



MISTEC Newsletter - 02

2/Feb/14

About Us

The Music in the Schools and Teacher Education Commission (MISTEC) is a commission of the International Society for Music Education, ISME, that held its first meeting in 1976. One of the oldest commissions of ISME, MISTEC believes that music should be made available to all students in all schools and at all levels by professional music educators. The Commission further supports the premise that teacher education programs should aim to produce highly qualified future music teachers and support their continuous professional development, seeing its international role as a body for promoting theoretical and practical innovation, research methodologies and policy development to meet the challenges faced by music educators worldwide.

ISME 60TH ANNIVERSARY

This current biennium marks ISME's 60 years of continuous service to mankind through programmes, projects, knowledge generation and exchange in music education.

Through various programmes and activities, that have included visits by scholars, seminar participation, conference organisation, awards and recognition of achievements and initiatives in music teaching and learning in schools, teacher education, professional practice, community activities and other special circumstances, ISME has managed to reach many. A number of scholars, well-known in their countries, regionally and internationally, owe much of their success to collaborations hatched at ISME events.

At MISTEC, we celebrate the strides that have been made, noting our heroes and heroines of music teaching and scholarship. At this juncture, we at the commission wish all past, present and future MISTEC-ers all the joys and benefits that are now ours, thanks to the pioneers of this great movement! Long live ISME and what we stand for!

CELEBRATING MISTEC -

MISTEC COMMISSION CHAIRS

Up to 1984	Bernhard Binkowski (Germany)
1984-1988	Don C. Robinson (USA)
1988-1992	Jonathan Stephens (UK)
1992-1994	Martin Comte (Australia)
1994-1996	Elina Laakso (Finland)
1996-1998	Magne Espeland (Norway)
1998-2000	Glenn Nierman (USA)
2000-2002	Co-chairs Patricia Shand (Canada) Judy Thönell (Australia)
2002-2004	Minette Mans (Namibia)
2004-2006	Marvelene Moore (USA)
2006-2008	Bo Wah Leung (Hong Kong)
2008-2010	Jose Luis Arostegui (Spain)
2010-2012	Jody Kerchner (USA)
2012-2014	Emily Achieng' Akuno (Kenya)

When the first MISTEC meeting was held in 1976, I doubt that any of the participants then foresaw that years down the line, the Commission would continue to gather momentum, and to spread to cover a worldwide membership. Worldwide because, as at the last commission seminar in Komotini,

Commissioners: Emily Akuno (Kenya – Chair); Eva Saether (Sweden), Gabriel Rusinek (Spain), Paulina Wai Ying Wong (Hong Kong); Julie Ballantyne (Australia); Smaragda Chrysostomou (Greece)

Greece, all the regions of the world as we know it today had representation - Africa, Australia, Asia, the Americas, Europe, the Mediterranean region, the Middle East.... We are all there, because we have a common agenda, the provision of learning in and through music in our schools, and the equipping of our teachers to ensure that provision is beneficial to learners. And so the commission takes this moment to celebrate MISTEC, that great arm of ISME that focuses on music in the school and in teacher education. As we celebrate our existence and achievement, I suggest that we take stock, and not just look back for the precious memories, but gather the requisite courage and fuel to move forward with that agenda, as we negotiate cultural, economic and technological challenges that make the work of a music-educator ever exciting!

PROJECTS

The African Music Education Project

The African Music Education Project, AMEP, is now on its 2nd phase, of resource mobilisation and teacher capacitating activities. This phase involves putting together readily available music material from the communities and engaging teachers in a workshop to enable them gain the confidence in using these in class for music instruction, developing performing and creative skills. This ISME sponsored phase is still confined to the three countries that took part in the first phase, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia. Reports to date indicate a vast amount of music material in the form of children's songs that remain untapped. Concluded workshops also reveal an enthusiasm for music in learners that needs a lot of administrative goodwill to bear fruit. Watch this space for further information, and hopefully a workshop at the 31st World Conference on the same.



The Music Teachers' Project Update

The Music Teachers Project (www.musicteachersproject.net) is a web-based forum designed for early career music teachers to be a supportive and private community of shared practice. Since the site was presented to MISTEC at the 2012 conference, it has grown in membership, with over 400 participants internationally across various stages of their career. Owing to such diverse members and their shared questions, concerns and ideas, it provides valuable insight into the ongoing needs of music teachers and their developing identities. The site always welcomes new members and interested participants for corresponding research, such as the current survey (https://uqmusic.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_eWqwGrbdQ1P8tOB) examining the development of teacher identities.

SEMINAR - Curitiba 2014

The latest from Curitiba is that all is in place, except for the participants and that is not a problem because when the time comes, we shall arrive for the days' agenda. With the seminar venues secured, the final arrangements on accommodation are being confirmed. Following the close of proposal submissions late last year, the successful applicants will be invited by the Conference Secretariat and ISME office. With this done, what is left will be to pack and go, or almost. The Commissioners wish to encourage past and current MISTEC participants to join us as we celebrate ISME's 60th, and MISTEC's 37th anniversary.