



The South African Society of Music Teachers

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging van Musiekonderwysers

2021 Report of the Executive Officer

1. Meetings: A Standing committee meeting was held in Port Elizabeth on 10 January 2020. Approval of new members is done by email.
2. Standing Committee planning for 2020-2021:
 - A. The current Standing Committee members are:
 1. Lestie Hughes (Chairperson)
 2. Elma Britz (EO)
 3. Alethea de Villiers
 4. Nicky Bosman (Secretary)
 5. Liska du Preez
 6. Lilian Zeelie
 7. Paul Richard
 8. Curtleigh Koopman
 9. Terry-Ann Julies
 10. Robert Gilmer
 - B. Finances:
 1. Capitation Fees: In the light of the current Covid pandemic, the financial committee suggested no increase in capitation fees. The 2020 budget planned for R135,000 income but the actual income was R138,614. So, if we budget for R138,000 it would be realistic.
 2. Invoices:
 - a) In 2020, I would have liked to send invoices earlier in the year with the early bird deadline advanced to the end of March, but Covid in 2020 brought everything to a halt.
 - b) To send invoices correctly, I need the actual numbers of members in each centre/ institution and because not all secretaries update the list on the website's maintenance page, it is a cumbersome and time consuming job. Often invoices are sent out and then I am required to adjust the numbers if the database is not updated, resulting in unnecessary duplication of the task. The database administrator assures me that it automatically updates when any changes are made. But the weak link is when Centre officials do not fulfil their duties as required.
 3. The SASMT's total assets at the 2020 year end are R1 577 110.63 against 1 457 170.29 in 2019 - thus an increase of R119 940,34 We saved money by opting for a mainly electronic magazine and the fact that no conference could be held. That, in spite of losses due to cancelled flight and accommodation bookings.
 - a) I am still trying to recover some of the losses, without much success with airlines and accommodation facilities..
 - b) After requesting bank particulars from members who have paid for conference, I only received claims from Kroonstad, Johannesburg and the Lebone College for a member of the Pretoria Centre.

- c) Lestie Hughes donated her R200 she paid for the Conference soirée to the SASMT. A hearty thanks to Lestie.

4. Conference 2020: Finances

- a) Income: R8650
- b) Conference deficit:
 - (1) Flights R13 376
 - (2) Accommodation: R7 200
 - (3) Total: R20 576
 - (4) Less Conference income to be refunded: R8650
 - (5) Worst case scenario: R29 226

5. Budget:

- a) Capitation fees: The financial committee suggested no increase in capitation fees in the light of the current Covid pandemic.

- 6. The SASMT finances are healthier in spite of possible losses as a result of no 2020 Conference and no printed magazines. Printing and posting costs are high.

C. The South African Music Teacher Magazine

- 1. The success of the digital Magazine: Some members had initial problems with downloading the magazine, but after they learnt how to do it, there were no more problems. We received many messages with compliments.

2. Printed copies report back:

- a) Cost @ R21 768,35 for 150 copies at Oranje Printers, thus R145 per copy excluding postage @ R15 normal post = R160 per copy, not considering travelling to and from a post office.
- b) We had a second quote @ R69 721,12 for 100 copies or R71 820,10 for 150 copies: i.e. R697 per copy or R478.80 per copy respectively, excluding postage and packaging @ approximately R15, not taking into account travelling to and from a post office.
- c) 27 Members requested printed copies in the survey that we did in 2019 and in the end not more than a total of 23 were distributed.
- d) The total cost for 150 printed copies (the less copies, the more expensive it becomes) was R21 768,35. That means, if all 150 had been distributed, the cost per magazine would have been R145. At 23 copies requested, the cost rose to R946,45 per copy - clearly not a viable option! If we opted for another quote of about R60 000, the scenario would be far worse.

- 3. Thanks to our Editor, Tinus Botha and the designer Hannes Visagie, *The South African Music Teacher* made history in becoming the first ever *Digimag* without losing any of its high quality. Also a big thank you to Mrs Annemarie Sparg for helping to set-up the digital publishing and helping members who had problems downloading the Magazine. It is much appreciated. The Magazine is distributed using the MadMimi platform sponsored by a donor @ \$13,80 = R234,60 per month. Implementing the platform involved some costs, but now that it is up and running, it will continue annually.

- D. Communication: Mad Mimi for SAMT magazine and bulk emails up to 1 000 emails at a time, including a facility to see at a glance who received/responded/returned. Very convenient.

8. Bursaries:

- Adjudication 2020: Tinus Botha, Hanli Stapela and David Bester adjudicated the SASMT

Bursary applications.

The bursary recipients are:

- Ellie Marx Bursary for Strings: Pieter Joubert (Violin), - R7 500
- Gladwell Scholarship: Daniel Brodie (Piano) University of Stellenbosch - R15 500
- Kathleen Irish Scholarship for Piano: Karlin Kock (Piano) - R16 500
- David Reunert Bursary: Emma Farquharson (Voice) - R1 500

9. Benevolent fund:

- Fixed deposit: Balance: R201 010,60 account was re-invested at maturity for 6 months at a better interest rate than for a year.
- Call Account: Balance R47 714,14
- One claim of R15 000 was paid in May 2020
- The Committee Members elected to oversee the Benevolent Fund currently are:
Elma Britz, Riaan Steyn, Nico Dekker (Auditor), Diane Heller and Ros Conrad

Note: We had to revise the Requirements of the Benevolent Fund application process and had to get legal advice at a cost of R750. Policies & guidelines are on the SASMT website. Application forms are available from the EO.

Elma Britz (EO)