



*The South African Society for Music Teachers*  
*Die Suid Afrikaanse Vereniging van Musiekonderwysers*

## MINUTES

**Annual General Meeting held on 5 April 2018 at 13h30 at Eden College, Durban  
and 6 April 2018 at 8h00 at the Durban Jewish Centre**

1. Welcome
2. Notice of Meeting
3. Attendance and apologies:
  - a. Present: Alethea de Villiers, Amina Carini, Arthur Dixon, Barbara Trofimczyk, Bobby Mills, Bridget Harrison, Carin Brand, Carol Solomon, Chaz Greyvenstein, Elma Britz, Erna Rademan, Ewald Hesse, Gaythree Gyanchand, Gill Scott, Hans Potgieter, Heidi van Schoor, Jenny Bonsignore, Judith Stiller, Lestie Hughes, Lilian Rotheroe, Marié Gaerdes, Marietjie Hesse, Melissa Greyvenstein, Niri Devcharan, Ros Conrad, Sandra Breschi, Sareen Roberts, Shane Goodall, Tania Borman, Vaughan Pietersen, Annamarie van der Merwe, Janine Gerber, René Pretorius, Lourette Upton
  - b. Apologies: Mariana Schoonderwoerd, Norma Spiller, Mark Baker, Hester Wohltz, Gerhard du Toit, Junine Dukas
4. Personalialia:
  - a. A moment of silence was observed for members who passed away since the 2017 AGM: John Roos (Honorary member and Editor of *The South African Music Teacher*, Helena van Heerden (Past-President and Honorary member) and Drienie Crowther (Skuilkrans Laerskool, Pretoria). Obituaries placed in *The South African Music Teacher*.

- b. Lestie Hughes thanked the SASMT for donations received for the fire at Woodridge College during 2017.
- 5. Standing orders were read.
- 6. Additions to the Agenda (to be dealt with under General)
  - a. SASMT Directors
  - b. Institutional Centres
  - c. New Centre: Ekurhuleni on the East Rand and a possible new Centre in Bloemfontein
  - d. Finances
  - e. Congratulatory centenary message from Hubert van der Spuy was read.

In essence he expressed his heartfelt congratulations to the delegates of the 2018 Conference. Hubert had been a member of the Society for more than 50 years and served as President for four terms. During this time, he made many 'wonderful lifelong friends' and his involvement with 'conferences, workshops ... and SASMT activities at all levels' ... he reiterated, that he 'personally experienced the warm camaraderie amongst SASMT members over decades'. He wished 'the Society everything of the best for the future' ... even in modern times where many things have changed and are changing. His advice include to 'keep things simple' ... 'and to address the Society's effectiveness and status in a sober way' adhering to the core business, aims and objectives by being 'pro-active, user friendly' and to 'cater and care for the needs of' the 'valued members, the South African music teacher'. He concluded with words by Theodore Roosevelt:

*The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly, who know the the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at best know the triumphs of high achievement; and who, at worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat'.*

- 7. Voting Powers: voting powers of Centres: one vote for every 10 members or part thereof for Ordinary Centres, and one vote for up to 20 members for Institutional Centres; two votes for 20 or more members
- 8. Notice of Motions: (See a separate document to be discussed under 12 below)
- 9. Minutes of AGM held on 2 April 2017 at the Frank Pietersen Music Centre, Sanddrift Street, Paarl:
  - a. Confirmation of Minutes: Proposed by Marietjie Hesse seconded by Lestie Hughes
  - b. Matters arising:

- i. Website:
    - 1. Webmaster's presentation: Ewald Hesse presented a short report on the website and requested that his title be changed from webmaster to Data Base Administrator
    - 2. Elma Britz presented a demonstration of a proposed renewal of the SASMT website.
  - ii. SACE Registration and Professional Development of Music Teachers: Tygerberg Centre AGM - Carin Brand and Vaughan Pietersen reported that the SASMT will have to present courses in order to qualify for attendance at Conferences. It is, however important to keep attendance registers.
- 10.Scholarships and prizes:
- a. Winners 2017:
    - i. Gladwell Scholarship: Rian Smit (Flute, US) - R12000.00
    - ii. Kathleen Irish Scholarship: Seiren Wu (Piano, UCT) - R12000.00
    - iii. Ellie Marx Scholarship: Paul Loeb van Zuilenburg (Violin, UCT) - R5000
    - iv. David Reunert Bursary: Aimeé Porter (Violin, UP) - R5000
  - b. Available Bursaries for 2018:
    - i. Gladwell Scholarship
    - ii. Kathleen Irish Scholarship
    - iii. Ellie Marx Scholarship
    - iv. David Reunert Bursary
  - c. Deadline for entries 2018: 12 October 2018
- 11.Reports:
- a. Executive Officer:
    - i. Financial statements for the year ending 30 November 2017 were presented.
    - ii. Budget: A budget with an increase of 10% was approved.
    - iii. Investments: The total assets of the SASMT include the Bursary funds and the Benevolent Fund accounts. They amount to R1257 801.00 as against R1210 616.14 for the previous financial year; All funds accrued interest with the

Benevolent and the Kath Irish funds gaining the most due to regular collection by different centres in the first instance and favourable interest rates in the latter.

- iv. Annual subscription to Head Office (Capitation fees): It was resolved at the Financial meeting that the Capitation fees be determined annually for two consecutive years, as follows:

Capitation fees for 1 December 2017 to 30 November 2018:

Type of Membership	Fees	SAMT	Benevolent Fund	Council	Total	Early bird
Professional	110.00	66.00	18	44.00	238.00	215.00
Supporting	66.00	66.00		28.00	160.00	145.00
Student	44.00	35.00		28.00	110.00	95.00
Independent	110.00	66.00	18	44.00	238.00	215.00
Institutional Centres per member:	68.00	66.00		44.00	178.00	160.00

Proposed capitation fees for 1 December 2018 to 30 November 2019:

Type of Membership	Fees	SAMT	Benevolent Fund	Council	Total	Early bird
Professional	120.00	72.00	20.00	48.00	260.00	234.00
Supporting	73.00	73.00		30.00	176.00	158.00
Student	50.00	40.00		30.00	120.00	108.00
Independent	120.00	72.00	20.00	48.00	260.00	234.00
Institutional Centres per member:	75.00	72.00		48.00	195.00	175.00

- v. Suggested minimum professional tuition fees:  
The meeting agreed on the following:
1. Individual teaching - R340 per hour
  2. Group teaching - R150 per hour per learner with a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5.

- b. SAMT: Report by Elma Britz:
- i. Deadline for Issue 153: End of September 2018
  - ii. Directory list
    1. POPI act - It was decided to include all names of paid-up members in the latest issue as existing members have given their permission for publication when they applied before the POPI act came into existence.
    2. Updating by Centre secretaries and representatives: Officials are urged to keep their records up to date and inform the webmaster accordingly.
  - iii. Directory manager - deferred to editorial
  - iv. Advertising fees: To remain unchanged. See table below.
  - v. Postage & Packaging: Postage and packaging is becoming more and more expensive and magazines that are returned undelivered because of addresses that are not updated, poses a problem. To resend implies additional postage.

Size	Orientation	Dimensions (mm)	Black&White	Full Colour
Full page	Portrait/ Vertical	180-210 x 255-295	R2,600.00	R5,200.00
Half Page	Landscape/ Horizontal	180-210 x 125-145	R1,730.00	R3,500.00
Half Page	Portrait/ Vertical	88-105 x 255-295	R1,730.00	R3,500.00
Quarter Page	Portrait/ Vertical	88-105 x 125-145	R1,150.00	R2,300.00
Smalls	Portrait/ Vertical	50 x 80	R46000	R58000
Directory	Line advertisement		R29000	n/a
Inside cover	Portrait/ Vertical	210 x 297 (A4)	n/a	R8,600.00
Back cover	Portrait/ Vertical	210 x 297 (A4)	n/a	R11,500.00

Double page spread	Portrait/ Vertical	n/a	n/a	R9,250. 00
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- c. Exco and Standing Committee:
    - i. President's report (See addendum 1 below)
    - ii. Chairperson Standing Committee
  - d. Regional Vice-Presidents reports (See addendums 2 - 6 below):
    - i. Gauteng, Limpopo and Mpumalanga
    - ii. Free State and North West
    - iii. KwaZulu-Natal
    - iv. Eastern Cape
    - v. Western Cape
  - e. Benevolent Fund
    - i. The EO reported that the Benevolent fund is available for members who experience financial needs and is treated with the utmost confidentiality. Members should feel free to contact the EO who receives applications for a small committee of trustworthy members to decide on the applications' merit.
  - f. National Youth Orchestra - Report from Diane Heller (See addendum 7 below)
12. Discussion of Motions:
- a. Motion 1: Alethea de Villiers and Hans Potgieter are to investigate the position of Directors versus Council members.
  - b. Motion 2: Changes to the SASMT Handbook to be done by the Executive Officer.
  - c. Motion 3: That all minutes of Exco and Standing Committee be sent to Council members, Centre Secretaries, and Institutional representatives - Approved by Council.
  - d. Motion 4: That the EO make all reports submitted to Conference available to all delegates, Council members, Centre Secretaries and Institutional Centres at Conference or by email prior to or immediately after the Conference, including the President's, Vice-Presidents' and EO reports. Approved
  - e. Motion 5: Lower capitation fees for dual membership by members who belong to both an Ordinary Centre

and an Institutional Centre - To be investigated and reported back at the 2019 Conference.

- f. Motion 6: It was proposed that travel and accommodation to Conference for President, Past-President, President-elect, EO and all Vice-Presidents be automatically paid by Head-Office, other Council members are welcome to attend at own cost. Resolution - invite others personally.
- g. Motion 7: Standing Committee and Exco are to initiate a membership drive to represent South African cultural diversity, involving all Vice-Presidents and Centres - Unanimously accepted.
- h. Motion 8: That the editorial researches moving away from a printed *The South African Music Teacher* magazine to a digital or a combination of printed and digital and reports back to Standing Committee, Exco and Editorial for a decision. Approved, all members to be consulted through a survey.
- i. Motion 9: Hans Potgieter to investigate additional benefits for SASMT members such as accreditation at SACE, gift vouchers, discount at music shops etc and send a circular to Council and representatives.
- j. Motion 10: Students should be involved in the SASMT Conferences and activities. It was resolve that one session be given to students.
- k. Motion 11: 'That membership fees for supporting members be the same as for professional members. Withdrawn in its current form, but a subcommittee consisting of Erna Rademan, Alethea de Villiers, Hans Potgieter, Lestie Hughes, Vaughan Pietersen and Marijke de Bruin streamlines this motion for 2019.

### 13. Election of Office bearers 2017 - 2018:

- a. President-elect: Erna Rademan
- b. Regional Vice-Presidents:
  - i. Gauteng, NW, Mpumalanga and Limpopo - Gisela Scriba
  - ii. Free state and Northern Cape - Hans Potgieter
  - iii. KZN - Tania Borman
  - iv. Eastern Cape - Alethea de Villiers
  - v. Western Cape - Vaughan Pietersen
- c. Executive Officer - Elma Britz

- d. Standing committee: Chairperson - Combined with Exco - Lestie Hughes
- e. Webmaster / web administrator
- f. SAMT Editorial:
  - i. Editor - to be advertised
  - ii. Sub-editors and Co-Editors - to be advertised
  - iii. Business and Advertising Manager - Elma Britz
  - iv. Review editor - to be decided by editorial
- 14. ISME 2018 Conference in Baku in July 2018 - noted
- 15. Pasmae 2017 Regional conference in Swaziland - noted
- 16. Life Membership and Honorary Membership - Life membership to Bertha Spies of Pretoria Centre.
- 17. Date and Venue for the 2019 AGM - March 2019 in Port Elizabeth. Lestie Hughes and incoming Exco to announce.
- 18. General
  - a. SASMT Directors - Responsibilities and involvement to be determined - EO
  - b. Institutional Centres - Vice-Presidents to meet representatives personally to get their involvement.
  - c. New Centre: Ekurhuleni started on the East Rand and a possible new Centre in Bloemfontein to be initiated by Hans Potgieter. University of KZN joined again as an institutional centre
  - d. Financial year to remain 1 December to 30 November.
- 19. Vote of thanks - Lestie Hughes presented a vote of thanks to Ros Conrad and Exco for a well organised Conference.
- 20. Closure - The meeting adjourned at 11.35

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Ros Conrad (President)

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Elma Britz (Executive Officer)

## ADDENDUM 1

### PRESIDENTIAL REPORT for CONFERENCE 2018

As many of you know, I did not want or expect to ever again be President of the SASMT. I felt that I had done my bit, and that it was time for someone else to take over. However, having allowed myself to be persuaded to stand one last time, I decided to throw myself whole-heartedly into the job and to try to deal with all the issues that are preventing the SASMT from functioning well. I have really tried my best, but I must confess, with only limited results. So very much time is wasted following things up that ought to have been finalised long ago. We used to joke that it took ten years for anything to happen in the Society, and that is how it still feels today, even if the ten years has perhaps come down to about five.



I was asked by the previous President what the duties of the President actually are. As I see it, they are 1) to deal with any references from the AGM, 2) to deal with any matters that arise during the year, and 3) to arrange the Conference.

Number 3) was easy, with a hard-working and enthusiastic EXCO helping me. We decided to showcase Durban, and to use only local speakers, but I think, in retrospect, serious consideration should be given to inviting speakers from various Institutional Centres (especially universities), so that their Institutions will pay for them to attend. Far too few Institutional Centres are represented at the AGM now - it used to be the case that Ordinary Centre delegates were completely outnumbered by the Institutional delegates. We have advertised this Conference as widely as possible - much more comprehensively than we have ever done before, with notifications going out country-wide (and of course locally) from about September last year. Yet we have nowhere near the number of Conference delegates that we were hoping for.

References from the AGM included the revamping of the website. We had many ideas, which we sent through to Head Office, but unfortunately nobody on EXCO was really a specialist on websites. This will have to be carried further by the incoming office-bearers, as our visual image and easy access to information is so very important in promoting the Society. Most often today, this easily accessible information on the internet is the public's first and lasting impression of a society and it is very important to have a "face" that is relevant and appealing if we are to have any hope of recruiting new and younger teachers to the Society.

The request had come from some Centres, for Capitation fees to be brought down, but our investigations did not come up with much. Postage options for the magazine are very limited nowadays, so there is nothing to be saved there. Our only concrete suggestion was that we go back to the policy of some years ago, to pay all expenses for only the core members of Council to attend the AGM/Conference. It is only relatively recently that a full-scale Conference has been arranged. There is no reason why we could not sometimes revert to the system of having one or two lectures in between the meetings, with no Conference fee payable. That would, of course, not save Head Office anything, as the President and EXCO (often with the help of the relevant Centre) are usually responsible for raising funds for the Conference.

Durban's Motion concerning "Ongoing Motions" was misunderstood, even by EXCO members. The intention was to keep readily available a list of Motions that are still relevant and need, in some cases, to be done every year. I drew up such list and sent it to the EO.

EXCO investigated fees that some musicians charge for arranging and orchestrating music. These amounts were placed in the Minutes so that the relevant people could make use of them.

The POPI Act took up much of my time, as there are so many conflicting ideas as to what it really means, and to what extent it impacts on the SASMT. I think we have now reached consensus on this.

The House Rules/Handbook was looked at by a subcommittee of EXCO, and I undertook to try to get all the things that had been approved in 2016 actually into the Handbook, and to propose a couple of additions that were considered necessary. Unfortunately, for some reason, the 2016 additions still do not appear. (Or at least they still did not appear last week.)

The resignation of 4 of the 6 directors was also very time-consuming, with documents having to be repeatedly signed and emailed, and then not being accepted as they were not correct or not clear enough. The whole question of Directors needs to be seriously addressed as soon as possible, as it is a very grey area.

The untimely passing of John Roos meant that we currently do not have an Editor for the SAMT. We should have advertised immediately, but I am afraid I did not quite know how to

handle this crisis, so nothing has actually been done to date. Many thanks to Elma Britz who has done a sterling job of filling the gap on a temporary basis.

One thing that caught me unawares, was that people generally do not seem to read minutes. I have always treated Minutes as a means of communication, so I was surprised that so few Council members responded to anything contained in the minutes.

Throughout this past year, I have increasingly come to the conclusion that the governance structure of the SASMT needs overhauling or at least some serious thought. According to the Constitution Directors are at the top, but what are the Directors and what is their role within the Society? In the past they have not had anything to do with the running of the Society. Nowhere in the Constitution does it define the duties of Directors. Next is listed "Council". This has always been the case, but Council members need, I think, to take this more seriously, and to respond to things within a reasonable time. Yes, I know have also been very guilty of this in the past - I am not pointing fingers, but rather trying to identify the problem. The President is elected to lead the Society for a year, yet in actual fact, the Executive Officer is in charge of all correspondence, so perhaps too much reliance is placed on one person's shoulders. The main thing, to my way of thinking, is COMMUNICATION. Emails must be responded to within a reasonable time, by everybody, and everything should be communicated to all Council members, Directors, Centres (both Institutional and Ordinary) and Independent members. These are just my thoughts, but I do know that at the moment we seem to exist in a muddled state of affairs, and to waste a huge amount of time trying to sort things out!

Please take this in the spirit in which it was meant. I have the Society's future at heart, and I would love to see it flourish in the years to come. Thank you for your support over the past year and for allowing me to serve the Society in this role again.

Ros Conrad

4 April 2018

## **ADDENDUM 2**

### **VICE-PRESIDENT WESTERN CAPE**

The following centres and institutional centres are situated in the Western Cape:

Tygerberg Centre	West Coast Music Academy (Hopefield)
John Peake Music School (Bishops)	South African College of Music (University of Cape Town)
Frank Pietersen Music Centre (Paarl)	
Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre (Parow)	US Conservatorium (University of Stellenbosch)
Rustenburg Girls' High School	

The AGM of the Tygerberg Branch took place 21 February 2018, but unfortunately only a handful of members attended.

## **1. CENTRES**

### **TYGERBERG CENTRE**

The committee members of the Tygerberg Centre for 2017/2018:

Hilda Boonzaaier (chairperson), Charlene Bogenhagen (vice-chairperson), André Grové (secretary), Merinda van Rensburg (treasurer), Zeldá Wepner (member), Carin Brand (member), Shane Goodall (member).

Committee meetings took place throughout the year in order to finalise arrangements for the SAMRO Hubert van der Spuy National Competition. Since the organising of the above mentioned competition is a mammoth task and occupies our committee members all year long, it is very difficult to add other big projects

## **SAMRO HUBERT VAN DER SPUY NATIONAL MUSIC COMPETITION 2017**

In 2017 we saw the eighth Hubert van der Spuy National Music Competition and the 29<sup>th</sup> birthday since the first Sanlam Music Competition in 1989. It was a wonderful and unforgettable experience. The enthusiastic and spontaneous response from all roll players was very heartening. The competition proves itself again as a national treasure on the music calendar of South Africa and we are greatly indebted to the SAMRO Music Foundation and other sponsors for their interest, support and sponsorship.

The adjudicators were Mrs Madelein van Rooyen, Prof Wessel van Wyk and Mr Arno Jones. We were again privileged to have Prof Hubert van der Spuy acting as the non-voting chairman. They were a diverse panel, but worked along like a dream.

The final evening was one of very high standard and most enjoyable. All the candidates appeared relaxed and they performed their programmes with exceptional musical maturity, insight and conviction. That is testimony of the choices made by the adjudicators.

We are deeply thankful for the help of every single teacher and friend. We also do try to involve everybody and are grateful for the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre for invitations/rebates for big concerts for members.

## **2 INSTITUTIONAL CENTRES**

### **FRANK PIETERSEN MUSIC CENTRE**

The Frank Petersen Music Centre is an active educational institution with regular concerts and events taking place throughout the year. A notable achievement is the introduction of Preparatory Musicianship Classes commencing in 2018. The Combined Community Choir of the Music Centre, established in 2015, was accepted to participate in the World Choir Games in Pretoria later this year. The Music Centre also has an active Jazz Band which is looking towards performing more regularly.

### **HUGO LAMBRECHTS MUSIC CENTRE**

The Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre is very active educational institution, with students participating in various eisteddfodau, competitions and concerts. The Hugo Lambrechts Concerto Festival is a highlight on the annual calendars of South African learners and teachers alike. Many music events take place in the Hugo Lambrechts Auditorium, amongst others, ATKV Muziq and Muziqanto Competitions, the SAMRO Hubert van der Spuy National Music Competition as well as the National Youth Music Competition.

### **JOHN PEAKE MUSIC SCHOOL**

John Peake Music School is the music department of Bishops Diocesan College who, amongst other musical events and concerts, not only at the school but also in the greater Cape Town. The Bishops Eisteddfod is an annual event and a highlight on the school calendar. The results of the Music Section is available at <https://college.bishops.org.za/eisteddfod/ListEvents.aspx?Category=Music>. Furthermore, the music department also features an outreach programme that runs through the he Amy Beihl Foundation and activities take place on a Thursday afternoon.

### **RUSTENBURG GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL**

The Music department regularly interact with the music department at the primary school for combined events, but also actively interacts with other schools. The girls

participate in eisteddfodau and events around Cape Town. The School Choir, RGHS Jazz Band and School Orchestras perform regularly at events, competitions and festivals.

### **WEST COAST MUSIC ACADEMY**

West Coast Music Academy is an active institution that offers music education to learners in Langebaan, Hopefield, Vredenburg and Moorreesburg. Notably, they have managed to offer a higher Certificate in Music Performance; Diploma in Music, presented by WCMA as a branch of the University of the Free State. Learners at the institution actively participate in external examinations and events organised in the area.

### **SOUTH AFRICAN COLLEGE OF MUSIC (UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN)**

The South African College of Music offers world-class performances of African and Western Classical music, Jazz and Opera on a weekly basis throughout the academic year with students participating in chamber music as well as solo performances. Orchestral and Choral events also take place regularly with the SACM Jazz Festival as a highlight on many calendars. The College offers various courses and degrees to students from various backgrounds and different levels of musical proficiency and students excel both nationally and internationally.

### **STELLENBOSCH CONSERVATORIUM (UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH)**

The Music Department of the University of Stellenbosch offers various courses and degrees to students from diverse backgrounds and different levels of musical proficiency. The music department organises various events, amongst others, the International Piano Symposium and Hennie Joubert Piano Competition. The Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival takes place at the Conservatorium and is a highlight for many musicians and concertgoers. Students of the Conservatorium excel both nationally and internationally.

Music education in the Western Cape is alive and well due to the many opportunities for participation that exists in the form of concerts, competitions and eisteddfodau.

The Tygerberg Branch is still experiencing great difficulty when it comes to engaging members from the previous Cape Town Branch, as these members never involved in any events and are only members on paper. It is also very disconcerting to note how many members are apathetic to the South African Society of Music Teachers on a local as well as national level.

New ways of engaging with teachers/educators will have to be found if the SASMT wishes to be a national role player in music education in South Africa.

C Brand  
VP: Western Cape

## **ADDENDUM 3**

### **Eastern Cape Report 2017**

During the past year the focus of the Port Elizabeth branch of the SASMT shifted towards a growing awareness of the value that a more globally oriented approach could hold for musical development in our country. The National Standing Committee has also been re-located to the Eastern Cape in April of this year, affording the members of the Port Elizabeth Committee the opportunity to be more closely involved with Head Office concerns, such as the acceptance of new members and the adjudication of bursary applicants.

This year's committee consisted of: Lestie Hughes (Chair Person), Alethea de Villiers (Treasurer), Nicky Bosman (Secretary), Pierre Malan (SASMT Life Member), Hanli

Young, René Zietsman, Lilian Zeelie (Promotion), Tanya Gerber, Robert Gillmer and Liska du Preez. Nicholas Fidler, who started the year as a member of the committee, stepped down due to an opportunity to pursue his viola studies abroad.

Our annual Cocktail Party for music teachers was held in the Collegiate Ivy Leaf on Thursday evening, 23 February. The guest speaker at this event was Elma Britz, National Executive Officer of the SASMT, who gave a presentation on the International Music Teaching Organisations Pasmae and ISME. These organisations may, perhaps, best be described as the 'United Nations' of music teachers. As such they have the potential to assist with current problems regarding music teaching in South Africa, including concerns regarding the perceived stature of Music as a Matric subject and ways to work towards a less Eurocentric approach to the syllabus. Her presentation was well complemented by Jenny Yates's annual account of the musical outreach done by the Royal Schools of Church Music within the Eastern Cape. As always, the Cocktail Party also offered a much needed opportunity for socialising with fellow music colleagues.

Between 1-3 April René Zietsman, Vice-President of the SASMT: Eastern Cape and Lestie Hughes, Chairman of the SASMT Port Elizabeth branch, served as our representatives at the annual National SASMT Conference, held at the Frank Pietersen Centre in Paarl. A sterling contribution to this conference was Carika de Swardt's presentation on Post-Colonialism and the Arts, which called for a more critical and sensitive approach to the way in which music educators engage with pupils from diverse cultural backgrounds. At this conference Lestie Hughes (SASMT PE-branch Chair Person) was, furthermore, elected as National President for 2019. Hence the exciting task of holding a national conference in the Eastern Cape is upon us.

Our Mini Maestro Competition (where we target beginner-gr2 future musicians), sponsored by Petronella Caterers and Grootendorst Bakery held at Charlo Primary School on the morning of 27 May, yet again proved a resounding success, both with regard to the number of entries and the enthusiasm and talent of our young performers. Avryl Cheetham's engaging manner and insightful feedback as adjudicator added greatly to the value that this performance opportunity holds for our 'fledgling' pupils.

Equally successful, albeit more competitive in approach, was our annual SASMT Music Competition, held on 25 and 26 August in the NMU South-campus Auditorium and sponsored by Lee Gold Music and the NMU Music department.

Erika Bothma, Erna Cloete and Rudi Bower served as our adjudicators and are to be commended on the constructive and highly professional way in which they evaluated the performances. Wendy Matthews and Carina du Preez are also to be thanked for sterling assistance with registration and Robert Gilmer was our efficient stage manager and announcer.

The SASMT-branch of Port Elizabeth may, once again, be proud of a successful and productive year. The re-incorporation of workshops for teachers and planning for the 2019 National Conference will constitute our main endeavours for the year ahead.

## **Institutional Centres**

### **a. Nelson Mandela University**

The Music Department has a permanent academic staff complement of 12 and a number of contract lecturers for instrumental music. The Music Department and the

SASMT have a close working relationship. In 2017, over 50 students enrolled for the Diploma in Music and the various BMus degree specialisations. In 2017 six Masters students and two doctoral students were registered. A number of lecturers also teach in the pre-tertiary department, at the Bird Street campus.

The Music Department hosts a weekly lunch hour concert, which is open to the rest of the university, schools and the general public and admission is free. The Music Department has a number of ensembles, including strings, woodwind, vocal, big band, jazz and brass ensembles as well as a student symphony orchestra, which is managed by the students. The ensembles have regular concerts and the music students are also active in the musical life of Port Elizabeth.

The Nelson Mandela University auditorium is the venue for the PE Music Society concerts, of which one our colleagues, Dr Erika Bothma is the President. The Music Society hosts international and national artists and the concerts are very popular with the public. On occasion the guest artists also host master classes with our students.

#### **b. Schools**

Some schools are institutions while teachers are also individual members of the SASMT. The activities of the SASMT are very well supported by the schools. The SASMT disseminates a list of the music activities in Port Elizabeth. This list also includes the activities of the Music Department, The PE Music Society, The Gilbert and Sullivan Society and the Feather Market Organ Society.

Prof. Alethea de Villiers

### **ADDENDUM 4**

#### **2018 ANNUAL REPORT BY REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT: FREE STATE and NORTHERN CAPE REGIONS**

Bloemfontein remains a very active music centre. However the towns elsewhere in the Free State are facing many challenges due to the change in population make up. More affluent people flock to Bloemfontein in search of better paid government jobs and better schools, thus causing a relentless decay of centres like Kroonstad and Bethlehem.

The change in management at the Sasolburg Civic Theatre has had a dramatic effect on the music and arts in that district. Mr Herman van Niekerk has succeeded to bring very high quality productions to Sasolburg from as far a field as Cape Town. He is also very generous towards music teachers in the region, and has launched a ticket sponsorship program to enable learners to attend productions for free.

What is very encouraging is that the Mangaung String Project(MSP) has expanded its outreach to the Xhariep district (Trompsburg, Phillipolis and Edenburg), and the Fezile Dabi district (Parys and Vredefort). More than 600 learners are currently involved in this program that is very much based on the *El Sistema* system in Venezuela. There is currently an exchange program running between the MSP and the Feldkirchen Music Hochschule in Austria. Some musicians from the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra have been spending time in Bloemfontein coaching kids. This has created some phenomenal opportunities for young Free State musicians. Mr Peter Guy still runs this program, and he has raised up some very good young black teachers. It is not far fetched to say that these young professionals have become the mainstream of music tuition in our region. Some have expressed interest in the Society and one has joined since the regional conference!

The Sentraal Music Academy hosted an extremely successful regional conference on 24 February 2018. More than twenty teachers attended the conference, and thirty learners were active participants in the workshop presented by Mr Francois le Roux aka the Ha!Man. Some colleagues came as far as Sasolburg and Vredefort. What was very encouraging was the buy in from the FS Department of Basic Education. The Ha!Man workshop was attended by the Director general (DG) and the Deputy chief education specialist for arts subjects (DCES) and they were very favourably impressed by the role played by the Society in creating such an opportunity for music learners. We were also very thankful for the generous sponsorship of the Arts Trust that made it possible to present the conference at a very reasonable price.

The need to re-establish a Bloemfontein centre of the SASMT was discussed in conference, and everybody agreed that such would be a welcome development. We will soon proceed to the formal re-foundation of a centre. In the run up to this event the Saint Michael`s School for Girls` music centre has decided to affiliated as an institution with the SASMT, and they will bring 6 or 7 professional teachers to the Society.

The Odeion School for Music (OSM) is very active with concerts and master class opportunities. The Free State Youth Orchestra is hosted by the OSM and it is a hybrid orchestra of students and gifted learners. The Odeion String Quartet is actively involved as well offering free master classes and tuition to members of the youth orchestra.

Colleagues in the Northern Cape have been active as well. The Kimberley Girls High School is organising a music festival in the newly refurbished Kimberley Theatre on 4 and 5 May 2018. They have invited choirs and school orchestras from the region and also from Bloemfontein to attend. The Mayibuye Music Centre will also participate.

Colleagues in Kimberley have expressed the desire to host the regional conference in Kimberley. Possibly it would be best to offer a Free State Regional Conference and a separate Northern Cape Conference as the needs and situation of music teachers are different in these two regions.

Hans POTGIETER, 2017 Vice President Free State and Northern Cape Regions

## **ADDENDUM 5**

### **KZN VICE-PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

It is wonderful to witness the growth in musical activities in our province and we all look forward to another successful year.

Here is a brief summary of this past year:

- On the North Coast a "Bundu Satellite Branch" has been started, and new members are joining. It has been exciting to see growth, and excellent events are being planned for 2018.
- The Durban centre continues to be very active. One of the highlights of the last year was the Young Performers' Concert, held in collaboration with the KZNPO in May under the capable baton of Mr. Naum Rosine.
- The Rising Stars Concert held in December was another highlight. Other concerts were Senior Students, as well Young Music Makers', concerts with the standard at both being very good.
- Pupils who achieved well in external examinations were recognized at the Achievers concert.
- All Durban SASMT activities were well supported and the two socials organized were enjoyed by those attending.

- The Durban centre also organized several workshops throughout the year.
- Planning is well underway for the upcoming annual national conference which is in Durban this year. Highlights will be a gala concert evening as well as a gala dinner. There is an interesting line-up of great guest speakers planned.
- In Pietermaritzburg the main focus of 2017 once again was the annual Eisteddfod which was held at The Wykeham Collegiate. Just under 1400 entries were received (200 up from last year) and in particular it was pleasing to see growth in the string and brass sections. Of note, as well, is that 10% of the entries were in the grade 7 and 8 sections across all the instrumental categories. The feedback from the adjudicators, public, parents and teachers was very positive.
- In Pietermaritzburg St Johns DSG opted to become an institutional member. Most other schools in the region have elected to remain as centre members. Unfortunately no report was received of their activities.
- At the Pietermaritzburg Prize Winners event held at the end of the year, pupils who achieved high marks in the international external exams were rewarded. This year 6 pupils achieved the same marks in the grades 1&2 section - which was rather unusual.
- There are several Eisteddfods in KZN and all are well supported.

Our thanks go to the organizers, willing adjudicators and helpers who make all these events possible.

Full reports on all SASMT activities can be found in the respective Durban and Pietermaritzburg chairperson's reports.

To all our music teachers - thank you and well done. It is encouraging to see many young people entering the music teaching profession. Let us all continue to strive to teach to our pupil's potential, as well as do our best and give our all.

“Music can change the world, because it can change people” - Bono

Carol Solomon  
Vice-President  
SASMT, KZN

## **ADDENDUM 6**

### **Annual report for 2017 AGM7-9April2018**

#### **Vice-president Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West**

Another year has gone by, and even though there are no active centres in Mpumalanga, Limpopo and North West, the number of musical activities in Gauteng has grown, with teachers from the mentioned provinces attending these events. It would be positive if new centres would be established, but at this stage nobody seems willing to start something new.

2018 was a busy year with the centres and institutions incorporating events for the further education of our teachers and learners. The number of learners at the institutions are growing, as are the number of teachers.

The following centres and institutional centres are situated in Gauteng:

- 1.Pretoria
- 3.University of Pretoria
- 5.North West University
- 7.Hoërskool Waterkloof



9. Brescia House

11. Jan Celliers Laerskool Musieksentrum

13. Laerskool Skuilkrans Musieksentrum

14. Pro Arte Alphenpark Academy for the Arts

Unfortunately Kingsmead College terminated their membership, but other schools have shown interest but have not yet committed.

Here follow the consolidated reports as received from the representatives.

#### **CENTRES:**

1. Pretoria

This centre has nearly 100 members and an active committee which organises not only workshops, but also social get-togethers for the members. Quarterly newsletters are sent out to members. Regular committee meetings are supplemented by whatsapp and email correspondence. The finances are in good order, and although it is still problematic to get all membership fees in timeously, the centre has been able to enlarge prizes at the annual eisteddfod, donate small sums to worthy causes, pay the head office fees early, and even treat the eisteddfod organisers to a breakfast. The annual Pretoria Eisteddfod was again successfully organised by the programme manager and her team. It is positive to see the talent and commitment in our learners and teachers. In 2017 there were 16 organisers who organised 18 different sections. Adjudication took place for 675 hours to accommodate 7346 entries and R17,400 in prize money was awarded.

2. Johannesburg

4. University of the Witwatersrand 6. South African Suzuki Association 8. Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool 10. Pro Arte Alphenpark 12. Mamelodi Magnet School

A new initiative, the SASMT Pretoria Ensemble competition was hosted from 8 - 10 September 2017 at Eduplex. Financial backing came from an ABRSM International sponsorship, sponsorships by several music dealers and also individual donations. 32 entries were received and impressed the judges with the high standard of musicianship. Due to the success, it will now become an annual event.

The regional conference was hosted in collaboration with the Afrikaanse Höer Seunskool aangebied. Several teachers from our region listened to presentations about advanced harmony, blues-improvisation, composition in the school syllabus, management of muscle pain and music therapy for the teacher.

2. Johannesburg

The committee met regularly and organised several events. Three student concerts were held, and parents and teachers appreciated the opportunity to have their students perform and enjoy music together.

The annual Johannesburg Festival for the Advancement of Music was a great success. In previous years the festival was hosted at the Wits education campus, but in 2017 only the choir and orchestra items took place there. The rest of the festival was held at Jan Celliers Laerskool.

The centre recommends that they find ways to attract younger members to the SASMT and to join the committee. They are also investigating the possibility of regular smaller house concerts as parents and teachers are willing to open their homes.

#### **INSTITUTIONAL CENTRES**

##### **A. UNIVERSITIES:**

3. University of Pretoria

2017 started with the Gauteng Chamber Music Festival where many young string players had the opportunity to take part in group classes and aural training, had master classes and participated in a final concert.

Throughout the year concerts by students, South African and international musicians took place in the Musaion. The award-winning Camerata and UP Symphonic Winds also performed. The SAMRO SA Music Concert took place in May, the Mimi Coertse Singing competition was hosted in August and the UP Jazz Symposium took place in October. 12 MMUS performing arts concerts also took [place throughout the year. The annual Enrichment Festival was held in August with many learners benefitting from the master classes and presentations by the lecturers. The Gauteng Music Festival also gave many of the lecturers and students the opportunity to perform.

4. University of the Witwatersrand

The Music Department has a permanent staff of 13 and 30 on their sessional Staff (music instrument and vocal teachers). During 2017 the following student numbers were registered:

PhD: 8

MMus: 12

MA (Course Work and Research Report): 1 Foundation: 18

MA (Research): 7

BMus 92

The courses entail the following:

Foundation Phase: In this phase students study music literacy, general musicianship and performance in three year-long courses

Bachelor of Music: The BMus at Wits is a four year professional degree. Three streams of teaching (academic, Performance and Composition) are on offer throughout the degree and students select a major in fourth year. They have the option to minor in or drop one of the music professional studies (Performance or Composition) in their third year. An additional major is offered at fourth year, Community Music. It is also available as a minor study.

MA Music: a dissertation supervised in the Music Division of the Wits School of Arts.

MMus: a dissertation and examination performance or compositional portfolio supervised in the Music Division.

During 2018 some of the concert highlights included performances by Addison Frei (South African tour as UNISA Competition Winner for Jazz Piano), the Andre Petersen Quartet, the Wits Trio, the Ibuyambo Ensemble for African Indigenous Music and of New York Round Midnight (Karendra Devroop) and From Sea to Shining Sea (Christian Bester).

#### 5. North West University

Unfortunately no report was received after numerous requests. No information was available who the new contact person was, as the previous representative only informed me that she was not responsible anymore, and all other attempts to communicate were unanswered.

#### ASSOCIATIONS:

##### 6. South African Suzuki Association

Unfortunately no report was received after numerous requests.

#### HIGH SCHOOLS:

##### 7. Hoërskool Waterkloof

Music as a subject is taught by permanent as well as part-time staff. Instruments taught include piano, clarinet, violin, flute and voice. The school caters for instrumentalists as well as singers in their extra-mural activities with two choirs, a capella group string ensemble, jazz ensemble and a concert orchestra to choose from. These groups perform regularly and also partake in combined concerts with other schools, for example the Tres Scholarum with Hoërskool Garsfontein and Hoërskool Menlopark, and the Affie Cultural Derby with the Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool. The Concert Orchestra competed at the South African Championships in September and was awarded the first prize for the 14th year in a row. A few of the

instrumental players were also chosen for the regional Simfonia Juventi regional youth orchestra.

The Brooklyn Theatre offers schools the possibility to participate in so called Kolligkonserte. Music pupils of Waterkloof performed at such concerts in March and September. The Melodrie Piano trio won the 19 & under category at the first SASMT

Pretoria Ensemble Competition. Learners are entered for the Pretoria Eisteddfod and Afrikaanse Kunswedstryd, as well as Unisa and ABRSM examinations all with good results. An internal Klofiefees is also organised for the different arts. The matriculants organise a concert in preparation for their final practical exams, and two parent evenings are hosted where parents can listen to the pupils.

## 8. Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool

In 2017 the music department had 243 learners in Grade 8 - 9 and 60 choosing music as a Matric subject in Grades 10 - 12. After the final matric exams two pupils were invited to the "Joy of Music" concert hosted by the Gauteng Education department. Annually a Winter Concert and Summer concert take place where pupils have to

SASMT/SAVMO Reg. No. 1932/004247/08 Directors: AME Britz, ME Hesse, RK Jacobs

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audition for participation. All grades organise performances as part of the CAPS document. A Music Open Day is held for potential music learners where they can test different instruments.

The GCMF (Gauteng Chamber Music Festival) was hosted between 4 and 7 January at the school in collaboration with the University of Pretoria. The SASMT regional Conference also took place at AHS in September. Pupils are regularly entered for the Affie Artes (an internal competition), Pretoria Eisteddfod, Afrikaanse Kunswedstryd, and UNISA and ABRSM examinations.

The national Il Vento competition took place from 27 - 30 September. This was initially just for wind instruments, but now also includes string players. The school has a symphony orchestra, a wind band, jazz band, several ensembles and a choir. These ensembles perform on a regular basis and are cultural ambassadors. The orchestras and the choir were overall winners in their categories at the Pretoria Eisteddfod. The choir was awarded the prize for best boys choir at the national Applous competition.

## 9. Brescia House

The number of pupils in the music centre continues to grow and the fruits of years of tuition and practice are heard in the developing skills and growing maturity of many pupils' performances. The proficiency of the staff is evident in the pleasing progress and high standard of performance of their pupils.

A record number of 67 music centre pupils wrote or played music examinations in 2017, 20 of whom played at a grade 5 or higher level. 39 candidates achieved a merit or distinction for the examinations, of which 12 were in the higher grades. Kate Watson is to be congratulated on her superb achievements. She has passed ABRSM grade 8 examinations in three instruments, namely piano, flute and singing, and also passed the Trinity College Advanced Certificate (beyond grade 8) in performance in piano and flute. In all five of these examinations, she gained distinctions.

Concerts throughout the year gave all pupils the opportunity to share their music with others, while enjoying the thrill of playing for an audience. The teatime concerts remain regular and enjoyable events, with a wide range of performances supported by music-lovers throughout the school. The more formal evening concerts and the annual Spring and Gala Concerts were equally enjoyed by performers and

the appreciative audiences. The Concerto Festival remains a highlight of the year, with a very high standard of performance on a variety of instruments (cello, piano, flute, saxophone and voice in 2017). Places are sought after, and the festival encourages students to aspire to the demanding standard required.

Ensemble Concerts were a new addition to the concert schedule for 2017. These gave the opportunity for musicians other than soloists to perform in groups ranging from duets and trios, to marimba groups, and Brescia Junior and Senior Orchestras. Audiences enjoyed a wide variety of musical styles, ranging from a fifteenth-century cello duet to the high school choir, guitar group and staff rock band performing more contemporary styles.

The high school choirs comprise committed and enthusiastic girls who are willing to dedicate much of their time to practising and to performing at every opportunity. The high school and Bel Canto choirs participated in a number of concerts and events during the year. Both choirs performed in the Singing Sistas festival at St Mary's School, and the St Stithians Girls' College festival, in addition to two Brescia House choir concerts and at one of the newly-established Ensemble Concerts. The choirs continued to play a leading role in sacred music at Mass, as well as at the annual Carol Service, which is always a highlight of the choral year. The choir is to be commended on their spirit of dedication and commitment, which pervades so much of life at Brescia House School.

#### 10. Pro Arte Alphenpark

The music department at Pro Arte Alphenpark had 10 matriculants in 2017. These learners started in Grade 8 only, therefore intense and hard work and commitment is required from the teachers to achieve good work at matric level. The pupils achieved 1 A, 2B's 6 C's and a D. Two of the matriculants were invited to perform at the NSA with other talented matriculants.

A musical was performed with learners directing, acting and singing. A small ensemble accompanied the music.

Learners were entered for the Pretoria Eisteddfod, with two pupils named category winners in the percussion section. A violinist obtained excellent results with 5 A++'s. Unisa examinations were also on the cards for some of the pupils. Two learners were included in the Simfonia Juventi Youth Orchestra.

The Tutti Concert, where all learners except the Grade 8's perform, was successful. All aspects of the production were handled by the learners. The annual teacher's Concert was again an enjoyable evening

#### **MUSIC CENTRES:**

##### 11. Jan Celliers Laerskool Musiekdepartement

At this private primary school 248 of the 400 learners obtain individual music lessons from the 5 permanent and 8 part-time teachers. Instruments presented are piano, keyboard, recorder, violin, cello, flute, fife, clarinet, guitar and drums. Group activities include the school orchestra, four recorder ensembles, a flute and fife ensemble, a 'Rock band', an Orff and Marimba-orchestra, and a Junior and Senior choir.

Pupils can enter Unisa-, ABRSM or Trinity examinations. Several pupils also enter the Hubert van der Spuy, Philip Moore and Atterbury Music Competitions deurdring. 15 pupils were placed on the Unisa Roll of Honor in 2017.

A music bursary is awarded annually to a Grade 3 to 6 pupil in the "Zanta Hofmeyr Beurskompetisie".

Several performance opportunities are created by hosting six afternoon concerts. Here pupils can perform in a relaxed environment. One of these concerts is specifically planned for the ensembles. There is also a Teachers Concert. An Interschool Concert with neighbouring schools is a highlight on the calendar. The

income created by this evening goes to the Hillbrow Community Music Centre where underprivileged children receive music tuition.

Several symposiums are hosted during the year. The main purpose is to inspire teachers and learners alike through lectures and master classes. During 2017 the sixth Piano symposium, with Dr Dr Liezl-Marét Jacobs as main speaker took place and at the Recorder Symposium Carin van Heerden, professor in recorder at the Mozarteum, shared her knowledge. The Choir Workshop presented by Renette Bouwer from UJ attracted 50 choir conductors from as far as the Northern Cape. The first Violin Symposium with Johanna Roos had such positive reaction that it will become an annual event. International Tasmanian music pedagogue Gerard van de Geer offered his insights to 32 music educators at the Marimba - and Orff Symposium.

A recorder Concerto Festival took place in October where participants performed one movement from a concerto

The annual Musiekkunswedstryd also attracts participants from neighbouring schools and all instruments are adjudicated. The festival ends with a Prestige Prize giving evening

## 12.Mamelodi Magnet School

The Mamelodi Magnet School is based at Mamelodi High School and lends the opportunity for its learners to take instrumental lessons and music theory on a daily basis. Learners across the Mamelodi region outside the school also benefit from taking lessons at the center. Dr Lynette Pruneau initially started the Magnet School in 2003 and since changed many children's lives in Mamelodi. Many of its alumni today enjoy careers in the music industry, of which some started their own music initiatives in the community itself. The learners of the Magnet School annually achieves high pass rates at UNISA examinations, participates at Sinfonia Juventi, and perform at music festivals and community events.

The Mamelodi Magnet School currently has six full time qualified music teachers, of which Jaco van Staden is the head of the department. The music teachers are also accredited by UNISA and the department of education remunerates their salaries. Music lessons are offered on the following instruments: violin, voice, classical and jazz guitar, recorder, saxophone, all brass instruments and drum kit. There are currently approximately 70 learners registered at the Magnet School receiving music tuition. 13.Laerskool Skuilkrans Musieksentrum

This centre has been in existence for 35 years. Since it was privatised, learners from other schools are allowed to receive tuition at this centre. Before this change only learners from Laerskool Skuilkrans were accepted as pupils. Now 10 different schools are represented, and even university students receive tuition.

A minimum of four concerts are held every year, and the year is ended with an Honors Evening. Learners are entered for Unisa, ABRSM and Trinity examinations as well as several eisteddfods, with several of the learners receiving trophies. A large percentage of learners entered for Unisa theory exams were placed on the Roll of Honor.

There are also some learners who have music as a subject at their respective school, but who stay on at the centre for their practical lessons. Six staff members teach piano, violin, recorder, keyboard, guitar and voice. The centre is very thankful for the continuing support of the head master of the school who understands and appreciates the value of music education.

## 14.Pro Arte Alphenpark Academy for the Arts

The year 2017 will be remembered as a very auspicious year in the calendar of the Arts Academy. In the beginning of the year we were inundated with new applications

for music tuition. In February we already had 108 more learners than the same period of the previous year. We realised that the new generation of young parents are well informed about the educational value of music. They are very much involved with the extramural activities of their children and extremely enthusiastic about the instrumental training of their young ones. We also saw a growth in applications for very young children - as young as 4 years old! A new tendency is also that parents encourage their children more and more to attend music theory classes and that they must participate in written exams.

The Arts Academy is in the fortunate position that it operates as a Magnet School and draws children from 30 different schools in Pretoria and as far as neighbouring towns in Gauteng and Mpumalanga. The music centre has a sufficient amount of instruments that can be hired by learners - especially in the scarcer type of instruments like oboes, clarinets, trombones, horns, double basses etc.

In 2017 The Arts Academy had its annual Arts Festival which took place in August at the beautiful Encore Theatre Complex in Pretoria. This Festival is presented in the form of a music competition but with emphasis on the important fact that young musicians should play together in groups and perform in public. The year's activities came to completion with our Prize Winning Concert where hundreds of certificates and trophies were awarded.

An orchestra comprising strings, wind and percussion was also started in 2017. They performed for the first time at our Arts Festival.

We have a staff of 17 full time and part time teachers responsible for most of the orchestral instruments. We are also fortunate that we have specialist teachers in some of our instruments. Our Dux Learner for 2017 was Menieke Steenkamp, a recorder learner of Dr Marie McLachlan. She was not only the Overall Winner of the recorder section of the Pretoria Eisteddfod, but was also invited to partake in the Unisa Grade 8 Music Scholarship.

## CONCLUSION

From the above it can be seen that role players put in great effort to keep music alive. There are many opportunities for learners to participate in a healthy environment through the various festivals, eisteddfods and competitions, and to glean knowledge through master classes and workshops. It is amazing to see the amount of orchestras and choirs which give learners a chance to enjoy music with fellow students. It is also evident that educators support their pupils as much as possible.

There are many opportunities for music teachers to enrich themselves through various workshops and symposiums. These events are also of great value for networking and getting to know other like-minded teachers. It is therefore sad to hear that some members decide to cancel their membership because "the society does not do anything for them".

The Pretoria centre conducted a survey to find out which subjects are important to them and which speakers they would like to hear. Unfortunately, even though the requests were incorporated, the trend that workshops are attended by a larger percentage of non-members than members has not changed.

Another issue is how to get members involved in assisting with planned activities. The situation is challenging and I have personally wondered about the future of a society where members demand many things, but only a few are willing to help with organising and running the activities, attend these events, not to say go the extra mile for this valuable cause, namely music teaching. I do hope that a solution can be found.

Gisela Scriba  
2017 Vice president Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West

## ADDENDUM 7

### The South African National Youth Orchestra

Diane Heller

The *South African National Youth Orchestra* remains a project of which the SASMT can feel justly proud. It had its origin in a resolution in an SASMT conference about 50 years ago. In 1975 it had become too large for the SASMT to manage and it was taken over and sponsored by SASOL, a sponsorship that has continued for many years. It is now run by a Board of Directors headed by managing director Sophia Welz. Its standards are high, and many young orchestral players have benefitted greatly from their membership, in South Africa and in leading orchestras in other parts of the world.

Auditions in all the major regions of South Africa have been held for music students of at least Grade 7 music standard, and those selected are preparing for an exciting year.

Between 19 and 29 May, the *National Youth Orchestra* will play in Johannesburg for Umculo's production of the Bach St John Passion directed by Kobie van Rensburg. (Umculo is an organisation dedicated to supporting social change in South Africa).

In 2018 the Winter Course from July 7 - 15 will take place in Bloemfontein with performances in the *Vrystaat Kunstefees* and in Johannesburg and Pretoria respectively.

From August 14 to 19 members of the *National Youth Orchestra* will have a five-day *Immersion Experience* with the American *Minnesota Symphony Orchestra* which will be touring South Africa, conducted by the world famous Osmo Vénské. Members of the visiting orchestra will give master classes and combine with the *National Youth Orchestra* to play Chamber Music after a day of 'side-by-side' rehearsals. The Minnesota Orchestra will then tour Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Soweto and Pretoria.

From December 7 - 16, the *National Youth Wind Orchestra* will meet in Cape Town for rehearsals and concerts. All the ongoing projects, including the 'what it takes' courses for individual instruments will continue.