

Webinar on Early Childhood Music Education 1 & 2 October 2021

Meet the Speakers



Natassa Economidou Stavrou is Associate Professor in Music Education in the Department of Music and Dance at the University of Nicosia in Cyprus. She has presented papers in international conferences regarding music curriculum, teachers' and children's attitudes towards Music as a school subject, early childhood music education, creativity, differentiated instruction in music teaching and learning, students as curriculum co-negotiators, and effective music teaching. Her work has been published in refereed journals and books. She is currently elected board member of the International Society for Music Education (ISME) and served in the board of the European Association for Music in Schools (EAS) in the period 2015-2019. Natassa has co-coordinated the design and development of the latest Cyprus National Curriculum for Music, after appointment by the Ministry of Education in Cyprus. Since 2012 she directs her own early childhood music center, offering group music classes for children aged 8 months-7 years old.



Ulla Piispanen graduated with Master of Music from the Sibelius Academy with the specialisation in early childhood music education and kantele playing. After graduating, she has studied early childhood dance education in Jyväskylä Polytechnics and rhythmic in the Sibelius Academy. 1998 - 2018 she taught early childhood music and kantele playing in the Espoo Music Institute as well as early childhood pedagogy and kantele in Helsinki Polytechnics and Sibelius-Academy. Since 2020 Piispanen has been teaching early childhood music education in East Helsinki Music Institute. Piispanen has been acting as a lecturer frequently in Finland and abroad and she is member of the AEC/EMU Early Childhood Music Education working group. In addition, she has been doing numerous children's concerts with Finnish Symphony Orchestras as a singer and composer and published many study books.



Michael Dartsch first worked at music schools and at the University of Cologne, among other places. He earned his doctorate in education and has held a professorship for music education at the Hochschule für Musik Saar since 1996. There he also teaches violin didactics, elemental music pedagogy (EMP) and educational science. He received the State Prize for University Teaching and recorded a CD with Haydn's violin sonatas. His publications include "Der Geigenkasten" (a violin method, 3 volumes) as well as "Mensch, Musik und Bildung", an introduction in music pedagogy, the "Handbuch Musikpädagogik" (co-editor), "Didaktik künstlerischen Musizierens" and most recently the double volume "EMP kompakt" (Lexicon und handbook of EMP, with Meyer and Stiller). He is spokesperson for the EMP Germany working group and chair of the Early Childhood Music Education working group in the European project "Strengthening music in society".