

ISME has nurtured me as a music education practitioner and scholar. Since I first attended the 2008 conference in Bologna, the ISME community has been foundational to the majority of my professional relationships and publications to date, and it continues to be a rich well of inspiration and community for me. I am a firm believer in and staunch advocate of ISME's mission of supporting and promoting music education and music making for all. Throughout my experience teaching in primary and secondary schools, in higher education, and working on program evaluation and as a grant-writer in the non-profit sector, my focus has aligned with this goal. From my research on identity, gender, assessment, and understanding music learning outside school, to publications on music making and leisure, punk pedagogies and democratized access and participation, I am dedicated to helping create and curate meaningful music making experiences for more people. My current work with Little Kids Rock is concerned with celebrating and nurturing the musicians we all are, and on the utility of music for the good of schools and communities. I feel privileged to spend my life in music, and feel compelled to share music's joy and abundance with others – their music, my music, our music.

As a current ISME board member, I am grateful for the trust put in me by members to help undertake the work of the Society during the 2018-2020 biennium, and I would love the chance to build on this experience and what I have learned about ISME in that time. I am excited to be an ISME board member in this current biennium, especially as the organization makes tangible efforts towards realizing visions of equity and diversity. In my adopted home of the United States, equity and diversity are core discussion points in music and arts education organizations. I have been humbled to learn about challenges of hegemony in music education in this country and honored to be involved in opportunities to diversify music access and participation through working closely with the GRAMMY Music Education Coalition, Little Kids Rock, the Arts Education Partnership's Equity Working Group, and others. Being on the board at this time of developing the six-year strategic plan, I would cherish the opportunity to see that through to the beginnings of being enacted.

ISME was conceived as part of a much broader project for collaboration and cohabitation by the human inhabitants of our fragile planet. Musicians, scholars and teachers continue to honor the organization's founding principles each time they convene, attend, perform music, or present research at an ISME-sponsored event. ISME's research grants, the *International Journal of Music Education*, and its partnerships with other organizations with the power to influence how music education is shaped in schools locally, regionally, and nationally, all speak to a Society that seeks to serve anyone making and learning music around the world. Music educators globally look to ISME for inspiration, direction, and leadership, and the organization provides these through its conferences, its publications and its increasing online presence.

I have learned a lot already from colleagues on the board, and I would welcome the chance to develop new and existing relationships to help further the work of the Society and other organizations with whom I volunteer my time. I love welcoming others into the ISME community and would welcome the chance to work with the board for two more years on curating the future of that community.