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# National Reports 2014/15

Members of the European Music School Union

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## National reports of members of the European Music School Union 2014 / 2015

### Table of Contents

#### AUSTRIA

KOMU - Konferenz der Österreichischen Musikschulwerke .....	3
---	---

#### CZECH REPUBLIC

Association of Primary Arts Schools .....	5
---	---

#### DENMARK

DAMUSA - Danish Music School Association .....	6
--	---

#### ESTONIA

Eesti Muusikakoolide Liit .....	7
---------------------------------	---

#### FINLAND

Suomen Musiikkioppilaitosten liitto .....	9
---	---

#### FRANCE

Fédération Française de l'Enseignement Musical, Chorégraphique et Théâtral .....	10
--	----

#### GERMANY

VdM Verband deutscher Musikschulen e.V. ....	11
--	----

#### ITALY

AIdSM - Associazione Italiana delle Scuola di Musica .....	13
--	----

#### LATVIA

Latvijas Mūzikas izglītības iestāžu asociācija - LMIIA.....	14
---	----

#### LUXEMBOURG

Association des Ecoles de Musique du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg .....	16
--	----

#### THE NETHERLANDS

Cultuurconnectie .....	17
------------------------	----

#### NORWAY

Norsk Kulturskoleråd .....	19
----------------------------	----

#### POLAND

Ogólnopolskie Stowarzyszenie Szkół Muzycznych .....	21
---	----

#### SERBIA

Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia .....	22
---	----

#### SLOVAKIA

Asociácia základných umeleckých škôl Slovenskej republiky.....	23
--	----

#### SLOVENIA

Zveza Slovenskih Glasbenih Sol .....	25
--------------------------------------	----

## **SPAIN**

UEMYD - Unión de Escuelas de Música y Danza .....	27
---	----

## **SWEDEN**

Sveriges Kulturskoleråd .....	28
-------------------------------	----

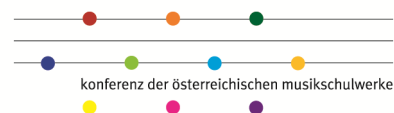
## **SWITZERLAND/LIECHTENSTEIN**

Verband Musikschulen Schweiz / Liechtensteinische Musikschule .....	29
---	----

<b>LIST OF MEMBERS</b> .....	32
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## AUSTRIA

### KOMU Konferenz der Österreichischen Musikschulwerke



## DEUTSCH

### Initiativen zur rechtlichen Anerkennung der Ausbildung an den Musikschulen in Österreich und Südtirol

Die KOMU unternahm weitere Maßnahmen, damit die Ausbildung der Schülerinnen und Schüler an den Musikschulen im allgemein bildenden Schulwesen anerkannt wird. Hier geht es um die Anerkennung von Instrumental(Vokal)unterricht als eine Bildungsleistung der Musikschulen. Schülerinnen und Schüler, die ein Instrument (Gesang) erlernen, müssen derzeit neben ihrem Schulbesuch sehr viele Stunden zusätzlich investieren. Der Vorschlag der KOMU an die Schulbehörden auf Bundesebene ist, dass der Unterricht der Musikschulen als Instrumentalunterricht an allgemein bildenden Schulen anerkannt wird und die Schülerinnen und Schüler teilweise vom Unterrichtsbesuch an allgemeinen Schulen befreit werden. Diese Maßnahme würde vor allem den begabten Jugendlichen, die sich auf dem Weg zur Berufsausbildung als MusikerInnen befinden, zu Gute kommen.

Südtirol (Italien) hat bereits eine Lösung erreicht: Kinder der Grundschulen können ein bis zwei Stunden aus dem Pool der Wahlpflichtfächer durch Unterrichtsstunden im Musikschulen ersetzen.

Siehe: *Autonome Provinz Bozen – Südtirol, Beschluss der Landesregierung Nr. 721 in der Sitzung vom 16.6.2015, Richtlinien für die Anerkennung außerschulischer Bildungsangebote durch die deutschsprachigen Schulen.*  
[http://lexbrowser.provinz.bz.it/doc/de/202598/beschluss\\_vom\\_16\\_juni\\_2015\\_nr\\_721.aspx](http://lexbrowser.provinz.bz.it/doc/de/202598/beschluss_vom_16_juni_2015_nr_721.aspx)

### Programme zur Begabtenförderung

In vielen Bundesländern Österreichs wurden 2014 und 2015 die Programme zur Förderung der Talente der Musikschulen ausgebaut. Die begabtesten Schülerinnen und Schüler der Musikschulen werden in ein Begabtenförderprogramm aufgenommen, das vom jeweiligen Land finanziert wird. Die Förderung beinhaltet unter anderem zusätzlichen, für die Eltern kostenfreien, Unterricht, Unterrichtsbesuche und erste Kontakte zu den Ausbildungsklassen an den Universitäten und Konservatorien, vermehrte Chancen für Konzertauftritte und Stipendien für Meisterklassen und Kurse. Ziel ist, die Anzahl der österreichischen Bewerberinnen und Bewerber für ein Studium an Universitäten zu erhöhen, und damit den musikalischen Talenten in Österreich und Südtirol bessere Chancen zu geben.

### Weitere Aktivitäten der KOMU:

#### Zweiter Musikschulleiterkongress im Januar 2015

Österreich und Südtirol sind in der glücklichen Lage, mit Musikschulgesetzen eine stabile Basis für die Musikschulen und ihr Personal geschaffen zu haben. Der Austausch und der Blick in die Zukunft waren die Hauptthemen der Leitertagung, die 2015 in Krems in Niederösterreich an der Donau Universität Krems stattfand. 150 Personen kamen und hörten u.a. Ulrich Mahler, Joachim Bauer und Stephan Huber. Unterlagen zum Download auf: <http://www.komu.at/workshops/workshops.asp>

#### Wettbewerb Prima la Musica 2015

Von Februar bis März 2015 fanden in allen neun Bundesländern und Südtirol die Landeswettbewerbe vom wichtigsten Jugendmusikwettbewerb Österreichs, PRIMA LA MUSICA – Musik der Jugend statt. 1100 LandessiegerInnen nahmen dann im Juni 2015 am Bundeswettbewerb in Eisenstadt teil.

#### Forschung zu Musikschulen

Das Musikschulmanagement Niederösterreich startete eine Reihe von Buchpublikationen zur Musikschulforschung. Bisher erschienen drei Bände: MusikschulRÄUME, MusikschulZUKUNFT, MusikschulENTWICKLUNG. Bestellungen:

[http://www.musikschulmanagement.at/de/default.asp?tt=MUSIK\\_R46](http://www.musikschulmanagement.at/de/default.asp?tt=MUSIK_R46)

## ENGLISH

### **Harmonization of musical education in Austria and *Südtirol***

An important work area of KOMU in 2014/15 was the cooperation between music schools and general schools. Central target is to harmonize legislation concerning musical education in music schools and general schools. Learning to play an instrument is in most cases an educational attainment that is provided by the Austrian music school system. It demands a lot of time of young people which cannot be formally acknowledged by the general school system yet. The KOMU wants to achieve a dispensation and possible formal recognition for these young people. This would especially foster talented young people, who want to become professional musicians. *Südtirol* has already passed a law which enables the acknowledgment of music school instruction within elementary schools.

[http://lexbrowser.provinz.bz.it/doc/de/202598/beschluss\\_vom\\_16\\_juni\\_2015\\_nr\\_721.aspx?](http://lexbrowser.provinz.bz.it/doc/de/202598/beschluss_vom_16_juni_2015_nr_721.aspx?)

### **Talent-Programs**

Most Austrian federal states have established incentive programs for talented music schools students. These programs are funded by the provinces and include free additional lessons, performances, master classes and the possibility to participate on open house days and introductory lessons at music universities. One aim of these programs is to increase the number of Austrian music students at music universities in Austria and *Südtirol*.

### **Further activities in 2014 und 2015:**

#### **Conference**

The seventh conference for all heads of the instrumental groups took place in November 2014 in Innsbruck, Tyrol. About 100 music school teachers from all nine provinces and *Südtirol* participated in this meeting.

#### **Second Congress of Music School Headmasters in January 2015**

Austria and *Südtirol* are lucky to have an extensive music school system. The congresses for the headmasters of music schools in Austria and *Südtirol* are primarily events to meet, exchange experiences and encourage developments. "Thinking visions" was the slogan of this second congress in Krems (Lower Austria), major topic obviously leadership. 150 headmasters participated in lectures and workshops with Ulrich Mahlert, Joachim Bauer and Stephan Huber and many others. The documents are published at: <http://www.komu.at/workshops/workshops.asp>

#### **Competition Prima la Musica 2015**

*PRIMA LA MUSICA – Musik der Jugend*, the main Austrian music competition for the youth, took place in all Austrian provinces (including *Südtirol*) between February and March 2015. In June the 1,100 winners of the provinces' competitions participated in the national competition which took place in Eisenstadt, Burgenland.

#### **Music School Research**

The province Lower Austria (Musikschulmanagement Niederösterreich) started a series of cultural institutions studies in cooperation with the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. The book series demonstrates the important role of research into the organizational background of music schools. Three books have been published which focus on different aspects that shape and influence music education in Austrian music schools.

[http://www.musikschulmanagement.at/de/default.asp?tt=MUSIK\\_R46](http://www.musikschulmanagement.at/de/default.asp?tt=MUSIK_R46)

**CZECH REPUBLIC**  
**Association of Primary Arts Schools**



**Report on the activities of the Association of Basic Arts Schools, Czech Republic (AZUŠ) during the last academic year, from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015.**

Since the last annual general meeting 3 new basic art schools have become members of AZUŠ. To date, the association totals 383 members. AZUŠ operates with revenues of 1.279.118,00 CZK and expenses of 1.232.792,00 CZK. Revenues came only from contributions of the members.

The Board of AZUŠ has held seven meetings which is according to the agreed regulations 76% of all members has been the average number to attend every meeting.

Additional meetings have been organized by individual members of AZUŠ, delegated by the Board of AZUŠ.

**October 2014**

\*General Assembly of AZUŠ in the small village Milovy with guests - governor of the Land Vysocina, senators of Czech Senate, representatives of secondary art schools and universities

**November 2014**

\*Meeting - the settlement of the comments on Decree no. 71/2005 Coll. on basic art education

**March 2015**

\*Meeting - the settlement of the comments on Decree no. 71/2005 Coll. on basic art education

\*Conference - the career system for teachers

\*Meeting - the cultural and education project of Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and AZUŠ

**April 2015**

\*V4 conference - from 22 to 24 April 2015 in Prague

\*Seminar - in cooperation with the EMU "Many students, many pedagogies" from 24 to 25 April 2015 in Prague

\*Meeting - the reform of the financing support of regional education

**May 2015**

\*Meeting the President AZUŠ with the Minister of Education

**June 2015**

\*Discussion - the quality evaluation criteria for music school

\*Meeting and concert - the cultural and education project of Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and AZUŠ

**July 2015**

\*Meeting - the reform of the financing support of regional education

**September 2015**

\*Meeting - AZUŠ and the Czech Art Council

The board of AZUŠ also agreed with the support of the magazine "Driving School" with Annex Special Music School – aiming for head teachers and music schools.

**A stronger Nordic cooperation**

In Denmark we have 98 music schools. More than half of them are offering education in other art forms than music. The model of art schools is an area in which Denmark is learning from the other Nordic countries, especially Sweden and Norway.

Cooperation between the organizations in the Nordic countries NMKU (Nordic Music and Culture School Union), has been considerably strengthened in 2014-2015. NMKU has chosen to structure the cooperation in the same way as the official Nordic parliamentary and ministerial cooperation, by leaving the responsibility and initiative obligation for cooperation rotate between the five countries. In 2015, Denmark had the responsibility and took the initiative to create a major Nordic conference for music and culture schools. The conference was funded by the Danish Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers for Culture and organized jointly between the two Danish music school organizations DAMUSA and DMKL (The Danish Leader Organization for Music and Art Schools) and was a great success with participation from all five countries and three autonomous areas (Åland Islands, the Faroe Islands and Greenland).

Many stakeholders met for the first time across borders and across sectorial boundaries; politicians, officials and decision-makers met practitioners and managers from institutions and organizations.

The conference was so successful, that follow-up conferences in Finland in 2016 and Norway in 2017 are planned.

Read more: [www.nordicmusicartschools.org/](http://www.nordicmusicartschools.org/)

**Cooperation between public schools and music schools**

In August 2014 a comprehensive reform of the Danish elementary school started. One of the intentions in the reform is, that the Music School should help to create a boost of professionalism in the music teaching in the elementary school, and that the value of music and art schools education has to be implemented in the educational system on an organizational level (co-operations between schools and music schools).

Music and art schools now has a place in the legal framework, as it is written in the agreement, that the public school and the music and art schools in the municipalities commit themselves to collaboration. In addition to this, in certain cases, the principal of the elementary school might permit a student to fulfill his/her compulsory education by music lessons at the municipality's music school. Music and art schools saw this as a unique opportunity and were immediately ready to implement the law in specific agreements between the schools.

Unfortunately, many elements of the reform of elementary school - especially a new collective agreement for the teachers working hours - requires a lot of focus on basic school management. As a result of that, a lot of the schools were not ready to collaborate with the music and art schools right away, and we are working hard to get the intentions in this part of the reform fulfilled for now.

**Best practice and hope for the future**

However, in many municipalities we see fine examples of a positive development, where the elementary and music schools break new ground to the benefit of both teachers and pupils.

Our hope is, that we will see a lot more of that kind of fruitful interaction in the years to come.

Find inspiration for cooperation here: [www.skolemix.dk](http://www.skolemix.dk)



## **Estonian Music School Unions activities in 2015**

1. Project. Republic of Estonia Government Office. Estonian Republic 100th Anniversary - The joint gift "An Instrument for Every Child". Meetings:

- \* 14th January
- \* 13th May
- \* 4th February
- \* 23th March. Projects festive introduction in Old Town Music House, Tallinn.

2. 11th February. **Conference on Music Education.** Türi Cultural Centre

3. Competition „**Best Young Interpret**“

- \* 21th February – 8th March regional competitions in the music schools around Estonia,.
- \* 13-14th March. Final of the Estonian Music School Union competition „Best Young Interpret 2015“ in Heino Eller Music School.
- \* 6th May 2015 and 23th September Meeting with the representatives of the instruments associations. Subjects – coordinate the rules and compulsory works of the competition 2015
- \* 14th October announcing compulsory works and rules of the competition and regionals competitions schedule

4. 10.-11th June 2015 **General assembly** in Põltsamaa

5. 15th October. **Festive event in Heino Eller Music School for best music schools teachers**, six of them were awarded with special prizes Valdo Rüütelmaa, Liis Mäevälja, Aigar Kostabi, Birgit Kägu, Ene Nael, Ivar Säde

## **6. EMU**

- \* 14-16 May; 40th General Assembly and Conference in Luxembourg; EMU Board Elections 2015 Urvi Haasma, Silja Aavik, Kadri Leivategija
- \* 2-3th October. Board meeting & Meeting of the Boards. Berlin Kadri Leivategija, Kalev Vaidla
- \* 16.-17th October. Capacity Building Seminar in Tallinn

## **7. Meetings:**

- \* 14th January Meeting in Estonian Youth Work Centre. Project Varait. Edgar Schlümmer, Kadri Leivategija, Mirje Mändla
- \* 19th January. Meeting in Estonian Ministry of Education and Research Youth Affairs Department Head Anne Kivimäe. Kadri Leivategija
- \* 19th March. Meeting with Estonian Culture Employees' Unions' Confederation. Kadri Leivategija, Mirje Mändla
- \* Meeting with Laine Randjärv, Estonian Parliament and Peep Lassmaan, Estonian Music and Theatre Academy. Subject: additional funding to pay teachers salaries in 2017
- \* 17th August. Estonian Qualifications Authority. Kadri Leivategija

## **8. Others:**

- \* 19th-20th February Kadri Leivategija, Kalev Vaidla, Tiia Parmo, Mall Türk and Mirje Mändla attended the conference of nonformal education „Mis tuuled puhuvad“ in Kuressaare.
- \* 16th June Estonian String Associations assembly in Tallinn. Kalev Vaidla, Mirje Mändla

## **9. Estonian Music School Union board meetings:**

- 1th January. Hotel Tähetorni, Tallinn
- 7th February. Estonian Music and Theatre Academy
- 6th April. Estonian Music and Theatre Academy

30th April. Estonian Music and Theatre Academy  
6th May 2015 Estonian Music and Theatre Academy  
3th June 2015 Estonian Music and Theatre Academy  
25th June 2015 Estonian Music and Theatre Academy  
17th August 2015 Klaaspärimäng, Tallinn  
23th September 2015 Estonian Music and Theatre Academy  
6th October 2015 Estonian Music and Theatre Academy



#### **Activities 2015**

##### **Nuori soittaa! -festival (Youth plays! Festival)**

The Association of Finnish Music Schools organized a 3-day music festival event for youth orchestras and ensembles nationwide in Kuopio. More than 100 orchestras and ensembles and more than 2000 young players participated in the festival.

##### **Theme year for orchestral instruments 2015**

Preparations and implementation of the project which aims to promote the playing of orchestral instruments and safeguard the future of the Finnish youth orchestras.

##### **Curriculum for music technology**

Working group supported by national Board of Education prepared curriculum for music technology in music schools nationwide.

##### **Cooperation between different arts in arts education**

The Association of Finnish Music Schools in collaboration with the associations of other arts schools started to prepare a web based art education calendar which will be published 2017 when Finland is celebrating its 100 years of independency. Art education calendar is bringing to the spotlight young people as artists in artistic video clips (including all arts) with students telling in their own words what culture and art means for them today.

##### **Nordic collaboration**

Preparation of the Nordic Ministers Council agenda for the year 2016 when Association of Finnish Music Schools is hosting a Nordic Ministers Council meeting in Helsinki. The focus of the seminar will be in arts education.

##### **Strategy seminar of the board and meeting of the national boards of EMU member associations**

The board of the Association of Finnish Music Schools held a strategy seminar in October in Berlin and participated in the meeting of the national boards of the member associations of EMU.

## FRANCE

Fédération Française de l'Enseignement Musical, Chorégraphique et Théâtral (FFEM)



### The « volte-face » of the French Ministry of Culture

In 2015, the French State had decided to cut off its subsidies to the main part of the Music Schools, in order to dedicate its financing only to art higher education, especially to the « Conservatoires Nationaux Supérieurs » of Paris and Lyon.

Thanks to a large commitment of many actors in the field of culture, especially the trade unions of directors and the national associations like FFEM, the French Government decided in 2016 to go back on its decision and to fund again the Music, Dance and Theatre Schools listed by State.

In addition, it seems that the horrible terrorist attacks in France last year pointed out the necessity of a large and deep cultural education all over the country.

Because of the financial crisis, many politicians are used to cut off the budgets of art education. But the real question could be in the future: what would be the cost of a society without art education?

### EMU Presidium in Nice

Last January, the French National Association (FFEM) hosted the Presidium of EMU in the historical and wonderful city of Nice. The FFEM office is now located in Nice, so it was a good opportunity for a very rich meeting between EMU and FFEM Boards. Many subjects were broached and some ideas were highlighted, such as a « Night of the Music Schools » all over Europe, in the manner of « La Nuit des Conservatoires » in France.

### New projects and new challenges for the French Association (FFEM)

The main goal of the FFEM is to propose pedagogical curricula which can be a reference for any Music, Dance and Theatre School in France, a country which counts one of the largest and most diverse art education networks in Europe.

The recent discussion with the Ministry of Culture concerning the funding of the Music Schools, pointed out that you are really stronger and heard when you are united. For the first time in France, the main art education associations worked hand in hand, and the result was a big success! This is why the FFEM will continue to work on a closer cooperation between all Schools, Directors, Teachers and Users associations.

Finally, the last General Assembly of the FFEM took place on April 1<sup>st</sup> in the new high-profile institution of « La Philharmonie de Paris ». This wonderful new Concert Hall also provides many pedagogical activities towards the Music Schools, the families and the disabled and underprivileged people. A possible new partnership for the FFEM!

## GERMANY

### VdM Verband deutscher Musikschulen e.V.



#### Fields of activities in 2015

- The support program “Kultur macht stark! Bündnisse für Bildung” (Culture makes strong! Alliances for education) from the federal ministry of education and research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF) encourages educationally deprived children and teenager especially in the field of cultural education. The VdM realized within this program its own concept “MusikLeben!” (MusicLife!). For a period of five years the BMBF provides the VdM a grant of 20 million Euro for the projects of „MusikLeben“.
- The VdM main congress occurred from May 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Münster (NorthRhine-Westphalia). Topic of the congress was “MusicLife – Heritage.Diversity.Future” (the same as at the German Music school Day). The General-assembly took place in Münster on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The assembly focussed on the progress of “inclusion” and - within the framework of the music school congress – the new “Leitbild” – the key vision of music schools in the VdM - has been concluded. The declaration demands for assurance of structures and resources for keeping quality and access to public music schools and for protection of the conditions of music education.
- In 2015 the VdM forced the networks with political partner organizations and professional associations.
- The “Deutsche Streicherphilharmonie” (DSP), the German national youth string orchestra for 70 music school talents, has given many important concerts in Germany’s big concert halls
- In 2015 the German music competition for children and adolescents “Jugend musiziert” took place in Hamburg, with the highest number of participants in its history. The VdM, its regional associations and the music schools are supporting “Jugend musiziert” on regional, federal and national level.
- In cooperation with the German Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and WDR 3 (West German Broadcasting, Cologne) in 2015 the media prize of the VdM “LEOPOLD- Gute Musik für Kinder” has been awarded to numerous productions of high quality. The LEOPOLD celebrated this time its 20-year-anniversary.
- The renewal and all-round-modernization of the VdM internet portal was 2014 and 2015 followed by some special applications for member music schools and by implementation of facebook and twitter.
- Advanced training for music school executives has been continued; the already existing seminars for executives have been carried on.
- The new curricula for clarinet and for *composition/music theory* have been worked out in 2015.
- As every year VdM was represented at the Frankfurt Music Fair.
- The Quality Management for Music Schools (QsM) has been implemented in further schools. Since the development of QsM in 2000, ca. 130 music schools have started to work with it.
- The German music school day was 2015 organized between June 19th and 21st (topic: “MusikLeben – Erbe. Vielfalt.Zukunft” wich means “MusicLife – Heritage.Diversity.Future”). As a nationwide action for public relation the VdM-member schools opened their doors.

Open air concerts, open house presentations, trial lessons, international youth orchestra movements and more activities were organized within these days.

In 2015 932 member schools (in 2014 930) at more than 4000 locations were united in the Verband deutscher Musikschulen (VdM).

2016 the general assembly takes place on April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Oldenburg. The music school congress will be organized in May 2017 in Stuttgart.

President of the VdM is Prof. Ulrich Rademacher.

Vice president is Friedrich-Koh Dolge (board member EMU).

The secretary of the association is Matthias Pannes.

VdM is represented in the German Music Council, in the German Culture Council, in the National Association for Children and Youth Cultural Education (BKJ) and many other national organisations.

## ITALY

### AIdSM - Associazione Italiana delle Scuole di Musica



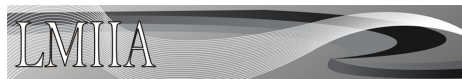
#### National Report Activities 2015

- In January 2015 AIdSM has been invited to Italian Parliament (Senate) for relating on the music school system in Italy in order to make recognition of pre-academic music education.
- Over the years AIdSM aimed at promoting a new law regarding minimum requirements for music schools. It was submitted first in 2007 and again over the last few years with numerous amendments.
- The proposal of a law on Music schools in Italy has been taken over and sustained by Elena Ferrara, senator of Democratic Party. AIdSM has been invited to a meeting organized on this issue in Emilia Romagna in May.
- AIdSM is member of the National Forum for music education. The Forum gets together many Italian associations in the field of music education. It was born to create a permanent space for discussion and for the promotion of shared initiatives and projects at national and international level.
- AIdSM Giornate della Didattica (Meetings on music education)
  - Teachers training: *Popular Music at school (Popular music at school)*
  - Music and Disability: Seminar on *Music and Dyslexia*
  - Synergy between Music schools, Conservatories and Universities for the future of music education (Prato and Bozen)
  - Management of music schools after *Jobs Act* reform (June and November)
- In June *Assonanza* organized a meeting of music schools *Onde Sonore* in Cesenatico (Emilia-Romagna) in cooperation with AIdSM.
- In September AIdSM organized the 22nd Season of concerts in S. Lorenzo Cathedral in Florence with music schools students performing.
- AIdSM participated to *CremonaMusica*, the major music instruments exhibition in Italy. Concerts, seminars, ateliers were organized. Ensembles from AIdSM music schools performed in the exhibition venues.

## LATVIA

### Latvijas Mūzikas izglītības iestāžu asociācija – LMIIA

Association of Latvian Musical Educational Establishments



During this period of time Association of Latvian Musical Educational Establishments (LMIIA) continued to work in connection with the regaining the necessary amount of the state funding for Latvian music schools; participated in the discussions and the consultations about the projects of Latvian laws and regulations; provided proposals to the state, municipal and social institutions in connection with music education issues; took care of the coworkers' professional growth and continuing education.

#### January, 2015

In January LMIIA informed the Ministry of Culture (MC), the National Center of Culture (NCC), the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG), the Saeima Education culture and Science committee (Saeima) about the unfair situation, even at this moment, of the music schools and secondary music schools, when the state does not provide the funding for the schools' curriculum according to the accredited programs.

The main issue still remained moving the amendments to the MC Rules (which regulate the funding for Latvian music and art schools). Unfortunately the Minister for Culture missed the political will and trust in music professionals about the movement of this issue, this is the reason why the issue is still not resolved.

#### February

The meeting of LMIIA council members with the officials of the national authorities connected with the resolution of the previously mentioned issue.

The General meeting of LMIIA, in which the report about the previous year was announced and the tasks for the next period were set.

#### March

The LMIIA President's meeting with the representatives of Saeima concerning the issue of the funding for music schools. The letter in connection with the Latvian Music Award (an annual award to the best Latvian musicians) nominations expansion with the nomination The Best Music Teacher was sent to MC. Thus making a practical step in Latvian music teachers' recognition and promoting their profession's prestige.

#### April

The cooperation with MC about the issue of regaining the funding for the music schools is in progress. The reform of the teacher's salary system is commenced; accordingly LMIIA involves in this work, which continues during the whole year.

#### May

11. - 14. 05 the Europe music forum is held in Riga; in which the deputy of LMIIA Dace Štrodaha participates.

15., 16. 05 the European Music Schools Association (EMU) General Assembly takes place in Luxembourg, in which LMIIA president Aivars Broks and Dace Štrodaha participate. In the Assembly the accent is focused on the actual cooperation among EMU countries. Latvia proposes cooperation with Baltic countries (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), the Czech Republic and Poland.

On 25.05 the MC Order about the foundation of Culture - Education council (CEC) is issued. 23 representatives from different Latvian culture and education establishments are elected in this council; the task of which is to formulate Latvian culture-education aims and goals, and to propose practical advice for strengthening and developing the culture-education sphere. Aivars Broks was elected from LMIIA. Thanks to the CEC the LMIIA could express their opinion about the musical education funding issues and affect their favorable direction.



#### June and July

The LMIIA proposals connected with the project documents of the new salary reform of Latvian teachers were handed in to Latvian Ministry of Education and Science (LMES) and Latvian Education and Science Labour Union (LESLU).

The Minister for Culture Dace Melbārde is invited to the Latvian music and art school and secondary school principals' annual meeting; the aim of invitation is to explain the principals why the ministry is hindering the implementation of the rules and regulations the aim of which is to regain the funding which has been cut down during the crisis.

#### August

On August, 21 the annual meeting of Latvian music and art school principals' in which the LMIIA demands the state officials to give answers to the questions important to all schools- funding, the regulations of the payment for the teachers' work, CEC aims and tasks, the foundation of the planned music and art Competency centers.

#### September and October

LMIIA gathers the necessary statistic data connected with the CEC activities: concerning the state commission in culture-education (the amount of students), the new model of the teachers' salary, the work quality criteria for the schools and secondary schools.

#### November and December

LMIIA participates in the work of the consulting committee of MC, which makes proposals about the funding distribution for the music and art schools for the following 2016.

LMIIA actively participates in the work of Association of Latvian Orchestras (ALO), both practically and morally. In the board of administration of ALO there are also members of ALMEE.

On November, 6 and 7 in Daugavpils at Latvian Culture Center the Second ALO Festival, assembling about 600 new members of orchestra, is taking place. The Festival gathered ALO members – youth and amateur symphonic orchestra, chamber orchestra and string orchestra, as well as guest band from Estonian Symphony Orchestras Association.

#### January, 2016

LMIIA hands in the letter to the State Culture Capital Foundation (SCCF) and to the MC about the necessity to resume SCCF special purpose program 'The Improvement of the material equipment for the Musical Educational Establishments', which would give the possibility for Latvian music schools to purchase state paid music instruments every year. Consequently the program is resumed in March.

#### February

On February, 25 the LMIIA holds report–reelection general meeting in which they report about the previous period, elect the new LMIIA council and the Audit commission, accept the necessary documents-letters and set the tasks for the following years.

The letter to the President of Latvia, to members of Cabinet of Ministers, to LNCC was sent requesting not to obstruct rules and regulation connected with the regaining the state funding for the music and art schools in the amount which was before the crisis.

New members are admitted at the association, the number of members is now 87 – music schools, music and art schools, music secondary schools.

#### March

LMIIA sends their candidate to SCCF for SCCF field expert work, which is connected with sharing the money SCCF has among different SCCF projects. The projects are organized 4-6 times a year; music schools and secondary schools can also participate in these projects, thus improving their material equipment and creative work.

LMIIA Council President  
March, 2016

Aivars Broks

## LUXEMBOURG

### Association des Ecoles de Musique du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg



For the very first time in his history, the Music School Association of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg had the honour to welcome the 40th edition of the general meeting of the EMU from the 13th to the 17th may. This event was a real challenge for the 8 member schools of our small association. The main topic „Heritage – Diversity – Future“ was treated in several discussion groups and an interesting cultural program, that included a public music festival in Luxembourg-City and a concert at the Philharmonie with the « Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg » in collaboration with the best Luxemburgish students, took place.

Our cooperation with the VdM Saar and VdM Rheinland-Pfalz was expanded and a first piano contest with encouraging results for the pupils of the 3 associations was organised.

A large part of our mission consisted in defending the interests of the music schools as member of the « National Program Commission » and in several working group.

A number of interesting concerts have been organised with pupils, such as orchestra meetings, « students on stage », « choir singing day » ...

A delegation of the association participated at the EMU board member meeting in Berlin.

Finally, the AEM offered continuing education for teachers, very often in collaboration with the government department of culture.

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

### **Cultuurconnectie**

#### **Highlights 2015**

2015 was a special year for our association, the first year of the new merged organization that arose from the cooperation between BNVU and Kunstconnectie. By the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2015 we go on as Cultuurconnectie, the trade association for cultural education, amateur arts and community college work.

This merger is an important step towards further broadening our scope and working area and a starting point for the collaboration with libraries and theaters, which are the most likely partners to closely work together on a local level. Together with museums, art galleries, music venues, opera houses and many other partners we are beginning to lift the barriers at the national level, for example in terms of working conditions, quality assurance and benchmarking. And together we have started the joint lobbying and advocacy activities. At the level of the 'vertical' cooperation partnerships with other sectors, such as sport, health and welfare were investigated.

Although 2015 was a year in which we were thinking of a revival of the economy and some light at the end of the tunnel for our industries and its workers, there unfortunately has not been a substantial recovery. The recent years have not been easy for local cultural enterprises and adult education work. The economic crisis, significant cuts from all levels of government, decreasing purchasing power of our customers and political, fiscal and economic measures, were not favorable for doing successful and profitable business, and resulted in a very skimpy climate. With results in a substantial decline in employment, a drastically lower income for teachers and forced bankruptcies for our member organizations. Our members have shown resilience and creativity, adapted to a changed local situation and have developed in very different ways, from traditional, more supply-oriented organizations to demand-driven companies with new markets and partners. Many have been transformed by companies with a large staff on a permanent basis to organizations with a flexible pool of freelancers. Quite a number of organizations also transformed from extra-curricular provider to an in-school provider or an intermediary for schools. The new mission statement of a unifying, innovative and sometimes facilitating role in a broad field of clients, partners and various stakeholders called for necessary adjustments. The changes in our society, such as the flexibility of labor, changing leisure activities and an aging society, also made it necessary that the social and intrinsic value of our work was to be considered in a broader perspective. Also job security and sustainability/affordability of existing workers benefits, such as pensions, and (health) insurance became more and more under pressure.

It is expected that the further development of this new role (s) and of the associated business models and joint ventures, is a significant step forward in the development of the sector will be as a whole. A sector that by doing so will be able to stabilize and recover. The national system of centers for the arts, music schools and adult education centers in the new environment provides an excellent foundation for the local and cultural infrastructure to build on and to engage in intensive forms of cooperation. They thereby combine social tasks in an innovative way with a healthy dose of cultural entrepreneurship.

The proposed activities and results of the association have been implemented broadly in line with the work plan 2015. Successfully, despite the pressure on the board and the office due to changes in the governance structure and conduct in occupancy in the office. We have focused at the staffing of the office organization and on the composition of a strategic long-term plan for the future direction of the industry and the conception of the National Cultural Education Framework. There was a lot of commitment on the negotiation of new collective workers agreement (CAO) for Art Education. The proposals relating to membership dues, quality assurance and certification asked a lot of our people. Cooperation with other sectors also took up the necessary time and attention. We recognize the value of working with other industry associations, our time and energy will certainly continue along this line in 2016. Cultuurconnectie will remain very active in lobbying and advocacy work to ensure good infrastructure and coverage in the Netherlands.

#### **Other items / results in 2015:**

- A new collective employment agreement (CAO) for the workers in arts education.

- Political interest for cultural education, amateur art practice and its desired consolidation. Building a collaborative relationship with the political parties at a national level, resulting in the conception of a national framework for Cultural Education in the Netherlands.
- The further development of the national certificate and examination for Harmonies, Fanfares and Brassbands (HaFaBra) by the steering group Training Amateur Music (ROA), who has been working on the harmonization of the national guidelines and the training and exam performance practice.
- Advising on and promoting quality assurance and certification.
- Making a model-agreement for free-lancers with the national tax institute of The Netherlands.
- Expansion of the benchmark system KAnS.
- Further development of collective promotion of art practices such as the nationwide public awareness campaign IkTOON.
- Representation in FC (federation of employers' associations in the cultural sector), which provides information about numerous matters essential to employers, employment and entrepreneurship, and a channel for lobbying and policy-influencing.
- Building relations with organisations in the policy environment of art education: the national advisory board to the department of Culture (*Raad voor Cultuur*), the national cultural participation fund (*Fonds Cultuurparticipatie*), the national knowledge institute for cultural education and the amateur arts (*LKCA*) and the national youth culture fund (*Nationale Jeugdcultuurfonds*).
- Cultuurconnectie participates in the *European Music School Union (EMU)*, Willem van Moort (director BplusC, Leiden), is member of the EMU board.
- Cultuurconnectie participates in Arts4All, a network for art schools across Europe, and is member of Culture Action Europe and Amateo (the European organisation for amateur art) and participates (indirectly through Willem van Moort) in the International Music School Seminar (IMS).

Business review is based on Strategic plan 2020 with these strategy areas:

- A. *The School of Music and Performing Arts in society***
- B. *Development of the art- and cultural subjects***
- C. *Development of Norwegian Organisation of Music and Performing Arts***

**A. The School of Music and Performing Arts in society**

The dialogue with the national political level is good and developing positively. A concrete result in 2015 is that the licence for our Organisation was increased by NOK 3.000.000,- for 2016.

Further priority area is to assist the different political parties in the work with designing their manifesto for the parliamentary election 2017. There is a great potential in the manifestoes, and the communication is good. The parties' political manifestoes are also of importance for the focus on municipal level.

Our work with the implementation of the new curriculum is received positively in the different political environments.

**Cooperation with *Kommunenes Sentralforbund* (The central association of Norwegian municipalities)**

During 2015, the cooperation with KS has been utterly strengthened. In 2016, we work for a common position in one of our counties, and also national tasks for KS within the field of The School of Music and Performing Arts. There are great expectations for this work.

**B. Development of art- and cultural subjects**

The annual meeting adoption of a new national curriculum has been the main focus in 2015. There are also developed new curriculums in the following subjects:

- = *Music*
- = *Theatre*
- = *Dance*
- = *Creative Writing*
- = *Visual Arts subjects*

This is a necessary process although work is comprehensive and requires a lot of resources. There are great expectations on municipality level in our organisation. Meetings and conferences out in the municipalities during the on-going process, chooses to focus on work that has to be done on this level when the national plan is set.

These plans are circulated for comments during springtime 2016, and work will be completed before autumn 2016.

**C. Development of the Organisation**

The Norwegian Organisation of the Schools of Music and Performing Arts is in an interesting perspective shift in 2015/16.

All employees have during 2015 focused on becoming an organisation with fewer duties, and collaboration in the duties needed to be done. In this new way of organising work, we will have better offers to our member municipalities, which again will be of use for more leaders and pedagogues.

The employees have also been organised geographically in teams. Team North, Team Midst, Team South/West and Team East. The thought behind this is to give the regional consultants and national

consultants of the organisation the opportunity of a work fellowship and a wider competence especially when it comes to regional focus areas. These areas might be talent development, regional focus days for The Schools of Music and Performing Arts, leadership development etc.

## **POLAND**

### **Ogólnopolskie Stowarzyszenie Szkół Muzycznych**

The Polish Association of Music Schools



#### **March 2015**

General Assembly of The PAMS outlining the yearly work plan for 2016.

The Chairman of The PAMS , dr Antoni Guran greeted new members.

The new election of the Board was also run , however, no changes among the Board were introduced.

Along the meeting the most important issues concerning new school year 2015/2016 were discussed, mainly:

1. The implementation of the new music education reform in Poland in 2014
2. The reports from the conference of the 39<sup>th</sup> GA EMU Meeting in Berlin in December 2014
3. Discussing the problems of 40<sup>th</sup> GA EMU Meeting in Luxemburg
4. Discussing the preparations for the V4 Meeting in Prague in April 2015

#### **April 2015**

The meeting of the PAMS and EMU members in Prague during the 4<sup>th</sup> V4 Conference. The topics were:

1. Early childhood music education
2. Group pedagogy
3. Music education for very talented children
4. Specialized music education for children and students with special needs
5. Music education for elderly people
7. Net pedagogy and distance learning

#### **May 2015**

1. The participation of the PAMS Board in 39th GA EMU in Luxemburgu

#### **June 2015**

1. The meeting of the PAMS in Przemyśl.
2. The reports from the meetings in Prague and Luxemburg.

#### **September 2015**

1. The meeting OSSM w Przemyślu.
  2. Summarizing the school year 2014/2015.
  3. Adopting the resolution about joining the 40<sup>th</sup> GA EMU in San Sebastian and taking part in the XII European Youth Music Festival.
- General matters.

#### **October 2015**

1. The meeting with the representative of The Ministry of Culture.
2. Discussing the next steps of the artistic education reforms and the problems of music schools
3. Establishing the agenda of the works for 2016

## SERBIA

### Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia



During the year 2015 The Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia performed following activities:

#### **NATIONAL COMPETITION AND FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND BALLET SCHOOLS OF SERBIA**

From 17th to 31st March of the year 2015 The Association has successfully organized and realized **National Competition**, gathering more than 1000 participants in the following disciplines: piano (306 participants), chamber ensembles (43 ensembles, 147 participants), solo singing (135 participants), trumpet (61 participants), tube and trombone (20 participants), saxophone (37 participants), oboe (23 participants), clarinet (64 participants), horn (25 participants), flute (166 participants), bassoon (11 participants), orchestra (17 orchestras). Competitors were judged by international jury and the level of the competition was on exceptionally high level.

**Festival of Music Schools** was held from 7th to 13th May in Negotin. 55 schools from Serbia took part in the Festival, which is organized very professionally and in the best possible way. **Festival of Ballet Schools** was held in Pančevo and all ballet schools from Serbia took part in this manifestation.

#### **COOPERATION WITH EMU**

In May 2015, at the EMU Assembly, Serbian delegate Aleksandar Đurić was elected for one of the members of the EMU Presidency. With this election, cooperation of our country with EMU became more powerful and effective. As a delegate for the Assembly was elected Slađana Šegavčić, the president of The Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia.

#### **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

The Association was very operational when it comes to the organization of professional trainings and seminars. During November, series of accredited seminars was organized twice in Vrujci Resort, for 120 professors and principals of music and ballet schools.

#### **WEB PRESENTATION**

The Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia presents its activities on website [www.zmbss.org](http://www.zmbss.org), where you can see all the information about the past, current and following activities.

#### **PRESIDENCY**

The Association Presidency held 8 meetings during the year 2015, where it was considered the organisation and realisation of planned activities, collaboration between different regions of Serbia and collaboration with other regional associations. The meetings were often attended by the representatives of Ministry of Education, who participated in the arrangements of all the activities of schools during the year 2015.

#### **ASSEMBLY**

There were two Assemblies of The Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia, in accordance with the Statue of The Association.

All the activities were successfully realized, according to the plan for the year 2015.



## SLOVAKIA

Asociácia základných umeleckých škôl Slovenskej republiky "EMU Slovakia"

Association of Elementary Schools of Arts of Slovak Republic "EMU Slovakia" (AESR)



### Activities of the Association of Elementary Schools of Arts of Slovak Republic "EMU-Slovakia" in 2015.

The first meeting of the presidium and the Supervisory Board of AESR SR was held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Bratislava. The discussion was mainly focused on the draft of changes of the coefficients for music school's pupils in favor of individual education. The Presidium also prepared the program of General Assembly of AESR.

The 10<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the AESR SR "EMU -Slovakia" was held from April 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in High Tatras. The new „National Training Programme of Music and Arts Schools“ valid from September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and especially the mandatory technical equipment of the schools were the main focus of the GA. The inspector of the State School Inspection called attention to the most often revealed deficiencies during the inspections at the Elementary Schools of Arts. The Resolutions of General Assembly AESR SR were submitted to the Minister of Education as well as to other representatives of the Ministry of Education.

President of the AESR addressed a letter to the State Secretary of the Ministry of Education (August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015) with an urgent request to solve the problems of Music and Art Schools in Slovakia. The State Secretary emphasized in her response that the Music and Arts Schools are original competences of municipalities and that's why these problems have to be solved by the municipalities.

Minister of Education organized two round table discussions with the representatives of Slovak schools in 2015 focused on the development and problems of schools in the recent year. President of AESR Anna Gondášová participated in both of them. She handed over a written document stating the most serious and long-term unsolved problems of the Music and Arts Education to the Minister.

The School Inspector Viera Kalmárová asked the President of AESR to provide the highest quality teachers from different departments of Elementary Schools of Arts for cooperation in carrying out inspection activities.

Creation a job (although only part-time) for the representative of the Music School at the State Pedagogical Institute is one of the few fulfilled points the Resolutions of the GA of AESR.

Evaluation of the project "Spreading experience of the best teachers - EduArt" took place on 24. 25. 11. 2015 in Banská Bystrica. There was only one active and awarded representative of the Elementary Schools of Art in this project.

Several regions regularly organize their meetings, which deal with current issues of art education. The regional meeting held at the Music School in Nitra was attended by President of AESR SR Anna Gondášová and the representative of the Ministry of Education Ján Palkovič.

Anna Gondášová  
President of AESR SR

### International activities of AESR SR "EMU Slovakia in 2015.

The meeting of the representatives of V4 countries within the EMU took place on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in Prague. The participants of the meeting prepared presentations mapping the situation in their countries in fields of group pedagogy, net pedagogy, early childhood music education, music

education for children with special needs as well as for exceptionally talented children and elderly people. It was a great opportunity to compare and evaluate the differences.

The meeting of the V4 group in Prague was immediately followed by the "Capacity building seminar" of the European Music School Union for teachers of the music schools. The seminar "Many learners, many pedagogies" thematically followed the previous EMU seminars with music - educational themes in 2013 and 2014. Speakers of the seminar were renowned international specialists with hands-on experience in their fields. Both meetings were attended by Anna Gondášová and Mária Slaninová.

The General Assembly and Conference of EMU: "Heritage, Diversity, Future" in Luxembourg was attended by the President and Secretary of AESA (Anna Gondášová and Mária Slaninová).

During the General Assembly we had a meeting with the President of the Hungarian Union of Music Schools. We arranged some organizational details of the upcoming Hungarian - Slovak joint concert dedicated to the 70th anniversary of death of Béla Bartók. The beautiful concert was held in the Great Hall of the Academy of Franz Liszt in Budapest on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015 with the participation of the highest political and pedagogical representatives. The concert program presented the well known piano cycle "For children" by B. Bartok, which was inspired by the Hungarian and Slovak folk songs. Pupils of Hungarian Music Schools performed the pieces written on topics of Hungarian folk songs. Performance of the pieces inspired by Slovak folk songs by 10 pianists from the Slovak Music and Arts Schools was a great success.

We would once again like to express our great gratitude for the invitation to this magnificently organized Hungarian - Slovak joint project. We believe that the successful cooperation between MZMSz and AESA SR will continue in the future.

Starting from September the preliminary applications to the EMUSIK Festival were collected. Eight ensembles from Slovakia were accepted. The EMUSIK Festival will take place in May 2016 in San Sebastian (Spain).

Mária Slaninová  
Secretary of AESA SR



2015 ANNUAL REPORT  
THE SLOVENIAN MUSIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION (SMSA)

The Slovenian Music School Association (SMSA) represents all public music schools, primary and secondary grades as well as private music schools that meet the criteria for membership. The membership is voluntary. There are 62 members – 54 from them are public and 8 private music schools. One of them is a Slovenian minority music school in Trieste, Italy. SMSA is a member of European Music School Union (EMU) since 1993.

### **SMSA MISSION**

One of the most important tasks of the SMSA is to promote the development of music education. SMSA is committed to the rights of teachers and principals who selflessly spread the culture of music among youth and form an important link in the development and perception of musical art in Slovenia.

Consequently, the prominent task of SMSA is the development of musical culture in the country. So we organize various musical events, festivals and competitions for young musicians.

SMSA is obligated to raise the interest of the competent authorities and the public on questions of music education in general. It ensures a constant presence and appearance in public media.

### **ACTIVITIES**

In 2015 SMSA realized its plans and goals in accordance with its resolution successfully.

The SMSA Annual award for the best music school teachers or principals (named Fran Gerbič prize) took place in April. The 12th award ceremony was attended by President of the Republic of Slovenia, representatives of the Ministry of education, science and sport, music school principals and teachers and national and local media representatives.

SMSA was officially presented at the anniversaries, concerts, competitions and festivals of Slovenian Music schools.

SMSA organized Price winner's concerts of the 43<sup>rd</sup> National Music competition, 18<sup>th</sup> Region, 44<sup>th</sup> National Music competition the young musicians and 12<sup>th</sup> National competition of ballet dancers. It turns out that Slovenian Music schools "produced" (educated, trained) many young musical talents with an excellent platform for continued international music career.

### **COOPERATION**

SMSA worked very close with various groups, unions, teams and organisations.

Ministry of culture and Ministry of education, science and sport – relations with the government are very good.

National Commission of Music – SMSA worked with the commission to research the music system for continuous improvement. National Commission of Music renovated programmes and objects for Music conservatory.

Zavod Republike Slovenije za Šolstvo (ZRSŠ) - Institution for improvement of professional, technical and educational systems in Slovenia assisted SMSA in our quest for improvements.

The Slovenian National commission for the competition (TEMSIG).

Education, Science and Culture Trade Union of Slovenia.

Union of Principals of Primary schools and the Music schools - Two delegates attended meetings, represented our interests and resolved any issues with this union.

European Music School Union (EMU).

In 2015 SMSA organized monthly meetings of the Presidium and two general meetings, in April and in October.

Boris Štih,  
President SMSA

Since its foundation in 1999, UEMYD's main goal has always been to become a representative force in the Spanish music education field.

In order to achieve that, we are working to make new regional music school associations join UEMYD and promoting the creation of new ones in regions where they do not exist. But the economical situation and the general trend of Spanish government of cutting budgets in the education and culture sector induced important difficulties in this attempt.

Of course, this year our efforts have been dedicated to the Festival Emusik 2016 which will take place in Donostia and surroundings. Uemyd has made different tasks to spread the festival 's news in Spain, as well as in government institutions.

In order to continue with the work of UEMYD, we focused our activities in these areas:

1. Research area:

- Actualization of the data base of music and education sector in Spain

2. Participation area:

- Partnering with the European Youth Music Festival
- Participation in EMU GA in Luxembourg in May 2016
- Participation in EMU "meeting of the boards" in Berlin in Oct 2016
- Regular contacts with the Ministry of Education and the Federation of municipalities and Provinces

3. Information area:

- further development of the [www.uemyd.es](http://www.uemyd.es) website and social networks (facebook)

4. Internal structure:

- General Meeting in Donostia in 2015

The Swedish Arts Schools Council (Kulturskolerådet) is a politically independent, non-profit association offering a collaborative platform for municipalities hosting arts schools. The vision of the Council is that all children and youth should be offered equal opportunities for personal development through easily accessible arts-based activities of high quality.

**Priority areas for 2015-2018:**

- Children's right to practice their culture and arts
- Competence (initial training of teachers and managers and skills development)
- National coordination of statistics, knowledge and quality
- Research-based development

**Ongoing projects:**

- Mentoring – “In your shoes”

The project aims to strengthen children's cultural performers through mutual mentoring. Children and professional artists are working together. Children with disabilities are priorities in the project. City of Kalix, Gävle and El Sistema (Gothenburg) are involved in the project.

- **Refugee children who arrive alone**

The aim of the project is to provide unaccompanied or newly arrived (refugees) better living conditions through culture school activities. Culture Schools in 14 municipalities (first year) shall change and renew their practices to included young refugees.

**Facts:**

- In the 290 municipalities in Sweden there are 283 arts schools.
- Seven municipalities have no arts school.
- The local municipality/local organization runs the school. No national regulation or laws apply.
- More than 200 000 children/youths will be reached by the local music and arts schools every week.
- The fee per term is in average 653 SEK (65 €)
- The schools have about 5.000 teachers.
- 64 % girls, 36 % boys

## **National Report 2015-2016**

### **1. General information**

This National Report also covers the Liechtenstein Music School in Liechtenstein, which is a member of the Association of Swiss Music Schools (ASMS) and instructs approximately 2,700 students.

The Association of Swiss Music Schools serves as the umbrella organisation for the 24 cantonal associations, which represent all 26 cantons and their music schools. 432 music schools with 12,500 instructors teach approximately 280,000 music students. By comparison, 900,400 children and young people in Switzerland attended school at the primary and secondary I levels this school year. The music schools generate a total turnover of € 300,000,000, of which the public sector covers 58% on average and parents 42%. The ASMS generates a turnover of € 300,000. The departments for Management, Public Affairs, Pedagogy and Conferences, Communication and Marketing, and Services and Statistics worked very closely together on the major project "The Music School of Tomorrow".

### **2. Management**

#### **a. 40 years of the ASMS**

The year 2015 was a celebratory year for the Association. Since the "Year of the Clarinet" took place at the same time, the ASMS participated with the Swiss Wind Band Association in the Clarinet Bus, which was made available to all music schools in Switzerland. The ASMS Competition for Best Practices called upon music schools to submit their innovative projects, achieving great success. The award ceremony took place at the anniversary celebration in Biel in the presence of all presidents of the ASMS so far. EMU President Helena Maffli gave the ceremonial address.

#### **b. Implementation of the new constitutional article on music education**

From the report of the Federal Office of Culture, Parliament included only two topic areas in its debate on the 2016 – 2020 Culture Promotion Dispatch: the general promotion programme Youth and Music and the legislative basis for pricing at music schools. Both proposals represent a considerable challenge for the music schools: the Youth and Music programme should not call the professional work of the music schools into question, and the pricing law uses adult pricing as a reference point to determine pricing for children and young people. Despite intensive lobbying in Parliament, all attempts to correct the situation failed. A national advisory group, to which we belonged, worked on the drafting of the federal ordinance on the Youth and Music programme.

#### **c. Working Groups – National Conferences**

The Executive Committee chaired several working groups on the promotion of talent as part of the definition of pre-college, quality management at the music schools including the further development of quarte into an open label system, and statistics. The Executive Committee undertook intensive preparatory work for the 2016 Music Education Forum as well as a revision of the 2015 statistics.

### **3. Public Affairs**

#### **a. Delegates' Meetings and cantonal associations**

All cantonal associations are represented in the Delegates' Meeting. It met twice and positioned itself as an engaged body of the Association. As an umbrella association, the ASMS has networked on an ongoing basis with the cantonal associations through visits to the cantons.

#### **b. National and international cooperation**

The ASMS continues to cooperate with the Swiss music associations, the Swiss Music Council, the Swiss Music Journal, the youth+music association and suisse+music. Cooperation with the Swiss Orchestra Association gives the Swiss music schools free access to the online sheet music database. Together with the major amateur associations, the ASMS developed a charter for the promotion of cooperation projects. The ASMS also sits on the board of trustees of the Swiss Youth Music Competition.

International networking with the EMU takes place via the Executive Committee member Helena Maffli as well as Secretariat Co-Director Jovita Tuor and EMU Delegate Christine Bouvard Marty. Attendance of the EMU GA in Luxembourg and of the EMU Strategy Day in Berlin were a special enrichment of the ASMS's work.

### **4. Education and Research**

#### **a. Music Management education**

The fifth cohort of the Master of Advanced Studies in Music Management at the Bern University of the Arts has completed its studies. The ASMS's music school director training continues to be integrated within that programme and celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2015. Upon completion of at least three CAS (Certificate of Advanced Studies) modules, the ASMS grants the Music School Director ASMS diploma. So far, the ASMS has already conferred 103 Music School Director ASMS diplomas. The ASMS participated closely in the preparatory work for a DAS course of study in Western Switzerland in cooperation with the University of Music Lausanne (HEMU).

#### **b. ASMS documents**

The ASMS revised its overview of cantonal legislation on music schools as well as the cantonal profiles. The reports on access to music education and on music schools in figures are detailed national reference documents. A fact sheet on social insurances for cross-border commuters and foreign employees was also developed.

### **5. Conferences**

The annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the ASMS with the school managements took place in French-speaking Switzerland. The Executive Committee also met for a retreat with the Delegates' Bureau.

### **6. Communication and Marketing**

With 52 editorial pages, reporting in the Swiss Music Journal once again was the focus of media work. 35 of our own focus topics were published, usually in two languages. Media presence was expanded externally by means of press releases. 300-400 news items were reviewed each month as part of our media monitoring. Within the Association, the ASMS communicates directly with the music schools and other interested persons via the newsletter (11 issues in German and French). The focus is on transparent communication especially regarding current projects.

### **7. Support**

#### **a. Counselling and ASMS services**

The knowledgeable Secretariat is happy to assist interested persons on all issues relating to the organisation of the music schools and the cantons.



**b. Project Support**

The Secretariat Co-Directors actively participated in the four working groups of the overall project "The Music School of Tomorrow" in the areas of Communication, Promotion of Talent, Pedagogy, and Cooperation with Amateur Associations. Special projects included the development of **quarte** Open Label, the compilation of the ASMS statistics and the Italian-language website.

The 2015 ASMS year was characterised by many different activities by the Board, the Secretariat, and the working groups. The quick pace required by the Federal Office of Culture, the rough-and-tumble of politics, and the work-intensive major project "The Music School of Tomorrow" demanded a lot of everyone on the Board and in the Secretariat. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone, especially my colleagues on the Board, the Secretariat Co-Directors, and the participants in our projects.

**Association of Swiss Music Schools ASMS**

Christine Bouvard Marty  
President

Basel, March 2016

## LIST OF MEMBERS

The national associations of the European Music School Union represent

- 24 European countries
- 6000 public music schools
- 150'000 specialized teachers
- 3 million students under 25 years
- 1 million students over 25 years

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