## **Personal Statement**

I am writing to express my interest in running for the nomination process for Members at Large for the Board of Directors of ISME 2024-2026.

I hold a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil (2005), and a master's degree in music education from the Brazilian Conservatory of Music (2000). I worked for more than seven years as a teacher in a public conservatory of music (1997–2003). Besides, I have around 24 years (1998–current) of experience as a professor of higher education at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Currently, I hold a full-time position as an "Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology, Music Education, and Acoustic Guitar" at the Federal University of Paraíba, Brazil. This university offers one of the most extensive music programs in the country by encompassing different levels and modalities of music courses, including a broad set of bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. degrees. Spanning 15 years of work in these educational institutions, I have worked as the chief of the music department, the coordinator of the undergraduate courses (Bachelor of Music in Music Education), and the coordinator of the graduate music program (master's degree and doctorate).

From 2018 to 2019, I worked as a visiting scholar at the University of Texas, Austin, sponsored by the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) and the Butler School of Music. I conducted a post-doctoral research project at this Institution by working on a study titled "Afro–Brazilian culture and Brazilian Higher Education in Music: Analyses from a Trajectory of Coloniality, Exclusions, and Epistemicides."

Since 2013, I have received numerous awards, including the "Research Productive Fellowship" from the Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). I have a strong background in music education, ethnomusicology, and music performance. My primary fields of work and research interest include: decolonial music education; intercultural music education against musical epistemicides; Afro-Brazilian music; music curricula, diversity and decolonial options; ethnomusicological perspectives on Brazilian and Latin American Music.

As an ethnomusicologist and music educator, I have gained comprehensive experience by coordinating music and education programs and working on research and teaching projects on Brazilian music/culture. I have written and published several papers in specialized journals, books, and national and international events proceedings. I also served as the Brazilian Association of Music Education president for two terms—from 2013 to 2017. I served as a member of the ISME National Affiliate Council 2016/2018 representing Brazil on behalf of the Brazilian Association of Music Education. I'm the President of the National Brazilian Association of Research and Graduate Programs (ANPPOM).

Taking this experience into account and my interest in contributing to the development of ISME and, consequently, music education around the world, I have a keen interest in serving as a member of the ISME's Board of Directors. My primary interest is to represent Brazil and Latin America at large by presenting proposals and suggestions to contribute to strengthening the ISME around this continent.

Sincerely,

Brazil, January 15, 2024

Levis Rixardo Silva Osniray