Artist as Teacher Seminars 2027

Call for Applications

Professional development programmes for teachers in Higher Music Education Institutions



AEC THE ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES CONSERVATOIRES, ACADÉMIES DE MUSIQUE ET MUSIKHOCHSCHULEN

Royal Conservatoire The Hague

Co-funded by the European Union

The programme at a glance

An inspiring and supportive programme designed to help teachers at any stage of their career to increase their knowledge and skills in educating and coaching conservatoire students



1

Professional development

In-depth seminars that enhance your teaching skills, expand your knowledge and support your growth as an artist-teacher.



2

Practical tools

Take away concrete strategies and resources you can apply directly in your teaching and assessments.



3

Peer learning

Learn together in a collaborative environment where peers share challenges, solutions and best practices.



4

Reflective practice

Build confidence in reflecting on your teaching, gaining new perspectives and turning insights into meaningful change.



5

International networking

Be part of an European network that connects musicians and teachers across borders and cultures.

Who can take part?

The Artist as Teacher Seminars 2027 are designed for educators who shape the future of music through teaching, mentorship and learning environments.



Teachers in Higher Music Education Institutions

Educators who teach artistic, theoretical or interdisciplinary subjects in conservatoires, universities and related institutions.

Artist-teachers interested in reflective practice

Practitioners who want to deepen their understanding of teaching and continuously develop their own educational practice.

Educators seeking peer exchange and practical teaching approaches

Teachers who value dialogue with colleagues and are looking for inspiration and practical tools to enhance their teaching.

Course content

The seminars explore key themes that are at the heart of teaching and learning in higher music education.

01

The artist as teacher

Reflecting on who we are as artists and educators, and how our development, experiences and values shape our teaching.

02

Student ownership in learning

Exploring how teachers can empower students to become independent learners and take active responsibility for their learning.

03

Conditions and foundations for learning

Supporting self-belief, motivation, wellbeing and self-regulation as the basis for meaningful and sustainable learning.

04

Social safety in the learning environment

Creating and maintaining a safe space for study and work, and recognising when students or colleagues need support.

05

The power of constructive feedback

Using feedback to deepen learning, clarify direction and strengthen teaching practice.

06

Assessment

Aligning assessment with learning goals, ensuring transparency and reflecting on our role and behaviour as assessors.



What will you learn?

1. **Reflect on your teaching biography**

   Explore your experiences and values to teach with greater intention and clarity.

2. **Support students as independent learners**

   Design learning that builds autonomy, curiosity and motivation.

3. **Strengthen wellbeing and self-regulation**

   Develop practices that support focus, resilience and sustainable performance.

4. **Contribute to a socially safe learning environment**

   Foster respect, inclusion and trust across your teaching community.

5. **Use constructive feedback**

   Help students grow through clear, timely and actionable feedback.

6. **Make assessment more transparent**

   Clarify expectations and criteria so students can achieve with confidence.



How will you learn?

You learn with and from others through a variety of working forms that build on each other.



1. Group discussion

Open conversations on key topics, experiences and challenges in teaching and artistic practice.

2. Case studies

Explore real situations from practice to analyse, question and learn together.





3. Practical exercises

Try out ideas, methods and tools in simulated or real teaching scenarios.

4. Peer feedback

Share your work, receive constructive feedback and grow through others' perspectives.





5. Guided reflection

Connect your learning to your own context and goals. You are both a contributor and a learner – throughout the seminar.

6. Mutual lesson visits

Observe and experience each other's teaching in practice – in person or online.





7. Inter-vision

Work in small groups to reflect on questions and find new perspectives for your practice.

Facilitators

Our seminars are led by a dedicated team of experienced educators and artist-teachers with extensive practice in Higher Music Education.



Renee Jonker studied percussion at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague with Frans van der Kraan. For twentyfive years he was active as percussionist with ensembles such as Percussion Group The Hague, Asko|Schönberg in Amsterdam and Ensemble Modern in Frankfurt. He curated the 2019 opera production Aus LICHT with the Dutch National Opera and the Holland Festival in a co-production with the Royal Conservatoire The Hague. With this institution he held the position of Head Master New Audiences and Innovative Practice until 2025 and since 2015 helped develop the program The Artist as Teacher.



Curious, diverse and driven: **Yvonne Smeets** has explored different directions. Singing in musical theatre, being the front woman in a rock band, obtaining a degree in architecture, studying jazz singing with a minor classical voice, performing and recording, teaching, managing, coordinating, and researching with of late a focus on assessment. Yvonne has been teaching jazz voice for over 20 years and has guided students with research, education, study guidance and professional development. Since 2022 she is a course leader in The Artist as Teacher.



Dr. Susan Williams is one of the world's most well-known specialists in baroque trumpet and has performed and recorded with many of Europe's leading early music ensembles as soloist, chamber musician and in orchestral projects. She has carried out research on the topics of attentional focus and musical imagery, as well as self-regulated learning and peer learning for musicians. Susan has developed material, courses, workshops and training programs for musicians and teachers on topics related to musical learning, practice and performance preparation. She teaches at the Royal Conservatoire of The Hague and the University of the Arts Bremen.



Annemette Juul Pedersen is a basssoonist and a senior lecturer at The National Academy of Music in Odense, Denmark, where she teaches "Reflection and teaching practise". She has worked as a professional musician for more than 30 years in all sorts of combinations and she also experiments with sound and improvisation. In her teaching her biggest interest is in bringing the artist into the teaching. The highly skilled musician adding the highly skilled teacher to their practise. As an inspirator and guide she focuses on the different roles a musician can have: the performing, the creative, the leading, the participant and the teacher.

Sessions and practical information

Session	Date	Time	Format	Place
1	Monday 11 January	10:00 - 12:00 CET	Online	Zoom
2	Friday 22 January	14:00 - 17:00 CET	In person	KC The Hague
3	Friday 22 January	17:30 - 19:30 CET	In person	KC The Hague
4	Saturday 23 January	10:00 - 13:00 CET	In person	KC The Hague
5	Saturday 23 January	14:00 - 17:00 CET	In person	KC The Hague
6	Sunday 24 January	10:00 - 13:00 CET	In person	KC The Hague
7	Monday 22 February	10:00 - 12:00 CET	Online	Zoom
8	Monday 8 March	10:00 - 12:00 CET	Online	Zoom
9	Monday 22 March	10:00 - 12:00 CET	Online	Zoom

It is mandatory to attend the live meetings in person.

To obtain the certificate of attendance, participants must attend a minimum of 80% of the sessions and deliver all written assignments.

The mutual lesson visits can be conducted online or in person if possible.

All courses and assignments will be delivered in English.

The course will be cancelled if the minimum number of participants is not met.

Fees

Participation fee:

500 €*

Included

- Full access to all seminar **sessions**
- Expert-led sessions with interactive and engaging **learning experiences**
- Curated **learning resources** for use during and after the seminar
- Hands-on **activities and group collaboration** to put learning into practice
- Q&A and open discussions in a **supportive learning environment**
- **Catering** during in-person sessions (Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and coffee breaks)
- **Certificate** of participation

Not included

- Travel and accommodation costs for in-person sessions

Participants from institutions eligible for **Erasmus funding** are encouraged to apply for **Erasmus staff mobility support** to cover travel and accommodation costs.

More information on this can be obtained by contacting the person in charge of Erasmus matters and/or international relations in your institution.

**VAT not included*

Application

Application

To apply, please send to **Beatriz Laborda** (AEC Events Manager) at **beatrizlaborda@aec-music.eu** :

- **A brief CV** (1 page max.)
- **A motivation letter** (2 page max.) including:

  – Your current **teaching position**, including the subject(s) you teach, since when, the level of students and the number of students.
  – Your **role** within your home institution.
  – Your involvement in **curriculum development** at your institution, if applicable.
  – Any specific **teacher training** you have received beyond your own musical education, if applicable.
  – The main **challenges** you face in your teaching practice.
  – Your **expectations** for the course.

Deadlines

- **Application deadline**: 15 November 2026
- **Admission notification**: 1 December 2026
- **Participation confirmation deadline**: 8 December 2026

Proposals that do not meet the above requirements or are submitted after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

Contact

Beatriz Laborda (AEC Events Manager)
beatrizlaborda@aec-music.eu

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