



European Initiatives for the Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees in Higher Music Education

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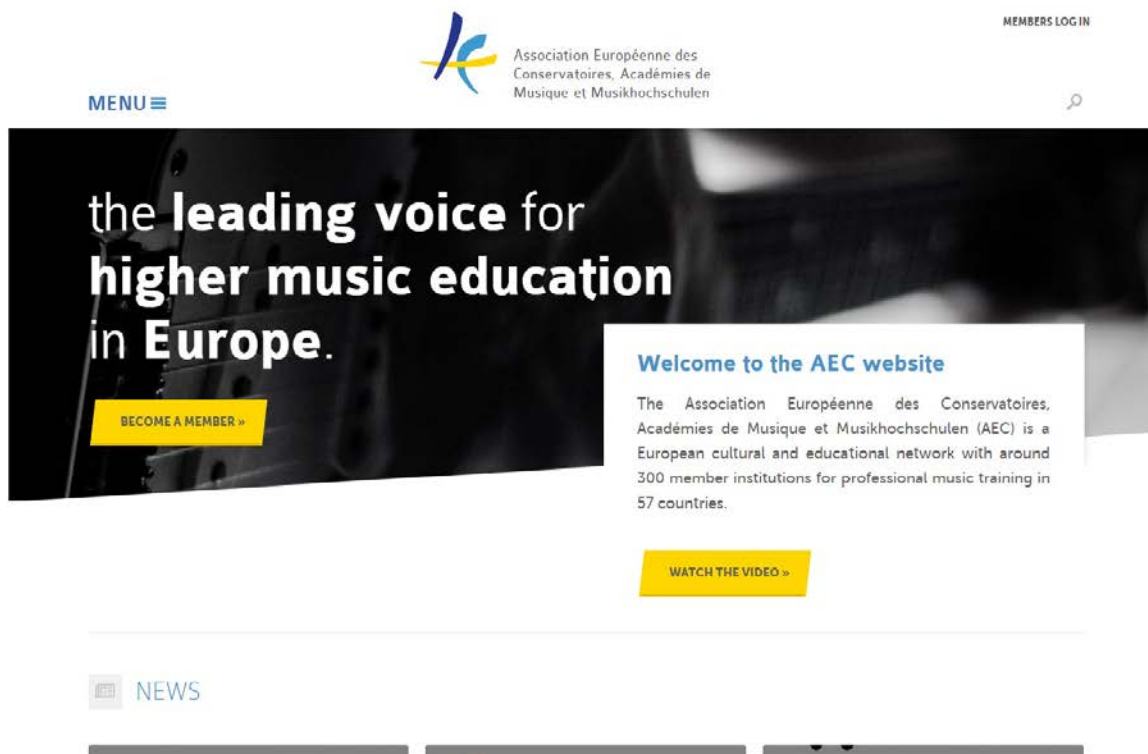
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Initiatives led by Higher Music Education institutions in favour of the inclusion of refugees and migrants

- University of Music and Performing Arts Graz, Austria
- University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, Austria
- Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus/Aalborg, Denmark
- Sibelius Academy, University of the Arts Helsinki, Finland
- The University of Music in Trossingen, Germany
- University of Music and Performing Arts Mannheim, Germany
- Linnaeus University, Music Academy, Sweden
- University of Gothenburg, Academy of Music, Sweden
- The Academy of Music in Malmo, Lund University, Sweden
- Hogeschool Gent, Music Department, Belgium
- Berklee, Valencia Campus, Spain
- And many others...

Initiatives led by Higher Music Education institutions in favour of the inclusion of refugees and migrants

- Accessible link with all programmes in English
- Scholarships for refugees and asylum seekers
- Internship positions for newly-arrived students
- Recognition of prior learning
- Bridging programmes
- Online Linguistic Support (OLS) and subject-specific language training
- Personal mentorship programmes and Information Sessions
- Specific courses offering orientation in academic and artistic study fields

Initiatives led by Higher Music Education institutions in favour of the inclusion of refugees and migrants

Hogeschool Gent, Music Department:

Making knowledge available and building institutional webpages for refugees, offering information on:

- Structure of HE system in Flanders;
- Information for music and arts students (overview of programs, requirements for entrance tests);
- Information on specific compensations and support facilities for refugees and asylum seekers;
- Entrance requirements and procedures;
- Language requirements;
- Specific funding schemes for refugees: exemptions for courses, scholarships, social and financial support.

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- Offering benefit concerts;
- Open courses for vocal and instrumental music for refugee children and young adults;
- Weekly events where refugees have the opportunity to participate in an open ensemble for choir, dance or percussion;
- Refugees regularly invited to concerts and other artistic events of the university;
- Opening of regular university classes to refugees;
- One-to-one teaching for refugee students interested in learning to play an instrument;
- Free music therapy courses;
- Joint concerts with refugee musicians;
- Workshops led by refugees on local music traditions.

Regular collaborations between Higher Music Education institutions and local cultural centres, associations and NGOs

The World In Motion ensemble:

Sibelius Academy of Uniarts Helsinki and the Caisa Cultural Centre in Helsinki

The Dream Orchestra:

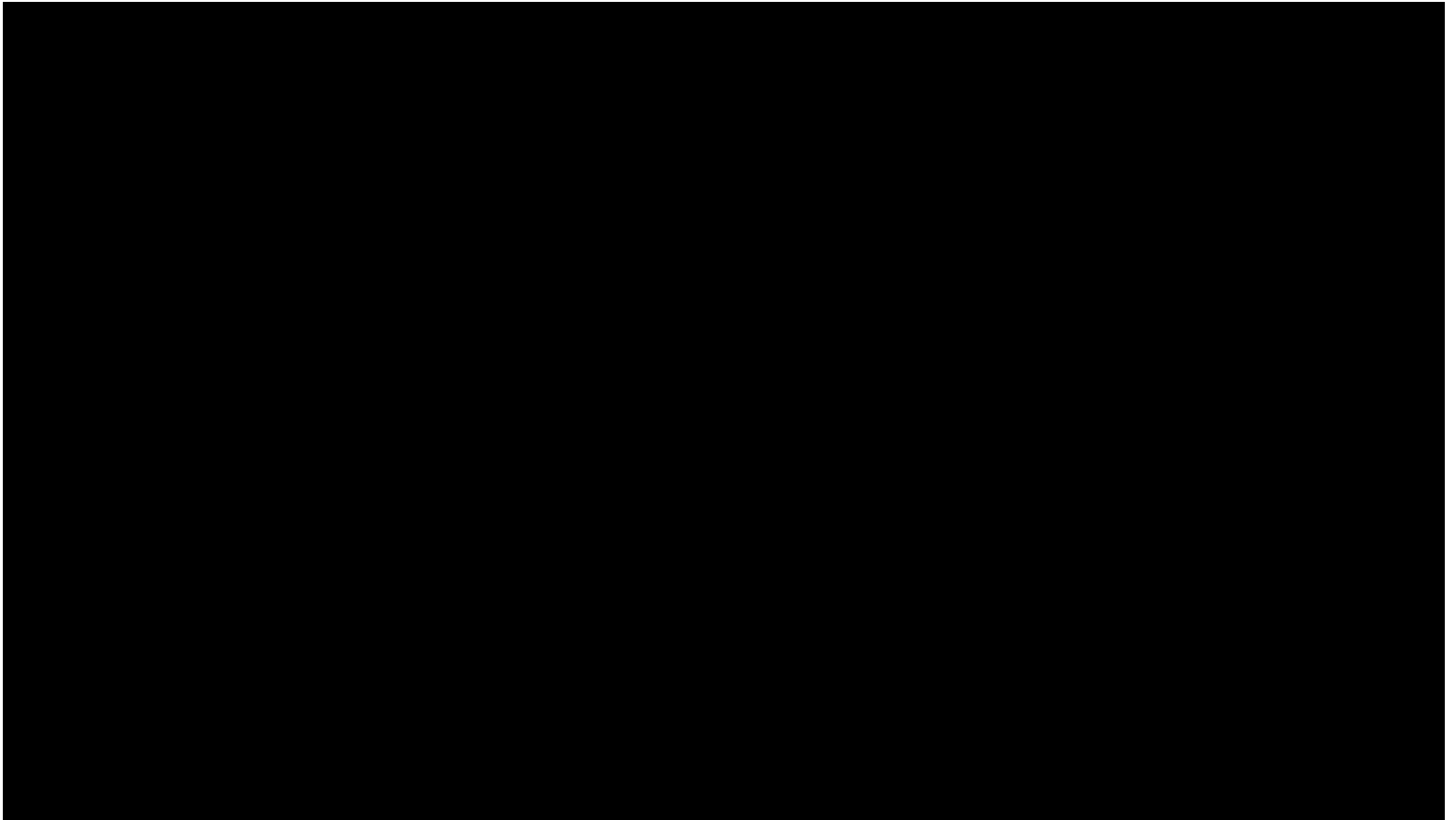
El Sistema Sweden and the Music Academy at the University of Gothenburg

The World In Motion ensemble: Sibelius Academy of Uniarts Helsinki and the Caisa Cultural Centre in Helsinki



The World In Motion ensemble: Sibelius Academy of Uniarts Helsinki and the Caisa Cultural Centre in Helsinki

- Open access ensemble with professional and non-professional musicians who have arrived in Finland as refugees;
- Involves BA and MA degree students from the Global Music programme in the Folk Music department at the Sibelius Academy;
- Weekly gatherings and intensive performance projects once per term;
- Main aim – to enhance mutual learning through collaborative composition, improvisation, and playing and singing traditional music;
- Introducing university students to artistically driven socially-engaged practices and new angles to intercultural music making, teaching and learning.



The Dream Orchestra: El Sistema Sweden and the Music Academy at the University of Gothenburg

- In April 2016 El Sistema Sweden's artistic director Ron Davis Alvarez founded the Dream Orchestra, with young boys from a refugee accommodation camp in the south of Gothenburg.
- Its aim is to open the doors for young refugees without parents into the Swedish society and culture.
- Consists of more than 40 children and young people, mostly unaccompanied from Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, Eritrea, Albania and Sweden.
- They practice in central Gothenburg 3 times a week.
- Several students from the Music Academy (University of Gothenburg) participate as regular volunteers and get ECTS credits for their work.
- The University offers courses in El Sistema's methodology.
- Dream Orchestra as a tool for the training of future teachers.
- Opportunity for teachers work with a population with special needs.

The Dream Orchestra: El Sistema Sweden and the Music Academy at the University of Gothenburg

Going and visiting refugees' shelters, getting to talk to them and to offer them a space for growth and development has been a difficult, but at the same time an enriching and satisfactory experience. When you see how their behaviour change, how they help each other, how they start to be more collaborative and kind to each other, is when you can see results, even if it is not in a profound musical development, but the important thing is to see them being better people for the society they will probably integrate in the future. It has been an opportunity for them to find other place where they can experience reliability and feel confidence. The Dream Orchestra, little by little, has become a family.

Ron Davis Alvarez, El Sistema Sweden

Challenges and opportunities

Main obstacles

- Small amount of refugees willing to pursue studies in music
- Lack of structural responses in some countries
- Recognition of previous studies
- Diverse skills and competencies
- Challenge of individual need for academic advice and bridging courses

Challenges and opportunities

Is Higher Music Education adaptable enough to new ways of music education and new paradigms in music?

- The migratory processes and the arrival of refugees are having a clear impact on the education processes:
 - New ways of educating in music;
 - New collaborations with musicians from diverse origins;
 - Opening of world music departments and courses.

The AEC has just been granted a Creative Europe-Networks project “SMS – Strengthening Music in Society”

- Address cultures and cultural practices that have so far not, or only marginally, found their way into Music HEIs: **minority cultures and cultural practices with migratory backgrounds.**
- Collect examples of how such ‘diverse cultures’ can be more integrated in the training of musicians.
- Come up with **specific Guidelines for a Curriculum in Diverse Cultures** with a focus on skills, competences and know-how.
- Main objective - to encourage Music HEIs to **open their educational offer so as to answer the needs and requirements of diversity** and promote inclusiveness throughout their activities.
- In addition, the project will further explore examples of audience engagement formats implemented in Music HEIs with a **focus on the target group of refugees** and on cultural practices with a migratory background.
- **Mapping and building our own network**
- **Creating a refugee guide to higher music education?**



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