

## **ISME National Affiliate (INA) organizational profile**

### **Name and 'nation' of ISME National Affiliate organisation:**

Society for Music Education in Ireland

### **Membership**

Membership of the society is open to anyone (in Ireland or abroad) with an interest in music education, whether professional or otherwise. This constitution recognises the SMEI as an independent organisation, notwithstanding formal or informal affiliations which the Society may pursue in the interests of music education in Ireland. SMEI thus represents many music educators and those interested in music education throughout the island of Ireland. There are four grades of membership: Individual, group, student and honorary.

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

#### **SMEI:**

- Provides a forum for music education individuals, organisations/associations and institutions in order to promote practice and research in music education in Ireland
- Aims to raise the profile and status of music education in Ireland on a national and international level
- Advocates for and support music education activities on a national level
- Represents Irish music educators as an ISME National Affiliate (INA) for the International Society for Music Education (ISME)
- Provides a forum for organisations, institutions, and individuals who are involved in music education in Ireland to meet and share views, observations and information in a spirit of co-operation and collaboration
- Encourages respect for the diversity, integrity and historical contexts of different music education organisations and institutions, while at the same time developing new procedures and activities towards the establishment of SMEI;

### **Brief history and operational/organisational context**

The Society for Music Education in Ireland (SMEI) was established in June 2010 following extensive consultation and correspondence, and a series of planning meetings during 2009 and early 2010. The first meeting took place against the background of the 6th International Symposium on the Sociology of Music Education, held in Limerick, Ireland, July 2009. INA status was granted from ISME in August 2010, and immediately afterwards representatives of the group held a meeting at the ISME World Conference in Beijing.

SMEI's first annual national conference took place in November 2010. The day-long event included the first general meeting of the organisation in which the constitution was ratified by a wider membership. The initial committee was elected to continue its work until the first AGM scheduled for May 2011. Officers of the committee were also formally ratified at this meeting. Several messages of support and goodwill were received from music educators nationwide, while greetings from ISME members the world over helped situate the SMEI event within the broader international context and network.

There is an executive committee of 12 including a chair, assistant chair, honorary secretary, membership secretary, honorary treasurer and assistant treasurer. The committee has the power to co-opt others to ensure appropriate balance. Terms of office are two years with the ability to stand for a second term.

**Contact details/website** <http://www.smei.ie>