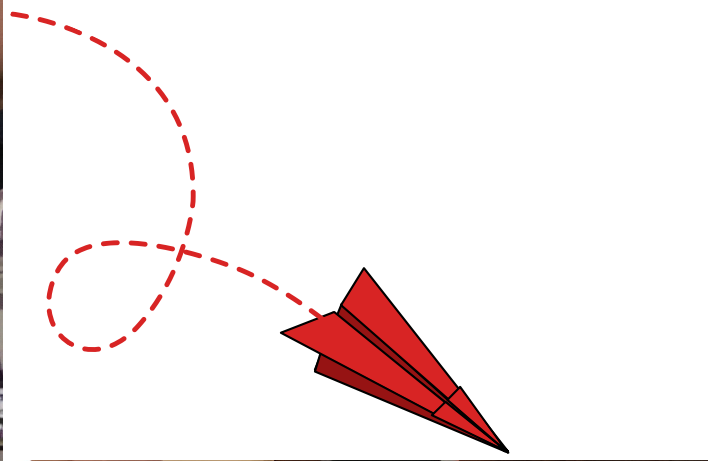
# Activities

Orgelkids develops materials for various educational activities around the pipe organ with different themes, such as music, technology and cultural/religious heritage.

- The Do-organ can be used in formal educational situations, such as (music) lessons or workshops in primary schools.
- But it is also extremely suitable for informal meetings during cultural markets, open monument days or a church or city organ jubilee.
- The unique fact that the Do-organ can be used anywhere also makes it possible to use the instrument at special places and moments. Think of international events such as Bach in the Subways (around 21 March), World Make Music day (21 June) or Maker Faires.
- In 2019 we organized a special composition contest for the Do-organ. All winning compositions - some from well-known composers - are available for free on our website.









# How it started

Orgelkids wants to introduce children (and adults) to the pipe organ in a fun and educational way. Only when you have discovered something, you can become fascinated by it. Orgelkids was founded in July 2009 by Lydia Vroegindeweyj. The project has now grown into a global project with almost 150 Do-organs and a network of project managers in more than 20 countries.

Dr. Lydia Vroegindeweyj was initially trained as a teacher for primary education, but then became an entrepreneur and publisher of teaching materials and teaching methods for all levels of education. As an amateur organist she loved to share her knowledge of the instrument with children. She founded the 'Lydia Vroegindeweyj Fund' (part of the Dutch Cultuurfonds) to help funding local projects. She created a first version of the Orgelkids.nl website just to collect and share ideas for organ education by others. In 2013 she turned it into her own project after she bought the first Do-organ from Wim Janssen. She developed instruction sheets and teaching materials around the organ kit and started the rental program. In the first three years, the Do-organ was already assembled by approximately 6,000 children.



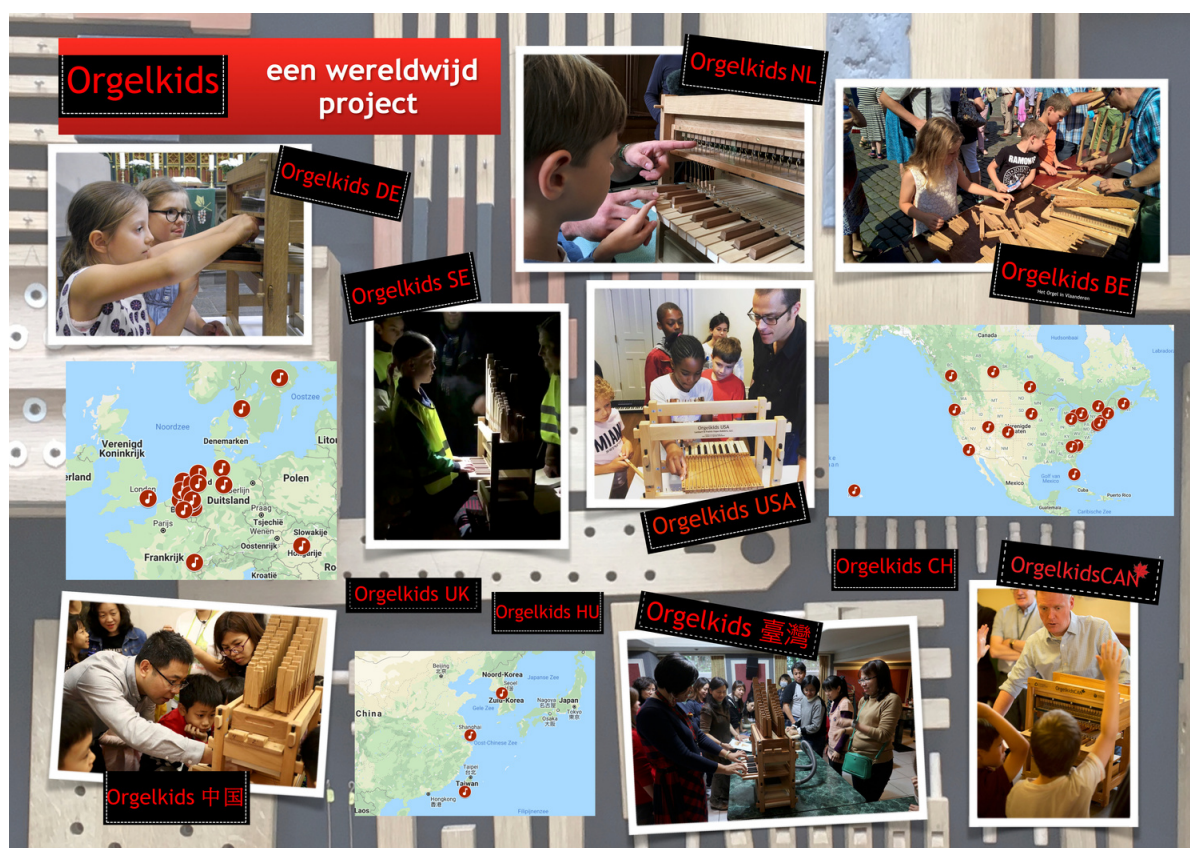
Orgelkids is part of Stichting Kerkmuziek  
Netwerk (Church-music Network  
Foundation).





# Still growing

Orgelkids started in the Netherlands, but has now become a worldwide project, thanks to our great Do-organ and its attractive photos and videos, which prove to inspire organists all over the world. We are very happy with these results!



Almost 160 Do-organs can now (spring 2023) be found in more than 25 countries all over the world. We keep track of where Do-organs are on this [Google-map](#).









# Falling in love

An initial spark is needed to start a fire. Of course not every child will become an organist after the first introduction in school or during an event. But knowing a little more about the organ is valuable for everyone, including those who later have to help decide on heritage conservation.

So think about this recipe: what is accessible is then lovable. And love is needed to give the organ a vibrant future!





# Orgelkids

Contact us:

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[www.orgelkids.nl](http://www.orgelkids.nl)

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