



Adri de Vugt
 EAS President 2013-2015

Dear EAS members

I am very happy to send you our Autumn Newsletter. In it you will find information about our current and upcoming activities. This includes details of the EAS 2014 conference which takes place in May at the University of Nicosia in Cyprus. In particular I am really pleased with the contribution of some National Coordinators showing that EAS is an active network. Please note that our newsletter is not only meant to inform you but to provide a platform for your questions and comments. We welcome your contribution.

Please contact us on www.eas-music.org

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1. Deadline CFP EAS2014 Approaching

Every learner counts: democracy and inclusion in music in 21st century

Submissions are invited for the 22nd European Association for Music in Schools Conference. Hosted by the Cyprus Music Institute and the Department of Music and Dance of the University of Nicosia, the conference aims to gather together an array of international scholars, researchers, graduate students, teachers and practitioners to discuss democracy, diversity and inclusiveness in the context of music education in schools.

The conference seeks to encourage and stimulate discussion in regards to questions like: What do we mean by "music education for all"? Who are our learners? What are their needs? What obstacles do they face in their learning and how do we deal with these? How about our students' musical preferences or musical background? What is their view of Music as a school subject and what is their involvement in outside school music activities? What do they value in music? How do we maximize the learning opportunities and participation of all our learners?

Invited Speakers

- Dr Lucy Green, Professor in Music Education, Institute of Education, UK
- Dr Mary Koutselini, Professor of Curriculum and Instruction, University of Cyprus, Cyprus, UNESCO's chair holder in Gender Equality and Empowerment
- Dr Adam Ockelford, Professor of Music, Director, Applied Music Research Centre, University of Roehampton, UK

Dr Natassa Economidou Stavrou, chair of the organizing committee describes the rationale for the theme as follows:

'In practice, we sometimes fail to appreciate our students as a diverse group, instead expecting a more or less homogeneous way of understanding everything that is taught in relation to the theoretical skills of their age group as defined by developmental psychology or to abstract curriculum achievement standards determined by experts. Under such circumstances, we risk delivering an idealized and pre-set curriculum to all students, without considering the students' differences, peculiarities, experiences, preferences. But is it democratic to teach each student the same way, with standardized activities, listening material and objectives, simply on the basis of their common age?'



The submission form can be downloaded from the conference website
www.eas-music.org/eas2014

Submissions may be in the form of:

- Research Papers (20 min)
- Good practice/ educational experience papers or project report (20 min)
- Workshops (60 or 90 min)
- Posters

Abstracts should not exceed 300 words, indicating the format of the proposal and mentioning at least three keywords. Please submit it, along with a short curriculum vitae (max. 100 words) to eas2014@eas-music.org. Deadline for submissions: 30 November 2013. Submitted proposals will be peer-reviewed by an international scientific committee. Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision via email, by January 10, 2013. For more information please contact Dr Natassa Economidou Stavrou, chair of the organizing committee, at economidou.eas2014@unic.ac.cy

2. EAS Student Forum 2014

The EAS Student Forum provides students – future music teachers – with opportunities to share knowledge and experience of music education in schools and music teacher training programmes across Europe. It highlights and stimulates multicultural forms of learning and enables integration of music education theory and practice. It supports participant's individual personal growth and professional development.

The 12th EAS Student Forum will be held in Nicosia (19th – 22nd May 2014, Cyprus). The main theme **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN MUSIC EDUCATION PRACTICE** will be dealt with through presentations, poster sessions, discussions, workshops, an input session, and group and plenary work. Within varying musical activities, students – future music teachers from several European countries – will share their thoughts, experiences and knowledge. The invitation for the 12th EAS Student Forum will be sent to the National Coordinators at the beginning of January 2014, to enable them to nominate students.

Branka Rotar Pance

3. EAS Doctoral Student Forum 2014

The Doctoral Student Forum (DSF) is aimed at experienced practitioners in the field of music education as well as those involved as early career research students. Held over three days, it begins prior to the annual conference and ends with a poster session scheduled within the main conference programme. This provides participants with an opportunity to discuss their work with delegates attending the conference. The next EAS Doctoral Student Forum takes place in Cyprus, from 19th to 21st May 2014 when it joins the main conference.

Ena Stevanovic, a PhD student at Charles University, Prague was one of the participants at last year's DSF. Here's how she describes her experience and its impact on her research study:

'The Doctoral Student Forum that was held in Leuven from February 12th to 14th 2013 was a unique opportunity to discuss my own research issues with an international group of PhD students coming from different countries, universities and backgrounds. It was particularly useful because we all had one thing in common: we were stuck in our own thoughts and issues and we desperately needed a different perspective on them.

DSF helped me realize what stage of my research I was in because on the first session we had to write down the whole process we had been through. I had to lay out all those scattered ideas that came to my mind in order to answer my colleague's interesting and useful questions. The poster session that followed invited me to reflect on my research plans, methodology and main goals.

Even though my research topic is music performance anxiety, I didn't feel anxious at all in this environment. The atmosphere was very friendly and open, but on the other hand no one hesitated to express their thoughts and concerns. The language barrier was hardly noticeable. DSF introduced me to many different topics and approaches to research that opened my perspectives, I've got new literature suggestions and outside advices that helped me out of my vicious circle of thoughts.

The DSF moderators were crucial in this entire process. They were involved, but not intrusive. They were critical, but always ready with encouraging words. DSF motivated me and made me more productive in the following months. I felt like being a part of this big family of European music education researchers and that my work actually matters. But another very important thing is that I met people who showed me that the process of writing a PhD is not only a highly rewarding academic task, but also a very pleasant social experience'.

Details of DSF 2014 and how to apply are posted on the website in January 2014.

Mary Stakelum

4. EAS Website & Social Media

Thanks to those NCs who are very active and include current information on national level in the website! We realize a rising number of persons from all over the world who are visiting our website www.eas-music.org.

Of course you can find on the website all details about the next conference on the website, the new board after the elections this year, new National Coordinators, the publication projects, etc.

Member section with new content:

In the last months we worked a lot on the implementation of new content for the member-section (members only). You can now find there interesting papers of presentations and keynotes of the last EAS-Conference in Leuven (see www.eas-music.org/activities/publications/conference-papers-for-members-only/2013-leuven/).

Important information: The password for the member section is changing every year – all members are informed about the new access (user, password) on email.

In addition to some other modifications we also connected the website more directly to the networks for social media. We started a twitter account (already used during the last conference in Leuven), a youtube-blog and a new facebook-group (as already reported in the last newsletter).

To offer a direct link to the new possibilities of social networking we included these hyperlinks (logos) on all pages of the website. With this new feature you now can reach the social media-platforms easily from any part of the EAS-website.

In order to increase the quality and content and in consequence to increase the use and benefit from our website we are happy to include your contributions and to think about your ideas and proposals for further development.

Gerhard Sammer / Kilian Baur

5. ISME News

As a board member of ISME Sarah Hennessy attended the board meeting in July in Porto Alegre and we visited the conference venue: a large university campus on the edge of the city. The deadline for submission to the next World Conference in Porto Alegre, Brazil, is October 1st 2013. www.isme.org/isme2014.

ISME is keen to continue their agreement with EAS for the European Regional Conference (the next is in 2015) and we are working to develop a more active ISME presence in the planning of content of the conference programme and also to explore ways to encourage the participation of music educators from countries that are under represented both in EAS and in ISME.

6. Visegrad Music Conference in Prague

14th – 15th November 2013

The Visegrad Music Team is pleased to announce its doctoral conference in Prague on 14-15 November. This is the third such conference organised by the Visegrad Music Team. Established in 2007, it actively supports the research projects of PhD students from music departments in the Czech republic and the Slovak republic. In 2009, the first doctoral conference was held in support of music educational practice and this was followed, in 2011 by the second doctoral conference Theory and Practice of Music Education II. This year we are very proud to extend our collaboration with Poland and Hungary and thus to support the idea of regional cooperation as stated in the mission of the EAS.

Jarka Lojdová

7. EAS Youth Initiatives

Since its establishment in 1990, the EAS has been supporting youth initiatives. This tendency resulted in organising student fora for future music teachers. Based on cooperation with the IMC Youth Committee and the EMC Youth Committee, EAS Youth would like to elaborate on several areas of interest: extending the youth network, establishment of separate youth sections of the EAS website and of the EAS newsletter as well as creating platform for exchange of information, experiences, interests and wishes. Last but not least, we hope to build a youth committee that would reflect on current youth needs in the European sector, operating as an advisory body of the EAS in youth-related issues.

Jarka Lojdová

8. EAS Project Space

Regarding European Funding we all are awaiting the calls for the new European Framework Programme Horizon 2020 (http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm). At the moment the adoption of legislative acts by Parliament and Council on Horizon 2020 is still ongoing. By 1/1/2014 Horizon 2020 starts; then the first calls will be launched. Horizon 2020 is the financial support for the Europe 2020 (http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm) strategy: five ambitious objectives – employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy – to be reached by 2020.

EAS – being mainly involved with culture and education – the two funding programmes *Creative Europe* (http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/vassiliou/page/creative-europe_en.htm) and *Erasmus for all* (http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/vassiliou/page/erasmus-for-all_en.htm) which will include all former Education Funding Programmes will be the most interesting.

Isolde Malmberg

9. National Coordinators: News from Latvia

The National Coordinators develop links between music educators at national and European levels. Find out more about them and the important contribution they make by clicking on <http://www.eas-music.org/about-eas/national-coordinators>



Ruta Kanteruka
NC for Latvia

We are compiling a series of short reports from the national coordinators in our membership countries. In this issue, **Ruta Kanteruka, National Coordinator of Latvia** sends this report on work being done in Latvia.

— 2013 has been a very busy year for Latvian Music teachers. The 25th Latvian Nationwide Song and 15th Dance Celebration took place in Riga in July. Recognised as a national treasure by UNESCO, the The Latvian Nationwide Song and Dance Celebration is an event that is held once every five years, but at the same time, it is a process that is continuous. In July it brought together more than 40,000 singers, instrumental musicians, and dancers to the capital city, and audiences, both live and via radio and television, spanned the entire nation.

<http://www.dziesmusvetki.tv/en/news/120>

— I am very proud to announce that the winner of the 1st International Music Olympiad – **Eriks Zeps** from Latvia – was chosen to be a solo singer for the main concert of Song Celebration. Before winning the 1st International Music Olympiad, he was planning to study geography. Thanks to Ene Kangron for organizing the Olympiad and for highlighting Erik's musical talent!

<http://muo2014.riga.blogspot.com/>

— 2014 is a busy time for Riga. It will be the European Capital of Culture in 2014 and will also host World Choir Games

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOTLkZCCqal>



Call for Young Musicians!

The Latvian Music Teachers' Association, Jazeps Vitols Latvian Academy of Music and the European Association for Music in Schools invites you to join the 2nd International Music Olympiad April 30 – May 4, 2014 in Riga, Latvia.

It is aimed at students of general lower and upper secondary schools or music schools. Contests are organised in two groups (12-14 and 15-18).

Participation fee: 50 EUR.

All participants will be provided with free accommodation (4 nights) and meals. The participants must cover the travelling costs.

Deadline for registration of participants is April 4, 2014

We welcome participants from other countries to part in this special experience!

Apply online: <http://muo2014.riga.blogspot.com/>

E-mail: muo2014.riga@gmail.com

