

ISME National Affiliate (INA) organizational profile

Name and 'nation' of ISME National Affiliate organisation:

Australian Society for Music Education Incorporated. Australia (ASME)

Membership

ASME membership is approximately 1000 (the sum of all Chapter Council members). Membership is open to any person supporting the aims of ASME. There are two categories of individual membership: full and concession membership. Membership of the society includes teachers in all sectors of schooling, tertiary institutions, community programs and private and studio practices.

Affiliation/relationships with other partners, for example provincial/territorial/regional partners,

On a regular basis, members of the ASME National Executive attend the meetings of the Australian Alliance of Associations In Education, Music Australia and National Advocates For Arts Education. ASME has a prime role as an advocate/umbrella body and communicates with national music and arts professional teaching associations, industry groups, public servants and members of parliament as required.

Brief history and operational/organisational context

The Australian Society for Music Education (ASME) was established in 1967 and the first National President was Sir Frank Callaway. The aims are to encourage and promote music education throughout Australia, as an integral part of our general education and community life and as a profession within the broad field of education. ASME represents all levels and fields of specialisation within music education. In its advocacy role, ASME brings together music teachers from all areas of music, and practising musicians from all sections of the music industry. Activities of the Society include Advocacy & Policy Development, Professional Development, Publications, Research, Communications & links with other agencies.

The governing body of ASME is a voluntary National Council, consisting of an elected six member National Executive (President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Publications Editor) and two members from each ASME Chapter. Terms of office for the National Executive are for two years, except the past president (one year only) and all except the President may stand for additional terms. The National Council meets in person once a year, and every second year the National Council meeting votes for the new Executive. Between National Council meetings, the National Executive runs the business of ASME nationally. The National Executive is the INA for Australia.

ASME National has an administrator, paid on an hourly basis to process memberships and attend to communication. This person reports to the National Executive.

Chapters operate in each of the six states and the Northern Territory and members join in the jurisdiction where they live. Chapters are incorporated separately, each having its own constitution and voluntary committee (a Chapter Council). Membership is national. The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Chapter closed in 2001 and an affiliation exists between ASME National and the ACT Music Educators Network to accommodate these members.

The ASME National constitution is the original document written by Sir Frank Callaway in 1967, with minor changes. It was the constitution submitted to the ACT Government when ASME National became incorporated. Revision is underway to bring it inline with the current legal Act, but because of the age of the document this has become a difficult task. Incorporation is associated with a

Government Act in each Australian State and Territory and provides organisations with a governing structure and legal protection.

Contact details/website

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