



Adri de Vugt  
EAS President 2013-2015

## Dear EAS members

I am very happy to send you our EAS Newsletter. In it you'll find information about our current and upcoming activities. The important event to which we all look forward is the 22<sup>nd</sup> EAS conference to be held in Cyprus. This newsletter informs you about this conference and its related activities. In particular there is information on both students fora. Furthermore you will find information on project work, EAS publication, website development, students network and news from National Coordinators. Finally there is interesting news on collaborations with other networks.

Please note that our newsletter is not only meant to inform you but also to invite you to respond and we welcome your questions and comments. If you would like to offer a contribution of any kind, please contact us on [www.eas-music.org](http://www.eas-music.org)

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## 1. Update on EAS Conference 2014

**Every learner counts: democracy and inclusion in music in 21st century**  
May 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, Nicosia, Cyprus

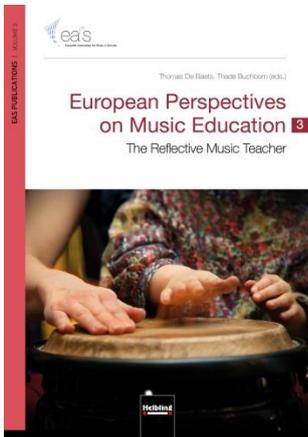
Five reasons why should no one miss this conference!

1. Certainly because of the balanced combination of research papers, projects, good-practice papers, workshops and posters, discussing multiple ways of engaging every single learner in the music teaching and learning process.
2. Just have a quick look on our distinguished keynote speakers and their topics:
  - Dr **Lucy Green**, Professor of Music Education, Institute of Education, UK  
Title: "Informal music practices and children's learning in the formal context: some illustrations"
  - Dr **Mary Koutselini**, Professor of Curriculum and Instruction, University of Cyprus, Cyprus, UNESCO's chair holder in Gender Equality and Empowerment  
Title: "Creative Differentiation of Teaching and Learning"
  - Dr **Adam Ockelford**, Professor of Music  
Director, Applied Music Research Centre, University of Roehampton, UK  
Title: "Music and autism: implications for teachers"
3. More than 120 presenters will participate, representing three continents
4. You will enjoy excellent concerts, varying from western classical music, to traditional music and jazz, performed by school pupils, the Cyprus youth orchestra, university students and professional musicians.
5. Last but not least: a beautiful island, sunny weather, sandy beach and fantastic food.

Opening Ceremony and Reception will take place on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May at 18:00- 20:30 and Closing Ceremony on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May at 12:30- 13.30.

*Natassa Economidou-Stavrou*





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## 2. New Book: European Perspectives on Music Education 3

The third book in the series *European Perspectives on Music Education* is now available. This publication, edited by Thomas De Baets and Thade Buchhorn, takes its theme from the EAS2013 conference 'The Reflective Music Teacher'. It addresses concerns of relevance to pre-service and in-service music teachers, researchers, and all those interested in music education, through contributions about reflection in the music teacher profession. It introduces theoretical and philosophical approaches, reports on research on music teachers' reflections and on practitioner research projects, and presents examples of good practice in stimulating reflection. It is not a proceedings book but consists of newly written chapters written by authors from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Ireland, Finland, Germany, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Together, they offer an international view on the central theme. The book will be presented in May during the general meeting at the EAS2014 conference in Nicosia, Cyprus.

The book can be ordered at Helbling:

<http://www.helbling.at/?pagename=product&product=W7132>

*Thomas De Baets / Thade Buchhorn*

## 3. EAS Student Forum 2014

Prior to the EAS Conference in Nicosia, students – future music teachers from Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, The Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey – will meet and work together for four days. The theme of the 12th Student Forum is "Diversity and Inclusion in Music Education Practice", which is linked to the 22nd EAS conference. Through different activities students will get insight of the main topic and share their knowledge and understanding of educational practice in their countries. The event is prepared by the Student Forum team: Dr Marina Gall (University of Bristol, Graduate School of Education, UK), Dr Branka Rotar Pance (University of Ljubljana, Academy of Music, SI), Jaroslava Lojdova (Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Education, Department of Music, CZ), Celine Janina Wiesener (Student Delegate, Berlin University of the Arts, DE) and Demetris Michael (Student Delegate, University of Nicosia, CY). The process and the results of the Student Forum will be presented at the EAS conference.

*Branka Rotar Pance*

## 4. EAS Doctoral Student Forum 2014

The Doctoral Student Forum takes place over three days from 20<sup>th</sup> May to 22<sup>nd</sup> May. This year participants come from Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland/South Africa, Italy, Lithuania, Turkey and UK. In advance of the forum, we ask participants to prepare a short (3 minutes) spoken summary of the basic idea of their project, and to bring a poster to the forum. At the introductory session, each participant makes their spoken presentation and this allows us to look in greater detail at specific aspects of each study, identifying key concepts and highlighting some principles about research in general. On the second day the discussion focuses on the realities of the research process. The posters of each participant will be used to work on 'real-world' research issues and challenges, with feedback, pointers and responses provided by the group. There will be a mixture of paired, small group and whole group activities. The event culminates in a dedicated DSF poster session at the conference where each participant is invited to make a public presentation of their poster and hear some valuable feedback from conference delegates.

*Mary Stakelum*

## 5. EAS Student Network

Over the past two years, EAS Student Network has been working on systemizing its past, current and future efforts. The main aim of the student network is to create the platform in order to share experiences and to develop new ideas that might help young music professionals shape their future. The platform is defined as the opportunity to meet face to face as well as the opportunity to meet virtually or to share materials in a digital version. The concept of various types of platforms is to be discussed further.

So far, the EAS Student Network has managed to reach other music organisations that support youth participation. We hope to keep strengthening the student network within EAS and to extend our reach to young music professionals not only in Europe but beyond its borders as well.

*Jaroslava (Jarka) Lojdová*

## 6. EAS2014 – Project Space – Information on Funding Opportunities

At the upcoming EAS Conference 2014 in Nicosia EAS will host a session on providing information and hints on the current European funding landscape. Experts from EAS (Adri de Vugt, Isolde Malmberg) as well as from AEC (Jeremy Cox) and will report on the latest funding developments and answer questions from participants.

### *Creative Europe in force*

The long awaited Creative Europe programme is in force since 1 January 2014, finally published on 11 December 2013. It has a budget of €1.46 billion over the next seven years and replaces the MEDIA, MEDIA Mundus and Culture programmes. The calls published under the Culture sub-programme support the following measures: European cooperation projects (deadline: 5 March 2014) European Platforms, European Networks and Literary Translation Projects (deadline for all three: 19 March 2014).

[http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/calls/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/calls/index_en.htm)

[http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/calls/call-eac-s16-2013-cooperation\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/calls/call-eac-s16-2013-cooperation_en.htm)

### *Erasmus+ programme and programme guide published*

Erasmus+ is the new EU programme replacing the former programme of Education, Training, Youth and Sport. Erasmus+ brings together seven existing EU programmes in the fields of education, training and youth. The seven year programme (2014-2020) will have a total budget of €14.7 billion. The programme guide has been published and is valid as of 1 January 2014. It provides opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain work experience and volunteer abroad. In addition to providing grants for individuals, Erasmus+ supports transnational partnerships among education, training and youth institutions and organisations to foster cooperation and bridge the worlds of education and work. It will also support national efforts to modernise education, training and youth systems.

[http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm)

*Isolde Malmberg*

## 6. Website Development

In order to develop the quality of the EAS-website we continuously work on content and structure to present current activities in many European countries in an appropriate way. We constantly add new information/new content and try to increase the benefit of the website for all those who use it.

- We consider the **country-section** a very important part of the website for EAS and for all users of the website: we have now for (nearly) every single involved country information about the National Coordinator, music teacher training (MTT), music education in schools and some News & Events. Thanks also to all National Coordinators (NCs) who prepared the content for the presentation on the website. Still important for all NCs: Please have a look at your country-section and send us further / missing information.
- Therefore we would like to say many thanks especially to our colleague Ene Kangron. She helped a lot to push forward the country-section of the website where mainly the responsibility is dedicated to the National Coordinators (NCs).
- We also added interesting **papers from the Conference in Leuven** (2013) to the website (area for members-only). You can find them on the "Activities-Section" under "Publications-Conference Papers". You can read the papers of many keynotes and reports from the last Conference.
- Please check the website also regarding information for the upcoming **EAS-conference in Cyprus** (conference-programme, venue, registration form, venue and transfer, excursions etc.)!

In order to stay "up-to-date" we also made direct links from our EAS-website to our special pages or channel from some other social media-platforms like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Please use these new features and include your experiences and ideas regarding music education.

*Gerhard Sammer & Kilian Baur, for the website team*

## 7. Collaboration Amongst Music Network Organisations

The Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen (AEC), European Association of Music in Schools (EAS) and European Music School Union (EMU) are three network organisations with strongly complementary roles in European music education. Between them, they cover both the generalised and more specialised music education that musicians encounter, and they embrace all the different kinds of environments and institutions in which this takes place, from the earliest years through to higher education, and across lifelong learning.

AEC, EAS and EMU have a good history of cooperation: through the Music Education and Training working group of the European Music Council (EMC); in the development of Learning Outcomes for both musical performance, instrumental and vocal teaching and music education in schools (Polifonia, meNet); in the development of key statements such as the EMC's 'Bonn Declaration on Music Education in Europe' and in the organisation of joint events such as the seminar 'From Seoul via Bonn to Budapest' in 2012.

In order to enhance this cooperation, developing greater synergies and building up stronger structures that support the European music education, training and cultural sectors, AEC, EAS and EMU have begun a series of joint meetings designed to deepen their mutual understanding, reinforce their knowledge management and cooperative expertise and lay the foundations for a more strategic approach to working with one another. During the conference in Cyprus the three organisations will have a joint seminar on collaboration in music education.

*Adri de Vugt*

## 9. National Coordinators: News from Estonia

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>



Ene Kangron  
NC for Estonia

**Ene Kangron, EAS National Coordinator for Estonia**, reports on *The Verdissimo Junior Competition* in Estonia.

'Verdissimo Junior' is a competition which sets out to bring high school Estonian students closer to the tradition of Italian opera. It was organised jointly by the Embassy of Italy in Tallinn, the Estonian National Opera and the Academy of Music and Theatre of Tallinn to mark the 200 years since Giuseppe Verdi's birth. Its purpose is to help to preserve an appreciation of classical music (and opera in particular) among the youngest generations, and consequently to ensure a public for opera in the years to come.

It began with an invitation, sent to around 500 students from schools from all over Estonia, to attend a general rehearsal of "Rigoletto", one of the Verdi operas performed in the context of the Estonian National Opera's Festival "Verdissimo". Subsequently, the students were asked to write an essay on their experience and the winners were announced during a ceremony at the Academy of Music and Theatre and, additionally at the Opera House in Tallinn just before the performance of 'La Traviata'.

'Verdissimo Junior' has received financial support also from the Council of Gambling Tax and enjoys the patronage of the Estonian Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education.

Congratulations to all the students who participated in this exciting and quite original competition!

For more information: <http://www.eas-music.org/en/countries/estonia-ee/news-events/>



Picture shows the members of the jury, the Ambassador of Italy in Estonia Mr Marco Clemente and the Rector of the EAMT Prof Peep Lassmann at the Awarding Ceremony at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre on Dec 5 2013 (photo by Liina Viru, Estonian National Opera).



Ruta Girdzijauskienė  
NC for Lithuania

**Lithuania's national coordinator, Ruta Girdzijauskienė** shares her perspectives on the school year in Lithuania.

In Lithuania, the school year begins with teachers enthusiastically planning new activities and continuing those already started. Among the activities in place this year, the most important ones are those which focus on implementing musical/artistic projects and developing teacher practice, along with organising seminars and courses, and of course State events such as the Olympiad. This year saw the third music Olympiad of Lithuanian children. The number of participants increases every year, as does the number of participating districts of Lithuania. In its first year the Olympiad attracted 25 participants, and last year this number doubled in size, with fifty children taking part. The winners of regional competitions meet in State competition in March. From there the most talented young musicians from Lithuania are chosen to represent their country in Riga at the international Olympiad.

Musical/artistic projects form an important part of the music teacher's activity in Lithuania. One such project is Singing Class, Singing School, where every class, every ordinary school is invited to share its musical capacities. Another influential project – Let's Make Music, Create and Enjoy - will be implemented as well during the year. In this project teachers and children are encouraged to create and perform music of Lithuanian folk instruments.

Various courses, seminars and conferences for music teachers occupy a special place among other musical activities in our country. It is here that new ideas are raised, problems are aired, and opportunities are provided for discussions on issues which concern music education both at home and abroad. A central aim of these events is to increase teacher competence and to improve the situation of music education in Lithuania. We believe that teachers welcome these opportunities throughout the school year. They provide suggestions and ideas for teaching and help give meaning to the work accomplished.

## 10. New Pan-European Singing Research and Resources

A new report from Koor&Stem, the Flemish organisation for vocal music, has gathered over 100 inspiring examples of singing at primary schools and teacher training colleges from all over Europe. These examples show a wide range of successful approaches to becoming a 'singing school'. Based on these examples, a new songbook has been published: *Do you like music?* In this bilingual songbook (English and Dutch), experts from different European countries have shared their knowledge and experience in singing with primary school children and have given useful didactic tips to children's repertoire that can be directly put into practice by teachers. The full report is available for free download on the website of Koor&Stem:

[www.koorenstem.be/avoiceforvocaltraining](http://www.koorenstem.be/avoiceforvocaltraining).

The report and songbook can be purchased via [www.koorenstem.be/webshop](http://www.koorenstem.be/webshop).

