



MUSIC EDUCATION POLICY
GROUP

MEP GROUP NEWS



MUSIC EDUCATION AROUND THE WORLD

Focus on Latin America!

Prof. Adriana Didier Rodriguez (President, FLADEM) and Prof. Dr. Marcus Madeiros (President, Brazilian Association for Music Education) led a virtual strategic learning talk on the current policy landscape for music education in Latin America on 22 April '20.

Adriana: „The **Foro Latinoamericano de Educación Musical** FLADEM is a forum open to all Latin Americans interested in Music and Education. We strive for FLADEM to be a productive space, where we can exchange experiences and reflect upon music education.“ (...) „In the last decades of the 20th century, a neoliberal mindset has dominated the educational systems of Latin American countries and destroyed the active teaching of music.“ The talk included short profiles from **Argentina, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.**

[Read her talk here!](#)

Marcus' gave a brief historical overview of the **Brazilian music education landscape** to explain the current situation and pointed out some aspects of the latest legislative change on the presence of music education in schools: the approval of the **National Curricular Common Base.**

[Read his talk here!](#) For questions: presidencia@abemeducacaomusical.com.br

Responding to the Pandemic

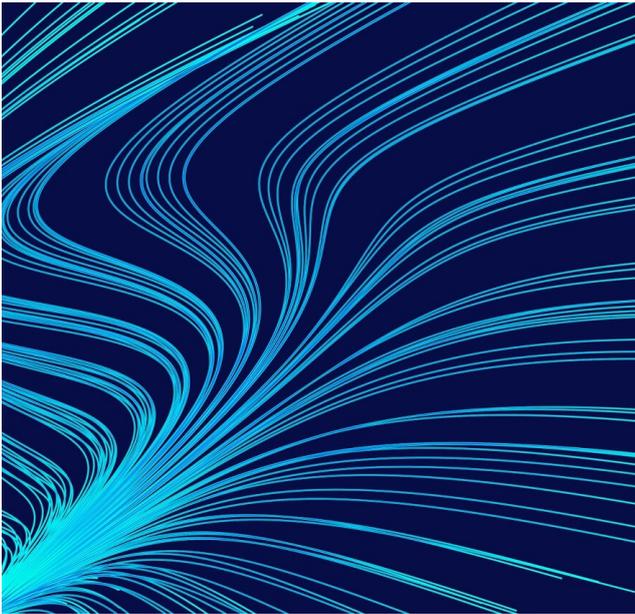
Initiative by our member **Sistema Global!**

Sistema Global is asking musicians, music organizations and higher ed institutions to create short videos/tutorials to help the El Sistema teachers create online content themselves; and to facilitate online learning for music students to access at home. The collective impact of this could be of great benefit to all Sistema students who are underprivileged. If you'd like to contribute, you can directly post videos and resources on Sistema Global's Facebook page: „[COVID-19 El Sistema Global Community Response](#)“. It is a private group, but anyone can join in!

The **World Economic Forum's COVID-19 Action Platform** has set up an **Arts & Culture Global Solidarity Network**: Bringing together mission-aligned cultural institutions from across the globe, the Network's key action areas include: 1. How to Support COVID-19 Behaviour Change; 2. How to Develop Collaborative Arts Projects for International Solidarity; 3. How to Provide Emergency Support for the Culture Sector; 4. How to Support a Sustainable Culture Sector After COVID-19.

UNESCO launched a global movement – **ResiliArt: „Artists and creativity beyond crisis“**, which sheds light on the current state of creative industries amidst crisis through an exclusive global discussion with key industry professionals while capturing experiences and voices of resilience from artists – both established and emerging – on social media. Together, it raises awareness about the far-reaching ramification of COVID-19 across the sector and aims at supporting artists during and following the crisis.“ More [here](#)...

Example from **Radio Butia, Uruguay**, a web station programmed with songs and various content for children, families and educators of the members of the Latin American and Caribbean Children's Song Movement, organized by composers and music educators from Uruguay: in [Spanish](#) and in [Portuguese](#)



Update on the MEP Expert Group 'Global Compact on Music Education'

At the MEP Group's recent meeting in London in 2019, we decided to draft a global manifesto to outline what we as a group believe in. We have now set up an Expert Group which held its first online meeting on May 7th and discussed what a document - that can inspire and empower music education stakeholders globally - should look like. We are working to enlarge the Working Group to make it more culturally and geographically representative and will ask all MEP Group members as well as the wider music education field for input. We'll be writing to you shortly with specific questions and hope that all of you will want to contribute to this important global effort! More [here...](#)

Upcoming Strategic Learning Talk on May 28th 2020 at 2pm CEST: **Music Funders' Reaction to the Pandemic**

Morag MacDonald from Creative Scotland and Dr. Claire Mera-Nelson from the Arts Council England will talk about their organizations' reaction to the pandemic in terms of funding for music education. They will discuss emergency measures, issues related to sustainability and more. To join, click on this [link!](#)



READING CORNER

Five ways music education policy must change

"Music education goes way beyond the development of musical skills: personal and social outcomes can be life-changing. If the next National Plan is clear that the purpose of music education is multi-faceted and not just about the development of technical musical skills, it will help music educators make innovations to increase their engagement and impact."

Published in: ArtsProfessional, March 2020 - written by our member, Youth Music (England)

Why learning to play music needs more than screentime

"It is worth being cautious about the potential for a longer-term, larger-scale move to teaching and learning music online. At the moment, it is necessary, and it is a wonderful thing that our current technology allows for this sort of learning. But it is worth also considering the things we miss when we cannot sing, play and learn together in person."

Published in: RTE.ie, May 2020

Music-making brings us together during the coronavirus pandemic

"As music neuroscientists who study how music affects our bodies and brains, we would like to shed light on the question: why do we turn to collective music-making in times of crisis? (...) The ability to entrain to a musical beat may also be what allows us to produce music with others. Group music-making is a remarkable phenomenon when considered from the perspective of neurobiology: not only are individuals playing music together, their brains are finding the same beat."

Published in: The Conversation CA, 28 Apr 2020

Canadians across the country celebrate Music Monday

Published in: onlineCTV News, May 2020 - about a flagship program of our member, Canada Coalition on Music Education