

Abant İzzet Baysal University
European Association for Music in Schools

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congress

B O L U - T Ü R K İ Y E

MUSIC AND MUSIC EDUCATION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGES

- The effect of socio-cultural changes on the musical life in society
- Socio-cultural changes and musical identity
- New perspectives in music education within the context of socio-cultural changes
- The effects of socio-cultural changes on music curricula and didactic materials
- The effects of socio-cultural changes on the music teacher education
- Interdisciplinary studies on socio-cultural changes, music and music education relations

Deadline for abstract
submissions:
January 29, 2010

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European Music Portfolio: An intergrated method of teaching Language through Musical activities

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ABSTRACT

Children at a very early age make sounds, murmur, sing, move around and dance in a very natural way. They communicate in their “music language” which can be regarded as non-verbal communication. By the time they get older they develop their mother tongue out of these non- verbal musical elements. Brain research work in the past years confirmed a deep and profound relationship between music and language learning. Also research indicates that already small children are capable to acquire foreign languages. Moreover listening, perceiving and imitating are basic skills for languages acquisition and music.

The aim of the Comenius Project “European Music Portfolio” is to use musical activity in early language acquisition. This kind of training also reduces language barriers and helps social integration. It encourages self-confidence, cultural learning and expression. The project intends to develop steps to a European Music Portfolio in a way that music is used to encourage early language learning. There is however put high emphases on the fact that the integrated music method is based on an understanding of integrated learning in all subjects.

European Music Portfolio (EMP) focuses on young learners, primary teachers and teacher trainers by supporting them in their foreign language, teaching musical activities, musical learning and training. It also offers motivations for pupils to learn languages and musical skills. In addition, EMP:

- ✓ provides the opportunity for teachers from different countries to learn about other European cultures,
- ✓ create and develop innovative learning tool: Moodle, that contain activities and resources (forum, glossaries, wikis, assignments, quizzes, choices, database etc)
- ✓ explores musical diversity in Europe,
- ✓ integrates various cultures through innovative educational materials.

During the Comenius programme, teachers should be adequately equipped and be encouraged to practice musical activities or music-related activities in the classroom. Furthermore, programme should provide further training in applying elements in musical pedagogy and develop material to work with.