Harmony Project Phoenix supports positive development and social inclusion through music instruction led by professional musicians. From January through May of 2015, partners at Pan-American Charter School provided six hours of music classes per week to low-income students and hosted five community concerts. Because many are not formally trained teachers, these instructors believed they could make better use of this opportunity if they developed a few foundational teaching skills.

That summer, Harmony Project Phoenix selected a medley of Sanford Inspire On-Demand Modules to help them master foundational teaching concepts. They started with Creating Classroom Rules. Lead teacher Amanda Seyler shared her experience: “We talked through ideal behaviors and ended with five clear rules. Last year, students would forget their journals. This year, the students came up with the idea to always be prepared with instruments, journals, and pencils. So if a student happens to forget, they know ‘I’m not prepared and that was the expectation I set for myself.’” These rules are helping students “become more self-accountable” and “build musicianship.” By composing clear rules from the start, maestros and their apprentices spend more of their time learning, playing, and creating music.