

## **EMU General Assembly part II – 21 May - Linz, Austria**

### *Reports Open Space Working Groups*

- Benefits broad talent development
- Benefits of working with new target groups
- Benefits of working in regional groups

### **German speaking working group**

Chaired by Klaus Beck; report Klaus Beck

We began our discussion with the topic of the regional cooperation between music schools in border regions. The added value of this cooperation was made apparent by means of various examples. Such a cooperation naturally depends very much on the interaction between the political circumstances in the region. The benefit for all those involved was not questioned, however.

The “Grenzenlos” (Borderless) Festival created by Peter Heiler and Klaus Beck provides a graphic example of the above. Music schools from three countries (Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein) organise a specifically themed festival at regular intervals. Workshops and advanced training sessions for the teaching staff take place to this end. In the festivals the individual music schools present exemplary performances and thus repeatedly provide the motivation for cross-border cooperation on the most varied of themes (chamber music, jazz rock pop, music theatre, voice, etc.). Here, other disciplines, such as dance, theatre, literature, etc., can also be incorporated. (Cooperation between art and music schools)

With regard to the change of music schools into art schools, all those present are of the opinion that this cannot be prescribed by the EMU. Depending on the initial position, the structures have grown in the long run and are cemented. Yes to coalescence, no to artificial consolidation. The financial repercussions of such an opening should not be ignored either. Depending on the individual situation, however, specific countries can assume a leadership function here. We can then all learn from each other. Each country, each school system has its special features. The latter should be cultivated and made apparent and usable to the others by the exchange of experiences.