



## Commission on Music in Special Education, Music Therapy, and Music Medicine

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place through music!



### FROM THE COMMISSION CHAIR

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing with great delight, as the second issue of our newsletter provides information about upcoming international music therapy conferences, several useful resources, and commission news. A special thank you to Kim McCord, Kim VanWeeldon, Giorgos Tsiris, and Markku Kaikkonen for their contributions to this newsletter.

This newsletter also provides an updated Call for Papers for our commission meeting and World Conference in Brazil 2014. In our first newsletter, I mentioned that our commission meeting was going to be held in Rio. However, due to some unforeseen conflicts resulting from the World Cup games (also in Rio next summer), our meeting site has been changed to Curitiba, Paraná at the Faculdade de Artes do Paraná (FAP). I think that this is for the best and that we will have an amazing experience at the FAP.

I hope that you will find the information included herein most helpful and I encourage you also to share its contents with your friends and colleagues.

Have a wonderful summer!

Most sincerely,  
Lyn Schraer-Joiner

### CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE 2014 31<sup>ST</sup> ISME WORLD CONFERENCE AND PRE-CONFERENCE COMMISSION FOR MUSIC IN SPECIAL EDUCATION, MUSIC THERAPY AND MUSIC MEDICINE SEMINAR

You are invited to submit an application for presentation at the International Society for Music Education Commission on Music in Special Education, Music Therapy, and Music Medicine held at the Faculdade de Artes do Paraná – FAP in Curitiba, Paraná 17-18 July 2014.

The International Society for Music Education Commission on Music in Special Education, Music Therapy and Music Medicine was established in 1974 in order to contribute to the progressive development of music therapy and music in special education.

**The International Society for Music Education (ISME)** believes that lived experiences of music, in all their many aspects, are a vital part of the life of all people.

**ISME's mission is to enhance those experiences by:**

- building and maintaining a world-wide community of music educators characterized by mutual respect and support
- fostering global intercultural understanding and cooperation among the world's music educators
- promoting music education for people of all ages in all relevant situations throughout the world.

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The focus of the ISME Commission for Special Education: Music Therapy and Music Medicine is the advancement of the discipline through research and scholarship; learning and teaching; and engagement. The Commission seminar aims to:

- present research and clinical practices related to the three professions;
- exchange information about the training required for the three professions;
- promote international dialogue and discussion regarding the three professions;
- disseminate the research presented at these meetings in commission proceedings.

### **PRESENTATION AT COMMISSION SEMINAR at the Faculdade de Artes do Paraná – FAP in Curitiba, Paraná 17-18 July 2014:**

The 2014 Special Music Education, Music Therapy and Music in Medicine Seminar will host two tracks:

(a) a clinical track

and

(b) a research track. The clinical track will be for presenters who wish to provide demonstrations or workshops on therapeutic and educational practices applicable to the three professions. The research track will be for presenters who wish to share original research in special music education, music therapy or music in medicine.

### **WORLD CONFERENCE, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 20-25 July 2014:**

Presenters at the Special Education: Music Therapy and Music Medicine Seminar at the Faculdade de Artes do Paraná – FAP in Curitiba, Paraná 17-18 July 2014 are invited to present their research papers as a poster at the World Conference in Porto Alegre. Because seminar presentations will be reviewed by the Special Education, Music Therapy, and Music Medicine Commission for inclusion in the Seminar, presenters will not go through review again by the World Conference committee but will be based upon the recommendations of the Commission Chair. Posters will be selected for the Poster Session as part of the Commission's presentation activities at the 31st ISME World Conference in Porto Alegre. (Participants in the Poster Session will be responsible for all their own expenses).

Submissions should be made through the ISME website at <http://www.isme.org/isme2014>. The submission system will be available from 1 August 2013 and the deadline for proposals is 1 November 2013. Commission proposals should be a separate submission and separate paper from submissions to the world conference.



### **Commission on Music in Special Education, Music Therapy, and Music Medicine**

#### **Our VISION**

- To share international perspectives on the current research in special music education, music therapy, and music medicine;
- To promote and advocate for students with disabilities
- To ensure they are afforded a quality music education commiserate with that of typical developing students;
- To enhance the quality of life for all children and adults with disabilities or medical conditions by sharing international practices in special music education, music therapy, and music medicine.

#### **Our MISSION**

To order to promote music in the lives of all children and adults with disabilities or medical conditions, our mission is:

- to provide an international forum for the exchange of ideas regarding the educational and therapeutic professions, and their place within each country's musical culture
- to increase the visibility of international research in the fields of special music education, music therapy, and music medicine
- to stimulate international research connections and the initiation of research projects between commission members
- to share contemporary technologies and products that enhance the musical lives of children and adults with disabilities or medical conditions.

#### **For Questions and Feedback, please contact:**

Lyn Schraer-Joiner (chair), [lschraer@kean.edu](mailto:lschraer@kean.edu)  
Markku Kaikkonen (chair-elect),  
[markku.kaikkonen@resonaari.fi](mailto:markku.kaikkonen@resonaari.fi)

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Details for full submission can be found at <http://www.isme.org/isme2014/164-commission-seminars-calls>.

All submissions should be accompanied by short biographical notes of the presenters and sent to the Chair, Lyn Schraer-Joiner, [lschraer@kean.edu](mailto:lschraer@kean.edu)

### ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

a. **The Inaugural Nordoff Robbins Plus Conference Music and Communication: Music Therapy and Music Psychology** will take place on September 20, 2013 at the Nordoff Robbins, London Centre, UK. Keynote speakers will include Ian Cross (music psychology) and Felicity North (music therapy). For registration and submissions, please see: [www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/conferences](http://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/conferences)

b. **The 1st Conference of the British Association for Music Therapy**, will be held February 21-23, 2014, in Birmingham, UK. For further information, please go to <http://www.bamt.org/>

c. **The World Congress for the World Federation of Music Therapy** will be held from July 6-12 in Vienna/Krems, Austria. Information about the conference including paper submission can be found at [www.musictherapy2014.org](http://www.musictherapy2014.org) and <http://abstracts.webges.com/wcmt2014>

d. **The 40th Conference of the Canadian Association for Music Therapy** will be held June 23-24, 2014 in Toronto, Canada. For more information on conference activities and participation please email [info.musictherapy2014@bell.net](mailto:info.musictherapy2014@bell.net).

e. **The Biennial Finnish National Conference of Music Education** organized by Finnish Society for Music Education will take place on November 21-23, 2013 at the Sibelius Academy and Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki, Finland. Keynote speakers will include President of ISME Margaret Barrett. Official language of the conference is Finnish and partly English. For further information, please go to [www.fisme.fi](http://www.fisme.fi) or contact [fisme@fisme.fi](mailto:fisme@fisme.fi)

### RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

a. **The International Index of Music Therapy Organisations (IIMTO)** is an online, open source mailing directory of music therapy organisations, such as associations and training institutions. A total of 463 contacts from 59 countries across the world are currently provided. This new online resource has been developed by Giorgos Tsisiris and is now made freely available via Nordoff Robbins' website: [www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/IIMTO](http://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk/IIMTO)

Many music therapy organisations may be missing from the current version of IIMTO, but the good news are that IIMTO will be updated on a regular basis. So, please have a look and SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS! Also, please forward it to your associations and colleagues and encourage them to send their organisations' details too. If you would like to propose the addition of an organisation to IIMTO, please email: [IIMTO@nordoff-robbins.org.uk](mailto:IIMTO@nordoff-robbins.org.uk)

b. **Children with Exceptionalities: A Special Research Interest Group (SRIG) of the National Association for Music Education**. The Children with Exceptionalities SRIG "seeks to promote understanding of children with exceptionalities" as well as to provide informational resources including adaptive musical instruments, assistive device and technologies, apps, books and journal articles, related groups, as well as information on special needs legislation.

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Collaboration between music educators and researchers particularly with regard to the teaching strategies is also promoted. The current chair for thus SRIG is Kimberly VanWeelden of Florida State University. More information can be found at <https://sites.google.com/site/exceptionalitiessrig/home>

c. **Approaches: Music Therapy & Special Music Education** is an open access peer-reviewed journal dedicated to the field of Music Therapy, as well as to the field of Special Music Education. Through the journal's website and its mailing list everyone can be informed about upcoming events (i.e. conferences and seminars) and search other relevant online journals and websites. Approaches is a biannual publication (spring and autumn) and it is accessible free of charge. To sign up for the Approaches: Music Therapy & Special Music Education mailing list and to also receive its newsletter please email [approaches.adm1@gmail.com](mailto:approaches.adm1@gmail.com) or go to <http://approaches.primarymusic.gr/approaches/content/view/40/60/lang,en/>.

### COMMISSION NEWS:

#### THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ASSESMENT IN MUSIC EDUCATION (IASME)

##### *Music Assesment and Global Diversity: Practice, Measurement and Policy*

In April 2013, an international delegation assembled on the beautiful campus of the National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan for a four day symposium to learn more about assessment and reporting of achievement in musical development and learning from an august cast of international and national experts. The first of this series of symposia assembled on the campus of the University of Florida, Gainesville FLA in 2007.

The 4th International Symposium on Assessment in Music Education (IASME) *Music Assessment and Global Diversity: Practice, Measurement and Policy* was co-hosted by Professor Mei-Ling Lai (National Taiwan Normal University); and Professor Timothy Brophy (University of Florida).



Music Building,  
National Taiwan Normal University

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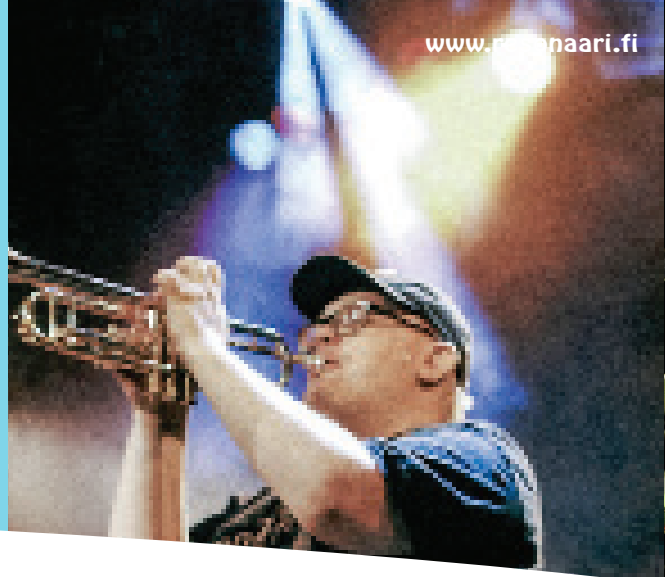
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Assessment and reporting? Seems like a good idea. Everybody's selling it. But, in the high-stakes world of assessment and reporting policy and practice, we must remind ourselves that the most important aim is to strengthen learning and teaching. But, nobody can truly know what is locked in the world of individuals with the many classifications of complex disabilities and/or impairments, some rare. However, it *does seem possible* to make such an apparently insular world fulfilling through engagement in *The Arts*, particularly music. Music seems to provide an outlet for expression and communication with others in an otherwise strange and confusing universe. Indeed, some may possess extraordinary musical gifts and talents despite sometimes complex severe, profound and multiple limitations.



Delegates at the Conference Banquet,  
4th IASME, Taiwan

Several delegates took courage to present papers and/or poster demonstrations on the impact of the problematical issue of assessment and reporting policy and practice that confronts the daily work of special educators, paramedical and medical professionals alike. One presentation focussed on standards based assessment and reporting of a music and movement program for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs).

ISME *Music and Special Education, Music Therapy and Music Medicine* Commissioners, Jessie Chen and Helen Farrell were delegates to this symposium. Jessie served as a presider for several sessions and Helen presented a paper and poster demonstration titled *The Blind Assessor: Are We Constraining or Enriching Diversity of Music Development and Learning?* Helen's presentation focused on the contributions of the growing body of specialist knowledge and understandings in the neurobiology, neurology and neuropsychology of the many classifications of complex disabilities and/or impairments; and its interaction with the growing body of specialist knowledge and understandings in music psychology/auditory cognitive neuroscience. This specialist knowledge and understandings shape approaches to this high-stakes debate.

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Curriculum, assessment and reporting frameworks simply must take courage to accomplish innovative and sustainable outcomes that, in some modest ways, mitigate political, economic, social and cultural exclusion of children and young people of compulsory school age with the many classifications of complex disabilities and/or impairments.

The take-home message from this symposium is that members of the *ISME Commission on Music and Special Education, Music Therapy and Music Medicine* also take courage and advocate with determination and feistiness with whosoever we work in this high stakes debate.



**Helen Farrell (L)  
and Jessie Chen (R)**

**We welcome your valuable comments and suggestions!**  
**Please send to [lschraer@kean.edu](mailto:lschraer@kean.edu) or [markku.kaikkonen@resonaari.fi](mailto:markku.kaikkonen@resonaari.fi).**

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