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NATIONAL REPORTS MEMBERS EUROPEAN MUSIC SCHOOL UNION 2008 / 2009

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AUSTRIA

KOMU - Konferenz der Österreichischen Musikschulwerke

Report about the activities in Austria 2008

The main subject of the "Konferenz der österreichischen Musikschulwerke" (KOMU) in 2008 was the participation in the Parliamentary Enquete "ZukunftsMusik" on music and music education in June 2008. Other subjects were the continuing work on the new curriculum and the planning of the 34th EMU-General Assembly 2009 in Linz.

Parliamentary Enquete

Schools, music schools and other organisations were invited to the Austrian Parliament on the 3rd of June 2008 to take part in an enquete (hearing, consultation). The KOMU had the possibility to give its view on the main problems of music education in Austria, especially according to changes in the school system. This was the first time the KOMU could speak in Parliament.

The federal minister of education, Dr.Claudia Schmied, listened to all statements and as a result of the enquete initiated the working group "Musik und Bildung" (music and education) to work out solutions for the problems of music education in Austria. The KOMU takes part in this working group. This process is going on in 2009 and we hope to improve the possibilities of the music schools in cooperating with regular schools.

The new curriculum

After the presentation of the new curriculum in November 2007 the KOMU started the process of filling the literature-database. In the year 2008 meetings in the provinces as well as Austrian-wide brought a lot of discussion about literature and standards and a great chance especially for unpublished literature. This work of collecting literature which is relevant for music schools is going on. The provinces implemented the new curriculum and most of them made new examination rules.

As far as we can see, our main goal with this process – to guarantee a big acceptance of the new curriculum within the teaching staff – seems to be achieved.

34th General Assembly 2009, 10th European Youth Music Festival 2009 "megahertz" in Oberösterreich Oberösterreich organised the Youth Music Festival 2009 "megahertz". The KOMU co-organised the General Assembly in Linz.

BELGIUM

AEMS - Association de l'Enseignement Musical Subventionné

In the year 2008, AEMS focused its activities

- 1. to promote the works of music schools everywhere in Belgium

- to build a file about music copyrightings in Music schools
 to organise the EMU GA in Brussels (april 2008)
 to participate in International Music Schools Seminar (IMS) in Veldhoven (The Netherlands)
- 5. to co-organise the Journées francophones de recherche en éducation musicale (JFREM, Brussels, March 2008). Subject: Creativity in Music
- 6. to stimulate a report on Music Education in Belgium and researches on innovative pedagogies thant are present in Belgium
- 7. to broadcast several programmes on Musi8. to organise national and regional concerts to broadcast several programmes on Music Education for Musiq3 (National Radio)
- 9. to assure representation of music schools in Sound and Music Exhibition by managing a stand and some concerts.
- 10. to assume National coordination for the Xth Youth Music Festival in Linz

Budget of AEMS in year 2007 was around € 64000, provided by music schools (28%), by state (14%), by activities (29%), by sponsors (5%) and by loan (24%).

CROATIA

Hrvatsko drustvo glazbenih i plesnih pedagoga (Croation Association of Music and Dance Pedagogues)

HDGPP (Croatian society of music and dance pedagogues) has accomplished all of the planed activites for the period from 13th of April 2008. till 23rd of April 2009.

18. and 19. of April 2008. – 97th plenum in Varaždin - the main plenum subjects were questions about regular activities of the society (competitions - regional and national, regulations, oraganization of seminars and concerts of the society within project *Center of exellence for especially gifted pupils and students of music and dance*, questions about pedagogics ...)

August 2008. - Ministry of science, education and sport have accepted the new educational plans and programs for music and dance high schools, which are printed and delivered to schools on 29. of August 2008.

- 13. of November 2008. the meeting of *National competition organization committee* and the chairmanship of the HDGPP preparations for the national competition are considered, jury members are appointed and questions about chamber music competition are discussed.
- 14. and 15. of November 2008. 98th plenum in Split HDGPP awards are given, HDGPP's regular activity questions are discussed (competitions, seminars, appliance of the new school plans and programs in practice, daily pedagogical practice).
- 2.-6. of December 2008. Chamber music competition in Opatija. 145 ensembles have participated. Together with jury members, profesors and competitors there were over 600 active participants.
- 17. of December 2008. "Pedagogues-artists" concert in Hrvatski glazbeni zavod in Zagreb. The performers were our recognized pedagogues which are also world renowned artists. The HDGPP awards are given (year award and life-work award) together with acknowledgement awards for retired pedagogues.
- 8.-10. of January 2009. Master classes in Opatija held by world renowned pedagogues :
- piano Konstantin Bogino (France)
- singing Annamarie and Gerhar Zeller (Austria)
- trumpet Marin Zokić (Croatia)
- tambure Svetlana Krajna (Croatia)
- oboe Dario Golčić (Croatia)
- 3. 15. of March 2009. The regional competitions are held 46th Croatian competition for pupils and student of music and dance. There were over 2000 participants (730 soloists, 3 classic ballet groups and 8 orchestras). The hosts of the regional competitions were: music school Varaždin, Art school Franjo Lučić, Velika Gorica, MS Fran Lhotka, Sisak, MS Ivan Lukačić, Šibenik, MS Blagoje Bersa, Zadar and MS Makarska. The competitions were well organized and completed with good cooperation and hospitality of the hosts.
- 28. of March 4. of April 2009. The national competition is held in Dubrovnik 46th Croatian competition for pupils and students of music and dance. (in attachment the report from competition secretary)

Three concerts are held within Center of exellence for especially gifted pupils and students of music and dance:

- World renowned pedagogues-artists concert in Varaždin on 13. of April 2008. The performers were: Yoshiko Ohta (flute), Shigeru Ohta (bassoon), Renata Penezić (flute) and Zrinka Ivančić (piano).
- Concert of the first prize awarded participants of the national competition held in Virovitica 28. of May 2008. The performers were: Mario Lončar (trumpet), Latica Anić (cello), Lucija Dogan (piano), Mate Đuzel (trombone), Duje Stanić (clarinet), Justina Matov (percussion), Marko Matić (accordion), Mijo Majić (horn), Luka Vidović (guitar), Antonija Slamić (flute), Matko Smolčić (bassoon), Marko Glogović (violin) and girls choir "Zinka" led by Jasenka Ostojić Radiković.
 Concert of the students from Zagreb --
- Concert of the students from Zagreb music academy in Čakovec on 23. of November. The performers were: Zvonimir Lazar (trumpet), Mirko Jankov (organ), Marija Lešaja (sopran), Katarina Javora (organ), Iva Stilinović (oboe), Robert Jakica (organ), Jelena Kordić (alt) and Marko Mimica (bas) students of prof. Ljerka Očić chamber music class.

Beside mentioned activities in this period the HDGPP has successfully collaborated with the Ministry of science, education and sport and the Agency for education contributing to the development of music and dance school education.

The good colaboration is also made with the other ministries and government organizations as with organizations of the local administration (especially in the cities which hosted the competitions and the concerts of the *Center of exellence for especially gifted pupils and students of music and dance*).

Also successfull was the collaboration with the european music organizations (EMU and EMCY) and with other music organizations and institutions in Croatia - HDS (Croatian composer association)....

The chairmanship of the HDGPP, on its meetings, disscused and solved problems concerning society's regular activities and accomplished tasks set at the plenums.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Association of Primary Arts Schools (Czech Republic) (AZUŠ ČR)

Report on the activities of the Association of Basic Arts Schools, Czech Republic (AZUŠ) during the last academic year, which lasted from 1 September 2007 to 31 August 2008.

To date, AZUŠ totals 349 members and operates with revenues of 816,000 CZK and expenses of 701,000 CZK. Revenues come only from contributions of the members.

AZUŠ Council met to negotiate a total of seven times. The AZUŠ representatives act on the national level with CZESHA, educational trade unions, representatives of regional authorities, the Ministry of Education and representatives of the Parliament and Senate of the Czech Republic.

On 29 11. 2007 an AZUŠ presentation took place in the Parliament of the Czech Republic, in which representatives of AZUŠ familiarized staff members of regional offices with the history of art education and ZUŠ in the Czech Republic. The AZUŠ representatives explained the importance of the connection between AZUŠ, EMU and CZESHA. They also gave information about the preparation of RVP ZUV. Furthermore, the AZUŠ representatives described the method of financing ZUŠ. They explained that when the demographic curve declines the national norm for financing ZUŠ becomes problematic. AZUŠ suggested another method of funding and regional representatives were essentially in agreement with this other way of funding ZUŠ in the Czech Republic.

From 22.2 to 24.2.2008 AZUŠ organized a meeting with the EMU Committee in Liberec. Meetings of AZUŠ with EMU were attended by EMU Committee members and members of the Board of AZUŠ. Discussions dealt with the functioning of art education abroad and ZUŠ in the Czech Republic. AZUŠ submitted to the EMU Committee a detailed report on the preparation of new RVP ZUV. During the negotiations the participants were given audience by the Lord Mayor of the City of Liberec, Ing. Jiří Kittner, and chairman of the Senate, Mr. Přemysl Sobotka, who gave his backing to the negotiations. At the end of the talks members of the EMU Committee expressed appreciation of our art education and highlighted the quality and dense network of art schools throughout the Czech Republic.

AZUŠ representatives attended the seminar on the theme "Education of Roma children in the Czech Republic," held in Parliament on 17.3.2008.

In June 2008 a meeting of CZESHA, the Ministry of Education and AZUŠ took place concerning the new method of financing ZUŠ in the Czech Republic. It was agreed that the state would provide the financial amount per pupil and subject and give the Parliament of the Czech Republic a proposal for the exclusion of ZUŠ from the national norm for ZUŠ in the Czech Republic. The Ministry of Education would negotiate the funding with the region, and AZUŠ CR would negotiate with the Senate.

On 29.5.2008, the president of AZUŠ Jindřiška Kudrlová, representatives of the Ministry of Education and the Chairman of the Arts Council of ZUŠ met with the French delegation led by the General Rapporteur of the French Inter-Department High Council for artistic and cultural education. On the French side the meeting was also attended by the Language Cooperation Attaché from the French Embassy in the Czech Republic. The French delegation was particularly interested in the relationship of parents and public to education:

- how the state guarantees the expertise and standard of music education
- whether the state contributes financially to the school and how
- who sets up music schools
- what training teachers at music schools have
- the network of music schools
- the organization of teaching at the ZUŠ and how long students study

On 12.6.2008, the AZUŠ representatives attended the Lisbon conference, which was on the effects of the declining population curve and how to ensure enough qualified and flexible teachers in the labour market.

In September, the Ministry of Education prepared information about the goal of the proposed amendment to the Education Act concerning the financing of ZUŠ. The amendment will also include other educational issues that have not yet been satisfactorily resolved legally because of certain complexities and the need for discussion to find consensus between the social and professional partners of the Ministry of Education.

AZUŠ signed a contract for 2008 with OSA, whose works are performed by pupils of ZUŠ in public concerts. The contract includes a simplification of the dealings of each ZUŠ school with OSA under favourable financial conditions.

Glossary:

AZUŠ Association of Basic Arts Schools, Czech Republic

CZESHA Association of other types of schools

OSA Organizations protecting copyrights of composers

RVP ZUV new educational programs

ZUŠ Basic Arts School

DENMARK DAMUSA Danish Music School Association

Today we have 98 Danish music schools. (Before a reform concerning communities in Denmark January 2007 we had 226). Today the law demands that every community must have a music school and the government support with up to 25 % of costs, (however the support has been falling and is in 2009 approximately 13 %). Pupils fee is up to 33 % (approximately 24 % 2009) and local communities pays the rest. The engagement of the government is one of DAMUSAs cardinal points both of economic and qualitative reasons.

Seen in the pedagogical aspect the music schools are bigger and better now than before the reform. However DAMUSA has in a report October 2008 demonstrated that the music schools from 2006-2007 have 18.000 less pupils (approximately 100.000 pupils 2009). Although the music schools covers all of Denmark, some pupils have been given a to long way to travel for education. At the same time the price of instrumental lessons is increased from 2005-2008 with approximately 17 %.

An increasing number of music schools in Denmark are becoming art schools. DAMUSA find this an interesting development. Today 38 % of the schools are offering education in other art forms than music. Summer 2009 DAMUSA is preparing a report concerning this matter.

March 2008 DAMUSA had big success which a conference about The WOW Factor with Anne Bamford with more than 380 participants.

DAMUSA is participating in NMKU, *Nordisk Musikk og Kulturskole Union* with many interesting subjects for example The Cultural Greenhouse which will create a basis for further pedagogical development in the Nordic countries.

DAMUSA has 90 % of the Danish music schools as members and is working in a close cooperation with the other Danish music organisations.

ENGLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND Federation of Music Services

The Federation of Music Services (FMS) continues to co-ordinate music education provision on behalf of the 150 local authorities within the three countries. All the initiatives reported last year have been developed further over the last twelve months and the impact is now being felt. We are undoubtedly making progress in England on the government aspiration that 'all children should have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument' and that 'all schools should be singing schools', but we still have some way to go. For instance, 53% of primary schools (7,824) are offering the instrumental teaching programme 'Wider Opportunities in Music' and 73% are engaged with the singing initiative 'Sing Up'. Our target is that 100% will be involved by 2011.

People in England have been inspired by Venezuela's El Sistema project. Following an initiative in Scotland a programme called 'In Harmony' has been established with three pilot programmes in Norwich, Liverpool and London. They are exploring ways in which children in deprived communities can benefit from sustained participation in orchestral activity, starting with those in Early Years. There is a good deal of interest in this, but we are also concerned to make the connections with the 'Wider Opportunities' programme.

Funded separately by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, five partnership projects in various parts of the country are also finding new ways of combining resources for the benefit of all children. Their work includes workshops and residencies with professional orchestras, master classes and concerts, community based activities for children and young people outside school, e-learning, fusion projects, developing talent and professional development of teachers and music leaders. These partnership projects are in addition to a 'Find Your Talent' programme, exploring how children are offered five hours of cultural education per week.

Recently the FMS has commissioned an impact assessment on the 'Wider Opportunities in Music' programme. Professor Anne Bamford, known to several in EMU, is leading the work and will report on the outcomes later on in the year. Essentially, we wish to gauge the success of the programme, identify characteristics of good practice and disseminate the findings widely. Since the approach is based on large group teaching, this may be of interest to members of EMU. The research comes at a time when we are questioning what 'good' quality really is in music education. A recent report from the inspectorate concluded that whilst provision in curriculum music lessons was good or outstanding in around half the schools visited over a three year period, the quality and range of provision were inconsistent. Therefore we need to do more in identifying the features of good pedagogy, which are not necessarily the same in 2009 as they were thirty years ago. How do new approaches, including informal learning, e-learning, whole-class learning and multi-cultural music change the face of pedagogy? These are interesting questions for us all.

Finally it must be noted that, even with relatively secure funding, at least in England for the next year, there is concern that we are trying to do too much with too little. The percentages of contributions to music education funding are 38.4% government, 10.7% local authorities and 50.9% from additional sources (mainly fees). We are concerned that local authorities are finding it increasingly difficult to sustain their contributions. There also remains an imbalance between funding in the UK and whilst both Wales and Northern Ireland have sustained their music education programmes, they have not yet benefited from the initiatives in England. However in all this there is much success: a great deal of wonderful music takes place every day and we are grateful to all our dedicated teachers who work with so many of our young people.

ESTONIA Eesti Muusikakoolide Liit Estonian Union of Music Schools

Report by different activities:

I Teachers training

- 1.1. for preschool-groups teachers
- 1.2. for music theory teachers

II Competitions

2.1. Competition "The best young instrumentalist 2009"

Competition is taking place on three levels: a regionallevel, audio-level and the final competition. Two last levels are organized by union.

There were 627 students taking part of this event on regional level, 325 in audio level and 185 in final level.

2.2. Competition for students in musictheory and solfeggio.

III EML had to evaluating the projects, portioning out the money to the shools, controlling reports and publishing writting material about the first state support for music and art schools (about 127823 euros; 102 projects)

IV Celebrating union's 15-th anniversary with concert "Orchestra!" in 23.11.2008 . It took place in concerthall in the second-biggest town in Estonia-Tartu.

Tere were about 600 stuents taking part of this concert.

V Activities for schools practical

- 5.1. Collecting statistical data
- 5.2. Sharing and updating the information on our website
- 5.3. Organizing general meeting
- 5.4. Work on uniflied materials for solfeggio-exam
- 5.5. Representing music schools in different organisations (incl Estonian Music Councel)

FINLAND

Suomen musiikkioppilaitosten liitto Association of Finnish Music Schools

Theme year for early childhood music education

- developing early childhood music education at music schools
- enhancing media coverage and conspicuousness of early childhood music education

Theme year for conducting orchestras and chamber music groups

- developing conducting at music schools
- enhancing training for conductors, sharing good practices, developing pedagogical material

Teacher as an Artist

- supporting music school teachers to perform as an artist
- master classes, teachers' orchestras, recordings, opera projects

Many Musics

- a joint project of The Finnish Music Council and The Association of Finnish Music Schools
- different target groups of music education: for example minority groups, seniors, immigrants, disabled people
- diversity and tolerance in the field of music education

Cooperation between different educational levels

- cooperation between
 - school music teachers
 - music playschool teachers
 - music schools (general and extended curriculum)
 - secondary level
 - polytechnics
 - Sibelius Academy and universities
- sharing good practices, critical dialogue, discussing roles of different educational levels and the future of music education in a changing society

Evaluation project

- cooperation between The Association of Finnish Art Schools and Ministry of Education
- funding 340 000 €
- creating a new evaluation system for music schools (statistics and other information)
- national and international comparative studies

The Philosophy and Aesthetics of Music

- a new subject at music schools (extended curriculum)
- new teaching materials including music and video clips

Cooperation between different art forms in art education

- the associations of art schools founded a new umbrella organization in December 2007 (chairman Timo Klemettinen)
- cooperation between different arts, advancing art education
- working groups: 1) advocacy; 2) pedagogical; 3) cooperation

Advancing general curriculum in music education

 private music schools who are offering music education according to the general curriculum can become so called service members of The Association of Finnish Music Schools (no right of voting)

Cooperation with Finlandia Foundation

- cooperation between Finnish and American music educators (The Association of Finnish Music Schools, Finlandia Foundation National, Concordia University, Salolampi Foundation, Suomi Seura)
- yearly music camps
- "Soiva Camp" in Bemidji, Minnesota June 2009

Noiseless Music Schools

 Espoo Music School, Pop & Jazz Conservatory and Finnish Institute of Occupational Health have created a new programme of noise suppression at music schools in cooperation with The Association of Finnish Music Schools, The Association of Finnish Music Teachers and Helsinki University of Technology, Department of Acoustics

FRANCE

Fédération Française de l'Enseignement Musical, Chorégraphique et Théâtral

Arts education policy developments in France

- An unexpected consequence of decentralisation: the Regions contest an article of a recent national law stipulating that they have to financially contribute to the vocational arts education. This part of the reform is for the moment out of order.
- In addition to the National Conservatories of Paris and Lyon, 3 regional centres of higher education, linked with the universities and conforming with European criteria, have been created: Paris (Boulogne-Billancourt), Toulouse and Poitiers.
- For the first time, the State Diploma of Music Teacher has been delivered through the "Validation of Learning from Experience" process.
- The number of pupils in the French conservatories listed by State, which had decreased during the last decade, is significantly increasing again, due to adult access to music schools, amateur involvement in arts, links with normal school, and diversity in styles of music and dance.

The French Association (FFEM) recent activities

- FFEM: 1200 schools, 450 000 pupils, 25 000 teachers in Music, Dance and Theatre.
- Pedagogy: The FFEM goes on with the publication of curricula and national repertoire for examinations.
 Next to be published: violin, viola, cello and recorder.
- Creation of a national committee about amplified music.
- Development of links with the theatre professional associations.
- Contribution to the assessment of the arts education reforms at the French Senate's and Ministry's of Culture request.

GERMANY

VdM Verband deutscher Musikschulen e.V.

Fields of activities in 2008

- VdM published central demands to the Policy concerning inter alia legal regulations and promote agreements for public music schools as compulsory tasks in the field of cultural education, based on recommendation of the Enquete Commission "Culture in Germy" of the German Bundestag.
- General Assembly and main conference of the VdM in Limburg in May with approx. 250 participants (topic: change of educational landscapes and new tasks and targets for public music schools).
- The VdM project "Musical education from the beginning" with conceptions for early childhood music education (for babies, parent-child groups, nurseries and kindergarten) has been continued. A Symposium concerning parent-child groups with approx. 120 participants took place on March 1st-3rd 2008.
- VdM has published a "Study on effects and conditions of early childhood music education" as well as the guidance "Parent-child groups at music schools".
- A new concept for advanced training for music school executives has been developed; the already
 existing seminars for executives have been continued.
- The VdM project "Making music with people in the 3rd period of life and elderly persons" has been continued, e.g. by publication of the guidance "Making music a life long".
- The revision of the curriculum for piano has been finished, the revision of the curriculum for flute has started.
- The Quality Management for Music Schools (QsM) is implemented in further schools like in cooperation with the federal associations of music schools within the VdM in Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-Western-Pomerania. The system of QsM as well as the material for instruction have been optimized, so the implementation of QsM may be finished within one year.
- VdM was represented on the Frankfurt Music Fair, the fair "My music" in Friedrichshafen and on the "
 Federal school music week" On this way the cooperation of music schools with regular schools has been continued.
- The "Deutsche Streicherphilharmonie" (DSP) the German national youth string orchestra for 60 music school talents has given many important concerts in Germany's big concert halls.
- The announcement for the next media prize of the VdM "LEOPOLD" in 2009 has been sent out.

Personalities:

Manfred Uhlmann, head of the music school in Frankfurt (Oder), and during many years member of the VdM board, has been decorated with the German Federal Cross of Merit in August 2008.

The vice chairman of the Federal Parents Association of VdM Music Schools, Dieter Fröhling, has been decorated with the German Federal Medal of Merit in October 2008.

Walter Kuhn, chairman of the Federal Parents Association of VdM Music Schools, has been decorated with the Cross of Merit of Mecklenburg- Western-Pomerania in January 2009.

Wolfhagen Sobirey, director of the music school Hamburg, was appointed as professor of the University for Music and theatre (conservatoire) Hamburg and Ulrich Rademacher was appointed as professor of the University of Music in Wuppertal.

The head of the music school Fürth, Robert Wagner, was honoured with the award of the "Miriam foundation" for his work with special needs children and adults.

HUNGARY MZMSZ

Association of Hungarian Music and Art Schools

In 2008 the uniting of schools continued in the Hungarian public education for economic reasons. These had a significant effect on the position of elementary art education, too. In most cases several types of schools in the same region were united under the leadership of one headmaster, who was rarely an expert from our branch. So several independent music schools have become parts of a bigger school with a headmaster who is still professionally independent but has no right to decide on economic matters, thus he/she cannot lead the school effectively any more. In some regions only the same types of schools have been united. In those cases the school is responsible for the artistic education of a bigger region, which creates good professional opportunities.

The qualification of elementary arts schools continued, with the following results until 31st December 2008: Qualifying process in 701 institutions, from these 677 passed, 24 failed qualification. From the qualified schools 543 institutions were found excellent, 134 good.

Due to re-organisations 122 schools qualified earlier asked for the acknowledgement of their new organizational structure to keep their qualification. They all met the requirements.

State subsidy depends on qualification.

Schools without a qualification get only the basic norm, which is half of the subsidy given until now. Qualified schools get the same subsidy as before and can apply for further public support.

Only those who pass the basic exam in art can learn in a continuation course financed by the state.

A lot of measures have been altered, which affects our school.

The Hungarian Ministry for Education established one single office for all the tasks, which is called the Office of Education. They register the data of qualified schools, deal with the Hungarian acknowledgement of foreign degrees, with authority controls as well as school competitions. The regulation of the competitions in artistic studies was published by the minister, there are competitions in all artistic subjects. Music competitions in each subject are held every three years.

While schools are qualified by a professional qualifying team, they have to make a self-evaluation on internal work. The rules of the self-evaluation of schools have been modified. The work of each teacher has to be evaluated. Teachers in public schools can be qualified excellent, good, just right and not suitable. If they are not suitable they have to be dismissed within 10 days.

The qualifications of teachers in art schools are being supervised. This is about what degree is required to teach each art subject. We often face difficulties in acknowledging degrees acquired abroad, where the training is often different even if the name of the qualification is almost the same. But it is also difficult to have Hungarian degrees acknowledged abroad since our training system is different.

Traditionally Hungarian music education has three levels: 6 years elementary level, 4 or 5 years secondary level and 4 years teacher training or 5 years performer training, which are the superior levels.

The first results of changing for the Bologna system are visible now. You can see that the curriculum of the three-year bachelor level in most countries corresponds to that of the secondary level in Hungarian music education. Music students cannot do anything with the bachelor degree, with two further years they can only get the master degree and they still have to study one more year paying their own fees to get a degree for teaching music. (The first students of the system will graduate in 2010.)

From 1st January 2010 you can only be a headmaster if you have a degree in school-management in addition to the teacher degree.

Since September 2008 it has been possible to acquire further music teacher degrees in addition to the one you have. It is especially important for teachers working in small schools.

The supervision of the central requirements and the suggested curriculum of elementary art education has been started. It affects more than 100 subjects, a great many in the four genres of music: classical music, jazz, electronic music, folk music.

The falling number of children cannot be seen in music schools yet, but soon it will be visible.

The state governance recognised the difficulties of the qualifying work, and it continues to regard the organisation of elementary art education as a public task.

ICELAND

Association:

Felag tonlistarskolakennara (Association of Music School Teachers)

- Regional assemblies The Association organised three regional assemblies in September 2008. The assemblies are the most important forum for discussion about professional issues that relate to headmasters and teachers in music schools in Iceland. The main theme was the National Curriculum for music schools. The last one of nine subject curriculum's, a curriculum for Jazz and Popular music, was introduced and information from the Icelandic Music Schools' Examinations Board was taken into discussion.
- Music teacher education The Professional Council of Music Schools (as a part of FT) has taken into discussion teachers' education related to the Bologna process. All teachers in Iceland, other than music teachers have new legislation with provision of five years training to get a degree as teachers in the public school system. This five years education for other teachers gives specific certification in the public school system. Music teachers in Iceland find it important that the authorities recognise their responsibility to provide similar opportunities for professional education for music teachers.
- **New legislation** New legislation for music schools has been on the agenda since 2004. Because of disagreement about the cost of music education between the central organisation of municipalities and the state, the work has been delayed. Now the new government has taken up the issue again and the Professional Council of Music Schools is actively promoting our interests. We hope that the new legislation will support the music school system in a more comprehensive way than the older law.
- **UNESCO conference** Representatives from the Association in Iceland were invited to UNESCO conference in Wild Bad Kreuth in Germany in May 2008. Theme for the conference was to discuss how the European countries were responding to UNESCO's "Road Map for Arts Education". The research and evolutionary project "The Cultural Greenhouse" was introduced as a Nordic project related to "The Road Map". The first step of "The Cultural Greenhouse" is mapping the operation of music- and art schools in the Nordic countries.
- Icelandic Sector programme The Ministry of Education and Culture promoted "The Cultural Greenhouse" as Nordic project in the Icelandic Sector programme for the Nordic Council of Ministers for 2009. Because of the financial crisis it was not possible to implement the program as a Nordic program. After initiative from the Association the Ministry started in December 2008 a holistic research on arts education in the school system in Iceland. The research is led by Professor Anne Bamford. The Ministry decided to implement the first phase of "The Cultural Greenhouse" in Iceland, parallel to that holistic research.
- "Innovation and Creativity in the hands of the young" The Ministry of Education and Culture is organising three day conference; "Innovation and Creativity in the hands of the young", 2 4 December 2009, in Reykjavik. The conference is a joint Nordic involvement in the European Year of Innovation and Creativity. The conference will strengthen academic discussion and policy involvement at a high level. Professor Anne Bamford will be one of the keynote speakers at the conference. She will present her findings from the holistic research on arts education in Iceland. The Professional Council of Music Schools will be active partner in organising the conference and take care of some of the parallel sessions. We plan to present the mapping of the operation of music schools in Iceland as the first phase of The Cultural Greenhouse and findings from similar research programs in Europe. The plan is also to go into Nordic and International political documents that emphasise the importance of art and cultural education. The Professional Council is cooperating with the Secretary for the Culture and Education Committee of The Nordic Council, We will work upon getting stakeholders from music- and art schools, the public school sector, policymakers and research institutes, to take part in the sessions and discussions on the conference.
- **Financial crisis** The international financial crisis is hitting Iceland hard. Most of the music schools in Iceland have to deal with serious budget cuts. In time like this, it is more important than ever to have constructive dialogue with authorities to promote the interests' of the music school system. We find that introducing The Road Map for Arts Education has been a great help to get our issues on the agenda.

The Association has taken many initiatives towards the authorities to promote the interests of the music schools and to support school leaders and individual teachers in their struggle caused by the budget cuts. Lots of teachers and headmasters are now worried about the future.

IRELAND

Irish Association of Music Schools IAMS

2008 proved a challenging year for the Irish Association of Music Schools as the initial impetus for the association ended. In part this is due to our culture of an informal attitude to events and in no small measure to a government which in good economic times showed no interest in music education. However, a small and hard working core group of professional music educators have reformed the association and are determined to raise awareness, standards and support teachers with their professional development. In addition note we are delighted to be represented in the Megahertz festival this year and have also established an annual showcase concert of Irish musical talent at home.

ITALY AIdSM

Associazione Italiana delle Scuola di Musica

This is a brief report of major initiatives in Italy in 2008:

- AldSM main strategic goal is to strengthen relationship with the Ministry of Education to establish a network to support music education, both in public or music schools.
- After promoting, for the first time ever, a new music school law in the last government, AldSM is representing this initiative to the Italian parliament.
- Following a national campaign from Ministry of Public education for practical music learning in regular school life, a Forum of associations has been founded. Currently 21 of the major association of music education are enrolled. A Manifesto has been produced, in some parts inspired by EMU *Music Makes People* 2003 Manifesto.
- National week of music at school has been launched again and some symbolic initiatives like "Dai il La alla musica" has been performed. In most of the major music schools in Italy and in some public primary and secondary schools, students and teachers, at the same time, on May, 7th 2008, 11 a.m and 5 p.m. started to sing a note, LA (A) all together, to match all the different voices and to support music practicing at schools. AldSM contributed to promote this event, broadcasted over the national Italian Radio Due channel.
- A board for promoting practical music learning in regular school life has been appointed in Rome. A document *Making music for all* has been released. It is a multiannual plan on public schools that involves teachers and musicians training, professional development of public school staff. Management and operating structures are considered: at school level, regional level, national level, and a sustainable financial resources plan is provided.
- National report on music promoted by Minister of Culture and education has been released. It shows links between primary public school system and music schools system. Amongst all Italian regions, Tuscany public institutions displays best figures: 36% of public schools having regular relationship with music schools.
- First EMU Seminar in cooperation with AldSM: *Music makes Europe* for music school teachers directors in October. In co-operation with Istituto musicale pareggiato Istituzione d'alta cultura "Pietro Mascagni" of Livorno, Scuola di musica "Giuseppe Bonamici", Pisa. More than 30 music school directors from all over Europe on the chances offered by European social Fund programmes. Led by Gerrit Walstra, form *Haute Europe*
- AldSM organized two seminars in Prato and Livorno: Has jazz to be taught? Towards a national curriculum in African-American music tuition. This is part of a traditional long time project of Giornate della Didattica musicale financed by the regional government.
- A comprehensive report on music schools in Tuscany has been launched in the last quarter of 2008. It aims to update the state of music education in Italy leading region for music education. It will published in few months.

LATVIA

Latvijas Mūzikas izglītības iestāžu asociācija - LMIIA (Association of Latvian Musical Educational Establishments)

One of the goals set by the association in 2008 was to involve and admit new members to the association. This task was successfully done, and as the result of it in the year 2008 there were 9 new schools admitted to the association.

One of the most important task is continued by the association, which is, legislation development in connection with the issues related to music schools, music secondary schools, and music education in general. This year, such issues concern diploma qualifications on music secondary school graduation, the terms and procedure of enrollment in Jazeps Vitol's Latvian Academy of Music (JVLMA), working out educational standards in music schools and other questions.

The association was involved in the issue of merging two music schools in Riga, for such an unconsidered idea appeared in Riga's municipality. In the result we managed to keep independent functioning of these two schools.

The association expressed its critical opinion and proposals in various methodological issues which had been worked out by Centre of Culture and Creative Industrie's of Latvia (KRIIC). These issues deal with the contents of State Contests' Principal Regulations, the contents of specific state contests for each specialty, the principles of assessment of state contests, regulations on the contents of regional centres and main principles.

We continue co-operation with foreign countries – Estonia, Lithuania, and Russia; the work of the association with Lithuania resulted in its involvment in EMU, namely, in its participation in the presidium meeting in Riga. Of course, the association representatives attended EMU General Assembly in Brussels (Belgium) on 24-27 April, as well as EMU seminar for music schools' headmasters in Livorno (Italy) on 14-17 October.

The association organised various events; among them we would like to point out the trip to St. Petersburg (Russia) which was held on 29 October for exchanging experience among music schools' headmasters, where they visited music schools, music secondary schools, music high shools and coordinating methodological centre of music educational establishments.

At the end of the year, on 12-14 December, the association received EMU presidium in Riga.

The Baltic State Teachers' festival was also carefully arranged, and this gave teachers of 3 Baltic states the opportunity to perform music in various places with various concert programmes. The festival was successfully held at the beginning of 2009.

The work was also done in the sphere of providing financing, namely, advancing projects in State Culture Capital Found (VKKF). Sometimes the results were positive.

The association publishes its own newspaper *Partita*. In the year 2008 there were held different organisational activities in order to ensure the newaspaper quality of the contents and well-timed publishing.

The end of 2008 in Latvia was marked by the financial and economical crisis, which inevitably influenced functioning of Latvian music educational establishments. Now, in 2009, the association does everyting possible not to allow the government to accept unconsidered decrees on liquidating music schools or music secondary schools.

LUXEMBURG

Association des Ecoles de Musique du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg

Activities 2008

16th January 2008

Participation on the International Music School Seminar (Benelux, NRW, Saar) in Valkensvaard (N)

12th Mars 2008

Participation on the International Music School Seminar (Benelux, NRW, Saar) in Veldhofen (N)

5th Mai 2008

General assembly (AEM) in Dudelange

18th September 2008

Participation on the International Music School Seminar (Benelux, NRW, Saar) in Corsendonk (B)

19th October 2008

National day of « Choir singing » in Dudelange, 80 participants between 8 and 12 years old, Direction Mr. Martin FOLZ

26th October 2008

Professional continuing education "Alexandertechnik"

Mr. Patrick Krysatis

29th October 2008

"Journée de réflexion" AEM - VdM Saar in Mettlach (D)

15th December 2008

Professional continuing education "Burba technique"

Mr. Malte Burba

THE NETHERLANDS

Kunstconnectie, sector association for art education and art practice

The association

Kunstconnectie brings together amateur art schools, music schools, provincial support institutes for art & culture, and other employers that offer art education and facilitate art practice.

For, with and on behalf of its members, the association promotes their interests and negotiates employment conditions. Kunstconnectie stimulates and advises member institutes in developing cultural entrepreneurship and contemporary employership, offers topical information and enables knowledge exchange.

By bundling forces and bringing parties together, the association provides its members with a wide range of services and benefits, for example in the field of quality assurance, certification, benchmarking, and trainings and continuing professional education. Kunstconnectie enhances the public awareness and the quality of the work by amateur art schools and ensures that the sector is a recognised and respected partner in the cultural-political and socio-economic debate.

Kunstconnectie has 183 members, comprising around 90% of all amateur art schools, music schools, and provincial support institutes for art & culture. New employers' initiatives such as art education project agencies, instructors' organisations and art mediation agencies are also welcome to join.

The sector

The sector of amateur art education / amateur art practice comprises the amateur art schools, music schools and provincial support institutes for art & culture. Together with the regular primary and secondary schools and amateur art associations, they constitute the broad basis of art education and amateur art practice at local and provincial levels in the Netherlands.

Every year, amateur art schools offer courses, workshops and master classes to more than 450,000 people – young and old – outside school hours, and in collaboration with more than half of all schools and provincial institutes for art & culture, introduce over 1.1 million children and youths to art and culture through lessons, projects, presentations and exhibitions during school hours.

The art education/art participation sector employs over 10,500 people (4400 FTE). Of these, 80% is instructor/consultant in one of the art forms of music, dance, drama, fine arts, creative writing, film/photography and urban culture, or in applied arts such as design, fashion and web design. That makes this sector the largest employer of graduates of higher professional art education programmes (such as conservatories) in the Netherlands.

The total turnover in the sector is in excess of 300 million euros. The institutes earn about 40% of this amount through the income provided by course participants and educational institutes; 55% derives from structural and project funding by municipalities; and 5% derives from provincial governments and other funds.

Highlights 2008

For Kunstconnectie, the year 2008 was very much a matter of preparing for 2009: the year that Kunstconnectie, for the first time, will no longer receive structural support from the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and that a number of substantial project subsidies will be discontinued. This reduces our budget to 50% of what we had at our disposal 4 years ago. We have therefore had to prepare for a situation in which the association mainly depends on the members' contributions. The profile and the task portfolio of the association have been modified accordingly, making it an association that is truly composed of, for and by its members. It is also an association with a more clearly defined policy focus, namely on cultural entrepreneurship and contemporary employership. And it's an association with a smaller task portfolio, prioritising interest advocacy, employment relationships, facilitating knowledge exchange and information sharing among the members, and recruiting new resources and projects for the sector. Other items / results in 2008:

- * Negotiations for a new collective employment agreement (CAO) for art education. New agreements on employment conditions for institutes that are part of municipal organisations.
- * Building relations with new, important organisations in the policy environment of art education: a new national cultural participation fund (*Fonds Cultuurparticipatie*) and national youth culture fund (*Nationaal Jeugdcultuurfonds*, enabling children of low-income families to pay fees for music lessons, for example).
- * Political interest for amateur art practice and its desired consolidation. Building a collaborative relationship with the new supporting institute for amateur art: *Kunstfactor*.
- * Completing the Quality Assurance & Certification project.
- * Scenario exploration for amateur art practice 2030: a study financed by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs into the size and form of amateur art practice in 2030 and the role that amateur art schools / music schools will play. Publication is scheduled for 2010.
- * Survey of the affordability of courses and lessons at amateur art schools / music schools. This survey is also financed by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs and is motivated by concern in Dutch Parliament about the decreasing accessibility of art education for low-income families.

New profile and focus of Kunstconnectie

We have agreed with our members to stimulate the development of art education institutes particularly with respect to contemporary employership, cultural entrepreneurship and enhancing the quality of operational management. Our guiding principles are: the collective sector interests are paramount; the bonding capacity of the association remains up to standard; our role as employers' association is unquestioned; realistic aspirations in keeping with our options: "what can we do for the members with the resources provided by the members".

Our tasks:

1) To maintain the association and develop the association policy:

Stimulate and organise the development of sector policy. Organise the decision-making within the association and cultivate support for association decisions. Manage communication channels.

2) To promote collective interests and represent the members:

Monitor government policy and its development in the environment of the sector. Influence government policy and the cultural-political and socio-economic environment. Represent the members at national and international conferences, etc.

3) Develop employment relations and employment conditions:

Develop policy, negotiate and make agreements. Have employer's instruments developed. Act as helpdesk and adviser in applying collective employment conditions and make arrangements with third parties on behalf of the sector.

4) Facilitate knowledge sharing:

Help bring together demand and offer in terms of knowledge and continued schooling in the sector. Distribute topical information.

5) Recruit funds and services:

Target external funding sources for the sector and the association. Reach agreements with other organisations and companies about providing services to members against special conditions.

NORWAY

Norsk Kulturskoleråd

(The Norwegian Council for Schools of Music and Performing Arts)

As the member organisation of municipalities – the owners of the law-decided schools of music and performing arts – Norsk kulturskoleråd has a strong professional and political position in Norway. Since the last report to EMU, Norsk kulturskoleråd has even increased its position by achieving more financial support from the state to the organisation's development programmes for the music and art schools. Included the international peace programme 'Umoja' the 2008-budget of Norsk kulturskoleråd of odd NOK 39 mill (€ 5 mill) makes it possible to have a staff of 14 full-time employee at the headquarters and 13 consultants at county level. The capacity to organise both national and regional programmes consequently is good.

In Norway the situation for the music and art schools is a political topic at national level, even if these schools are fully owned by the municipalities. The present Government share the ideology of Norsk Kulturskoleråd, stating 'Music and art schools for All!'. The music and art schools are at state level the responsibility of the Minister of Education, but also the Minister of Culture is promoting these schools heavily in his very ambitious programme 'The Cultural Leap'. Just recently Norsk kulturskoleråd together with the organisation 'Save the Children Norway' have got grants from the Ministry of Education and the largest labour organisation in Norway to carry through a research programme evaluating the effect of rising fees, removal of family moderation and the too long waiting lists in the music and art schools.

Even if music and art school fees in Norway are low compared to some other countries (differs from €125 to €500 for one year studies), the rapid increase in too many municipalities the last years have resulted in a political debate about some regulations. This year Norsk kulturskoleråd together with all the national organizations for amateur music, supported by a number of other art and labour organizations, has been forwarding a proposal of national regulations giving the municipalities some guidelines for their music and art schools. The organisation has established a close cooperation with the amateur music organisations like The Norwegian Music Council, The Norwegian Band Federation and The Norwegian Choir Association. Norsk kulturskoleråd was asked to present the Norwegian model of cooperation between music and art schools and the school bands at the European Championships in Oostende, Belgium, May 1.th 2009. Together with the Association of Youth Symfony Orchestras we this year is inviting to both a Children's Orchestra and a Youth Orchestra.

An agreement with the National Music Academy has also been signed, including cooperation on many areas: music education in general, conductor education, research programmes, etc. In particular a study for leaders of the music and art schools has been prepared together with the Academy and the National Association for the Mucisipalities (KS). This is planned as part of network programmes, but also as a Master programme for students. A report related to talent education in music in Norway also is published last year by a mutual committee also including representatives from a private music institute in Oslo. Norsk kulturskoleråd participate with the same institutions planning the international Menhuin Competition for violinists in Oslo in 2010.

In June 2007 the Minister of Education presented 'Creative Learning - Strategy for Art and Culture in Education 2007 – 2010.) Of the 27 measures, Norsk kulturskoleråd is involved in the implementation of more than half of them, in close cooperation with the newly established Norwegian Centre or Art and Culture in Education and the Directory for Primary and Secondary Education and Training. An important aim of this strategy is to develop music and art schools as resource centres for kindergarten and primary and secondary education and training. Increasingly music and art schools are involved in the organizing of 'The Cultural School Bag' – a prestigious national programme contributing to all pupils in the schools being offered professional art and culture. (Concerts, exhibitions, theatre performances etc.) Regional network programmes, among these (Creative School Environment) is offered for leaders and teachers of music and art schools, kindergarten, primary and secondary schools from two counties (150 – 180 participants) to stimulate and improve key professionals in cooperating related to 'The Cultural School Bag'.

Every year Norsk kulturskoleråd is responsible of 'Kulturskoledagene', a two day's meeting with speeches, seminars and exhibitions of teaching material for headmasters and teachers in music and other art forms from music and art schools all over the country. Last year, at a hotel close to Trondheim city, about 500 persons participated. There is no participation fee.

Regularly every autumn the staff of Norsk kulturskoleråd offer courses in class singing and dance for teachers in primary and lower secondary schools all over the country. These courses are very popular, and about 2000 persons participate.

In addition to this, the organisation continuously presents courses in music technology and regional projects in visual arts (exhibitions). A book with ideas of projects within visual arts has been published. The magazine 'Kulturtrøkk' is send to all member schools, but also authorities, cooperation organisations etc. quarterly.

Norsk kulturskoleråd is directly involved in the making of a guide to the municipalities based on success criteria from the four 'demonstration music and art schools' appointed by the Directory for Primary and Secondary

Education and Training. The headmasters from these schools are participating in the work together with the senior adviser from Norsk Kulturskoleråd. The guide is planned published later this year.

The 'Umoja' programme, based on the cooperation between Norwegian music and art schools, The National Music Academy, The University College of Performing Arts and similar education institutions in six African countries is continuously very successful. Starting mainly as a music and art programme where youngsters meet and produce performances, exhibitions etc, is has recently more been defined as a peace programme. The € 1 mill budget is totally financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Every year Norsk kulturskoleråd together with the Norwegian National Lottery at June 5.th present 100 young performers as winners of the 'Dream Scholarship'. Every winner is invited to a ceremony where quite often the local mayor presents the diploma and the cheque of € 1.250 assisted by representatives from Norsk kulturskoleråd and the Lottery. Even more important, the winners are normally well presented in the local newspapers and other media.

Norsk kulturskoleråd is participating close with the other Nordic members of EMU. We meet regularly twice a year, inform each other of new from our countries and discuss important issues. Still we are working for the realization of the Nordic cooperation programme 'The Cultural Greenhouse' – where the intention is to develop a dialogue between our organisations and research institutions in every country. Together with our Finnish sister organisation, Norsk kulturskoleråd represented the Nordic members in the meeting with EMU's Presidium in Riga, discussing 'The Future of EMU'.

POLAND Zespól Panstwowych Szkól Muzycznych The Polish Association of Music Schools

SERBIA

Association of Music and Ballet Schools of Serbia

International contacts

The work of the Association during 2008 was marked by increased activities in international contacts.

A Meeting of the Associations of music schools of republics of former Yugoslavia was organized in Kotor in the beginning of the year in order to start cooperation and mutual activities. The topic of the meeting was: Positive and negative trends in the reform of music education.

The members of the Presidium took part in the work of 33rd General assembly of EMU held in Brussels.

The President of the Association of music and ballet schools of Serbia, Mila Lacković, took part in the work group in the International conference of the European Council for high abilities, ECHA. The topic was «From talent in childhood up to successful intelligence in the adulthood» which was a challenge for all participants of the conference and it was an extraordinary opportunity to listen to a great number of very interesting presentations. The Serbian team introduced themselves by presentation called: Support to musically talented pupils.

Twelve pupils of music schools of Serbia took part in the work of CEI-Youthorchestra. Celebrating the tenth anniversary the orchestra. The Orchestra worked and played in: Italy, Slovenia, Austria, Roumania, The Check Republic and in Serbia. The last concert of the November tour was held in the Sinagogue in Novi Sad. On the concert in October held in Trieste, Italy, the Association of Serbia was declared the best co-worker of the Orchestra, and the representative of the Association received the CEI award.

The members of the Presidium took part in the EMU seminar for directors of music schools: Music makes Europe.

Together with the international activities of the Association of Ballet and Music schools of Serbia, the following activities should also be mentioned:

The quality of the organization of the 4th Piano memorial of «Isidor Bajić» Music School from Novi Sad, showed extraordinary abilities of the management and of the teachers of the school in organizing such an international competition of the highest world rank.

On the initiative of MS «Kosta Manojlović» from Zemun Professional school, within the seminar for skilled education, a new model of teaching on string intruments was presented: «Colorstrings», whose author is Geza Silvay, professor at «Sibelius» Academy in Helsinki.

Publishing

In the process of widening its publishing activities, the Association of ballet and music schools of Serbia published during 2008 a Collection of piano compositions of Konstantin Babić under the title «To the followers of Euterpia». The pupils of music schools: Vučković, Stanković, Lisinski, Manojlović, performed the works of this eminent composer.

The Association regularly published the Bulletin of ZMBSS, 6 issues during 2008.

Manifestations

For the first time in the discipline for violin cello, an international jury was chosen, which is regarded to be a positive change toward more objective evaluation of the participants. In the Republican contest 1173 participants-soloists, chamber orchestras and choirs took place.

The Festival of music schools was organized in Cuprija. 70 music schools took part in.

There was also organized a Republic competition of choirs of elementary schools of Serbia.

Skilled education of teachers

The Association of music and ballet schools of Serbia applied for the programs of skilled education at the Ministry of education of the Republic of Serbia. Numerous problems were noticed in this field regarding the financing the attendance of the program. A great number of teachers is still not in the position to attend and follow the programs of skilled education.

At the open competition for the school year 09/10, the Association of music and ballet schools of Serbia applied with 11 programs, under the terms confirmed by the Presidium.

SLOVAKIA

Asociácia základných umeleckých škôl Slovenskej republiky "EMU Slovakia" Association of Basic Arts Schools of Slovak Republic "EMU Slovakia

One of the most important recent events for Music and Arts Schools in Slovakia is the passing of new legislation regarding arts education. This new legislation, the Law of Training and Education, number 245/2008, is the culmination of several years of effort of the Association of Elementary Arts School of Slovak Republic (AEAS SR). The most important aspect of the new law is that it officially recognizes the role of Elementary Arts Schools as the providers of primary arts education in the Slovak Republic. Additionally, the law also brings with it several new reforms for the administration of arts schools: every school will follow a common core curriculum and be responsible for tayloring the remaining portion of the curriculum according to its students' needs and school traditions; a new centralized register of all students of Elementary Arts School will be created; teachers and directors will undergo regular reviews etc.

A second piece of legislation (so-called Law of the Paedagogical Employees) is currently making its way through the parliament. As a member of the minister's recommendations committee, one of the members of the board of the AEAS SR was involved in helping to prepare this legislation, regarding the role, responsibilities and rights of educators and school employees.

As mentioned above, the new legislation proposes a common core curriculum for all Elementary Arts Schools. In May of last year, the general assembly of AEAS SR established a team of experienced teachers representing the various musical disciplines. This team, in cooperation with the State Paedagogical Institute, is now working on creating the new curriculum. Since March 2009 when the AEAS SR held its latest meeting, their efforts have intensified and the formulation of a new, state wide education program for all Music and Arts Schools is now well underway.

In other news: in October of 2008 in Livorno, Anna Gondášová and Mária Slaninová participated in the EMU seminar entitled "Music Makes People". The purpose of this seminar was to educate participants regarding the availability of programs for international cooperation within the EU (Socrates - schoolpartnership). More importantly, the seminar informed participants how to access these programs and obtain EU funding for them. At the March 2009 general assembly of AEAS SR, Ms. Gondášová and Slaninová relayed this information to the directors of slovak Music and Arts Schools and put them in touch with the national office of SAAIC in Bratislava. In addition, they have committed to assisting interested schools in finding international partners to participate in the programs with.

This year the 10th European Youth Music Festival will take place in Upper Austria. It is being jointly organized by EMU, the Conference of Austrian Music Schools and the city of Linz, Europe's "culture capital" for 2009. It is being held on May 21st to 24th 2009 in Linz, Wels, Steyr, Bad Ischl, etc. We are proud to announce that four Slovak ensembles will be participating in this prestigious international event. We wish them every success and a great experience at the festival!

Finally, please check out AEAS SR's new website: www.emu-slovakia.stranka.info

As you may notice, the website does not always get updated on a regular basis. This highlights one of the major challenges the AEAS SR currently faces: it does not have an office space nor a permanent employee. All of it's activities are currently undertaken on a volunteer basis by the president and secretary. It is becoming increasingly evident that to run smoothly and consistently, AEAS SR, a member of EMU, will need to resolve this situation and acquire a full time employee as well as office space for its activities.

SLOVENIA

Zveza Slovenskih Glasbenih Sol

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ADVANCEMENTS

SMSA had many wonderful accomplishments in 2008. The Music school system in Slovenia grew according to our plans and objectives. A few highlights include:

Fran Gerbič prize: Annual award for the best Music School Teacher or Director. Promotion and participation was successful and the award ceremony was attended by the Minister of Schools and Sports for Slovenia, local dignataries, music school directors, and teachers.

SMSA was officially presented at the anniversaries, cooperated with media, organized and sponsored meetings and festivals of Slovenian Music schools including:

- 100 years Music School of Celje
- 60 years Music School Moste Polje of Ljubljana
- 50 years Music School Fran Gerbič of Cerknica
- 130 years Music Scool Karol Pahor of Ptuj

SMSA represented the Music schools to the public in all the media, at events, and other promotions.

COOPERATION & PARTNERSHIP

SMSA worked closely with many groups in 2008. Summary of our work with various teams and organizations is highlighted below:

Slovenian Ministry of Education and Sport (MŠŠ) - SMSA cooperated with the Secretary of MŠŠ, but had limited results due to vacancy in this position for half of the year.

National Commission of Music - Worked with the commission to research the music system for continious improvement.

Professional Council for Universal Education (PCUE) - Enacted new and recommended standards across all music schools in Slovenia via the PCUE certification board.

Zavodom Republike Slovenije za Šolstvo (ZRSŠ) - Institution for improvement of professional, technical, and educational systems in Slovenia assisted SMSA in our quest for improvements. We asked for their analysis of several aspects of our teaching and music school systems with fine results.

Cooperation with the Slovenian National commission for the competition (TEMSIG) - SMSA organized meeting and discusion about the 37th National competition. Some proposal were accepted. We also organized the 11th Regional competition, the 37th National competition in conjunction with the National Commission of Competition.

Teachers Trade Union - Slovenian Music Schools no longer have a representative in the Presidium of the Teachers Trade Union. Individual music teachers can still participate in this group. We worked with the union on various issues regarding music teacher standards including discussion of 'Afternoon Work'.

Slovenian Union of Headmaster of Primary schools and the Music schools. SMSA elected a new delegate of Music Schools for this organization. The new delegate attended meetings, represented our interests to, and resolved any issues with this union.

Europen Music School Union (EMU) - SMSA connected with the Lithuania and Latvian members of EMU and organized the Professional excursion there. SMSA participated in the 33rd General Assembly in Brussels. We also successfully presented several ideas at the EU project meeting in Livorno.

Brass Orchestra & String Orchestra Festival - SMSA organized, promoted, and conducted a 2 day festival for the presentation of the various skilled orchestras through out Slovenia. The festival was well attended.

Autumn meeting of the Slovenian Music schools in Radenci - SMSA sponsored, organized and held the traditional Autumn meeting for Slovenian music schools.

SMSA participated in meetings which were organized by the Ministry of Education and Sport. These meetings were held in Portorož and in Bled.

In 2008 SMSA also organized 7 meetings of the Presidium and four general meetings as well.

SPAIN

UEMYD Unión de Escuelas de Música y Danza

COURSES AND CONFERENCE OF FORMATION FOR THE TEACHING STAFF OF THE SCHOOLS OF THE ACEM

"The instrumental set with the instruments of wind metal at the schools of music" in charge of the Spanish Brass.

"The organization of the work in the class of instrument" in charge of Claudio Forcada

"The improvisation and the movement in the classes" in charge of Sofia López Ibor. The introduction of the jazz to the basic formation|training" in charge of Doug Goodkin

"Small musicians" in charge of teaching staff of the EMM of Arenys. "Corresponding, improvising and creating" in charge of Wolfgang Hartmann. "Body Percussion" with Javier Romero. "Improvisation in the class of instrument" in charge of Isabel Muniente. "Pedagogic resources for the class of group of instrument" in charge of Cèlia González

INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF THE ACEM

1. Restructuring of the Zones

During year 2007 the zones have been restructured in that the schools of the fruit ACEM of the new incorporation of associated schools are organized. In particular a new zone of the Central Catalonia that goes to being the sixth zone has been created

2. Creation of the Commissions

The creation of some commissions of work that teachers can participate in has also been promoted of all schools. They are the commissions: commission of production (celebration 15th anniversary) commission of formation - consulting commission commission of zones commission of community of the arts

3. Improvement of the web page of the ACEM

In year 2005 it was made the design and starting of a new web page as half of communication and diffusion of the activities of the association, of their schools and of what can be from interest for the members of the ACEM

During year 2007 the following services have been added to the page at schools:

- . a section of commissions, in which these can be contacted and obtain information.
- . a section of exchanges, where the schools can hang its|his|her|their proposals for searching interested schools.
- a section with the statutes of the association, recently revised and approved by the assembly.

4. Edition of an internal bulletin of the association:

The ACEM briefs quarterly at the associated schools about internal and external activities in the ACEM (courses of formation, competitions, contacts with the administrations, conference...), with the goal to improve the communication between the board and the associated schools.

Three ordinary bulletins (with the format pioneered the former year) have been edited the months of January, April and October. From July also some special bulletins have been edited about the celebration of 15th anniversary of the association.

Study about the hourly interrelation between the schools of music and the centers of general regime: To order of the Subdirection of artistic education of the Department of Education, the ACEM carried out, during the first terms of the year 2007, a study about the planning and organization of the school timetables of the Schools of Music of the ACEM with the centers of compulsory education of their environment.

The goal was to identify which hourly burden the pupils of music schools had; how it was valued by pupils, parents and teachers; and if there was any type of hourly coordination among centers.

The results of the study were presented to the annual assembly of year 2007.

REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

Root of the organization of the encounters of rehearsal of 15th anniversary in Lleida, Reus and Girona during year 2007 conversations have been opened with the corresponding Regional Governments that have fact that, with some of these administrations, an Agreement of support can be signed in the ACEM, like what since years ago is signed with the Regional Government of Barcelona.

EHME

Born in 1993, it is the association that includes the music schools of the Basque Country, totally 59.

Memory of activities of the association:

MUSICAL ACTIVITIES:

1. MUSIKALDI:

The Musikaldi is a party of the Music Schools and it has biannual character. In 2007 it was celebrated in Erandio, a municipality near Bilbao in Bizkaia.

Musikaldi was inaugurated for the Mayor of Erandio, the councillor of Education of the Basque Government, and other important figures of the cultural life in Euskadi.

There were eleven different zones of musical performances throughout the village, with different musical groups composed with more than 1500 pupils of the Music Schools of the Association.

There were more than 3000 listeners during the party.

2. EUROPEAN DAY OF THE MUSIC:

The European Day of the music was celebrated in 21th of June . Bilbao's town council gave up to the Association an stage in Santutxu, a neighborhood of Bilbao.

There were concerts during the afternoon

Seeing the positive evaluation and acceptation of the activity, the Association decided to do the next years, trying to do it in three provincial capitals (Bizkaia, Gipuzkoa and Araba).

3. MUSIKALEAN

In the day of Santa Cecilia (20th November), the Music Schools made "Music on the Street" (it's the translation of the term "Musikalean").

The participation of the associated schools was so good, with 37 of 59 and more than 1700 pupils and teachers.

4. BASQUE NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

The Association collaborated with Basque National Orchestra. It was a collaboration, where some pupils of the associated music schools participated in two concerts with Basque National Orchestra in a famous auditoriums of the Basque Country: The Principal Theatre of Vitoria and the Kurssal of San Sebastian.

COMMUNICATION:

Music Web Portal: www.ehme.eu

It's the Web Portal where you can found a lot of information about all things related with music.

There is information about internal organization of the Association, events of its and the 59 associated Music Schools.

EHME had signed a cooperation agreement with Fundacion Novia Salcedo to create a database with curriculums, employment offers, grants, courses... all connected with the Music.

Basque Book and Record Fair.

It's a forum of popularization and sale of our material and activities of th Association and the Music Schools too. It celebrate in december, annually.

Meetings of Directors:

Forum of relationship among the associates. It's a meeting between the directive of the association and the directors of music schools. Quarterly, the directive informs the directors about all activities of the association and it's a forum to interchange opinions too.

FORMATION|TRAINING:

1. Own annual training plan

The courses that EHME organized for 2007/2008 were:

- Finale
- Band in a box
- Special Education: Courses for teachers who attends pupils with special needs.
- Motivation and Automotivation

All courses had a good attendance and very good qualification

2. Training Plan through Basque Government: "Garatu" program

The Association colaborates with the Basque Government proposing some courses. The coures in cooperation between EHME and Basque Government for 2007/ 2008:

- 1. Direction of Wind Groups (in euskera/basque)
- 2. Musical -Therapy (in spanish)

CREATION OF A MUSICAL DICTIONARY IN EUSKERA:

In collaboration with the Basque Government, in order to unify the musical terms, the dictionary is going to include 4 languages, spanish, euskera(basque), english and french.

EDITON OF SCORES

The association does this edition through concession of grants for the creation of adapted scores to the needs for the schools of music. Then, the association hand out the scores gratuitously between the associated music schools. EHME has got a score file on available to the associates.

As well as edited scores, the association edit and distribute didactic material in euskera/basque.

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

1.Basque Government

Periodically, there are meetings between EHME and Basque Government to inform about the activities of the association

The Association has revised the decree of the musical teachings together with the Basque Government.

2. Others

The Association has relationship with Musikene, Superior Degree Conservatory on Euskadi. Is member of Basque Advisory Council of the Music and some associations related with musical education, like ISME.

SWEDEN Sveriges Musik- och Kulturskoleråd, SmoK Music and Arts schools in Sweden

Trends:

Develop from music to arts schools - a strong general trend. This means that at least three subjects of arts will be optional in the offer.

About 50 % of the music schools in Sweden have converted to arts schools. New groups of young people nowadays takes part of the activities.

We need more teachers in Dance, Theatre and Drama because the evolution from music to arts schools goes rather fast. Therefore the universities increase the education of teachers in dance, theatre and drama.

Cooperation with the compulsory school. The cooperation will be strengthened between the music and arts schools and the compulsory schools. There is a growing understanding that the esthetical methods will contribute to improve the learning conditions. The concept esthetical learning processes will become more common. Almost all music- and arts school in Sweden have some cooperation with the compulsory school in many different forms

Developing project:

The PASCAL project. The project will be carried through with seminars with further education that is theoretical and practical. The project comprise three years and 2009 is the last year. In October 2009 the closing remark of the project is a festival in Västerås with disabled children and young people on five scene during two days. Parallel we will organise some seminars for teachers and politician in this special subject.

Aims: all children and young people shall, apart from ability, have the opportunity to participate in the activities in the music and arts schools. After the end of this project the number of disabled participants in the music and arts schools should be doubled.

Purpose: to improve the ability of the music and arts schools to face the demands and desires of disabled people.

Form: About 30 municipalities will take part with their leaders and teachers. That means all together 130 people. A project leader fulltime is employed for the period of three years.

The quality project "Q2". Firstly the leaders from the local music and arts schools take part. The project will be carried through with seminars. One project leader fulltime is employed for one year and professor Bengt Klefsjö works with the participants at the seminars. A number of teams have been created with the purpose to study the idea of quality from different points of view. The final result from the teams will be the base for the final report of the project.

Together with the other Nordic countries we work with the theme quality in the project "the creative greenhouse". The scientist Anne Bamford from England is connected to the project.

Aims:

- · That there will be a description how the different processes of the music and arts schools works
- That there will be a description of the changes of qualities and also final conclusions with the question why the changes takes place
- That there will be a national net work for the work with the safety of the quality
- That there will be opportunities for a common view with the work with quality in music and arts schools
- That there will be a booklet with ideas about work with quality in music and arts schools

Purpose: To give the conditions to the municipalities to describe and compare their quality.

Form: The project "Q2" lasts for one year and includes about 10 municipalities.

SWITZERLAND Verband Musikschulen Schweiz

LIECHTENSTEIN Liechtensteinische Musikschule

1. General information

This National Report also covers the Liechtenstein Music School in Liechtenstein. The Liechtenstein Music School is a member of the Association of Swiss Music Schools and instructs 2.500 students.

The Association of Swiss Music Schools comprised 379 music schools and 12 cantonal associations in 2008. 261,800 students receive instruction from 12,000 teachers. The overall turnover for the 379 music schools is € 180,000,000. Parents and private persons contribute 45% and public funding covers 55%.

The turnover for the Association of Swiss Music Schools totals € 330,000.

The competence centers for Management, National and International Associations, Education and Continuing Education, Music Education Forum, PR and Marketing, and Support function autonomously.

2. Management - ASMS Strategy

a. "youth+musik" constitutional initiative

The ASMS together with the Swiss Council of Music and numerous other Swiss music associations has prepared a constitutional initiative entitled "youth+music".

The initiative was submitted to the Federal Chancellery in Bern on 18 December 2008 with 154,000 signatures. The goals of the initiative are:

- that children and young people receive musical instruction corresponding qualitatively to the instruction in other subjects as part of the obligatory curriculum;
- that children and young people receive more support when they are educated at music schools;
- that children and young people with outstanding musical talent are encouraged and promoted.

The Federal Council will prepare a dispatch by December 2009 and submit it to Parliament for consideration. A popular vote is expected in 2011.

b. "quarte" quality label

With quarte, the ASMS has created the first quality label for music schools. Together with SQS (Swiss Association for Quality and Management Systems), the ASMS has developed the three-level label quarte with an entry-level, continuing development, and profile module, the last of which fully complies with ISO standards. Quarte defines and describes processes in the areas of management, support, and performance. Regular auditing of the defined processes continuously generates innovations and adjustments. Regular recertification (every three years) gives the school a clearly understandable profile. This creates transparency for authorities, students, parents, and instructors as well as a basis for official decisions (subsidies). The three modules are being tested at four pilot schools through the end of 2009. The system will then be applied to the music school

landscape nationwide and become the industry standard. quarte may also be used by other EMU countries. Please contact the ASMS Secretariat.

3. National and international associations

a. Cantonal Delegates' Conference

As the legislative organ of the ASMS, the CDC again approved the annual goals plan of the Executive Committee for 2009 and carried out controlling. Together with a working group, the CDC prepared the normative documents (master plan, articles of association, communication concept) for the umbrella association structure. The General Meeting will decide on the new association structure on 15 May 2009. The ASMS will then be an umbrella association of the cantonal and intercantonal music school associations. The music schools will only be members of their respective cantonal association.

b. Network

Cooperation with other music associations in Switzerland, the Swiss Music Council, the Swiss Music Journal, the Swiss Music Competition of Youth, the youth+music association, and suissemusic was intensified.

Executive Committee member Helena Maffli and Secretariat director Ruth Hochuli maintain contact with the EMU.

4. Education and continuing education

a. Music Management education

In autumn 2007, the Master of Advanced Studies program at the Bern University of the Arts began for the second time and is now in the last semester of CAS traineeships. The program includes the ASMS's music school director training. The ASMS awards the Music School Director diploma to students successfully completing at least three Certificates of Advanced Studies in the MAS in Music Management. So far, the ASMS has conferred 31 diplomas.

b. Research projects

In collaboration with the ASMS, the Bern University of the Arts is launching a comprehensive survey of the structures, motivators, and inhibitors that significantly influence the development of specifically musical talents. Empirical surveys are used to research promotion models and structures as well as biographic prerequisites, backgrounds, and environments of award recipients and students.

5. Documentation/Statistics

a. New statistics

The questionnaire is software-driven and also factors in the concerns of the European Music School Union. The gathering of structural data was further developed and carried out in 2008. The quality of the data has improved since the previous year. More intensive cooperation with the EMU is envisaged, which may even result in compatible statistical software for all EMU countries.

6. Music Education Forum

The 2nd Music Education Forum (FMB) took place on 7/8 November 2008 in Aarau and was a success. The FMB targets politicians, school administrations, and instructors.

The FMB is a discussion and information platform established to consider current issues involving music education and integrating music instruction in the general education system. The Forum largely met the high expectations placed in the speakers and podium participants. The FMB is on a good path toward becoming a long-term event for establishing connections within the Swiss music scene.

The next Music Education Forum will take place on 22 and 23 January 2010 in Baden.

7. Conferences

Last year, four regional and national school director conferences were held to discuss specific issues such as talent promotion and cooperation between music schools and universities.

8. PR and marketing

The ASMS engaged in broad-based media work. Reporting in the Swiss Music Journal (48 pages) was the focus of media work.

The ASMS Newsletter was published on a monthly basis in 2008. This information provided by e-mail is the main information channel of the ASMS.

As part of media monitoring, about 300 news reports are screened and prepared for the ASMS website. A new folder with the most important information concerning the mandate and services of the ASMS was prepared and published.

Also, a folder on occupational health management in music schools was developed.

9. Support

a. Website

The ASMS is a key information platform for all music schools and their commission members, school administrations, and teachers. www.musikschule.ch

b. Counselina

The professional Secretariat provides information on all issues pertaining to music school organization.

c. Insurance services

Pension Fund Music and Education

The newly developed pension plan for persons with multiple jobs at the Pension Fund Music and Education has made good progress. The Pension Fund Music and Education continues to be viewed as an excellent and unique pension insurance option for our instructors and musicians. The Pension Fund Music and Education has now opened up further for associations in the fields of music, other arts, and education. The number of insured persons rose to 8.200 last year.

Additional information is available at www.musikervorsorge.ch

Occupational health management in music schools

In cooperation with the Pension Fund Music and Education and AXA insurance, the ASMS has developed a concept for occupational health management.

The ASMS supports efforts by music schools to protect and promote the health of their employees. The ASMS also makes available specific tools relating to health prevention, leave management (IT tool), and case management.

Comprehensive insurance offerings

The ASMS continues to provide comprehensive insurance plans through collective agreements in the areas of daily sickness allowances, health insurance, accident and instrument insurance, as well as all other personal insurances. The ASMS also benefits financially from these collective agreements. A folder describing all offerings is currently in preparation.

OBSERVER OF EMU FAROE ISLANDS Association of Music Schools in Faroe Islands

- Proposal for a new Music School Law was rejected by Municipalities.
- About 250 music school concerts this year and some pupils participated in concerts and competitions abroad with good results.
- 7 students aged 18-20 finished our 3 year course preparing for higher education abroad.
- 20 of our students are at moment in music conservatories abroad.
- Many visitors, among them 13 brass players from "Royal Academy of Music and Drama" Glasgow Scotland and string ensembles from "The East Helsinki Strings".

The national associations of the European Music School Union represent

- in 26 countries of Europe
- 6000 public music schools
- with 3 Million students

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