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Press release attachment

Musical Life in Germany

Selected data and facts

Musical education and training for music professions

- 930 public music schools are organised in the Association of German Music Schools (VdM); including local branches, there are around 4,000 locations across Germany. At present, more than 1.4 million pupils attend public music schools, of which over two-thirds are aged between six and 18. This number is swelled by many private music schools and self-employed music teachers; demand for broadly trained instrumental and vocal teaching staff will continue to rise.
- Talented students can advance their creative and teaching skills at 24 publicly funded tertiary-level music schools (Musikhochschulen). A total of around 34,000 students were enrolled in degree programmes for music professions in the winter semester of 2016/17, of which more than 55 per cent in Musikhochschulen. Two out of five students opted for creative musical degree programmes, while a good third selected a music teacher training programme. 22 per cent studied musicology.
- In the winter semester of 2016/17, on average 26 per cent of students in degree programmes for music professions were international. The internationality of the music business is particularly evident in artistic education: international students accounted for 60 per cent of the student body in the instrumental and orchestra music degree programme with 52 and 51 per cent respectively in composition and conducting; in the teacher training degree programmes the quota varied between three (music teaching at general education schools) and 14 per cent (music teaching on a freelance basis).
By comparison: on average, international students accounted for 13 per cent of the student body across all disciplines at tertiary-level schools and universities in the winter semester of 2016/17
- One of the highest growth rates in recent years was achieved in the jazz and popular music degree programme: compared to the 500 students enrolled nationwide in the winter semester of 2000/01, 16 years on the figure had increased more than threefold.

Music outreach/amateur music-making

- Playing music is among the most popular pastimes of children and young people in Germany: in 2015 nearly 30 per cent of 17 year-olds played music regularly, compared to only 19 per cent in 2005. In families with children under six singing together is particularly popular: in 2014 more than three-quarters of children sang several times a week, with girls slightly in the lead (80.9 per cent) over boys (73.7 per cent).
- Amateur music-making associations recorded 3.7 million members in 2017/18, of whom around 2.9 million were actively engaged in ensembles and choirs. This figure also includes around 2.1 million singers and nearly 800,000 instrumentalists. The ensembles of the Protestant and Catholic

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Churches recorded around 850,000 members in all. Aside from these, many initiatives and ensembles that are not part of organised structures make music together.

- Music outreach is gaining in importance: the annual number of educational concerts by publicly funded orchestras and radio ensembles in Germany more than doubled between 2003 and 2016; most concert halls and orchestras have at least one member of staff responsible for planning and staging their educational music events. With its 21-strong team the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg currently boasts the largest education department in the German-speaking world.

Ensembles/music theatres/museums

- In the 2016/17 season Germany's 83 publicly funded music theatres recorded visits of around 3.8 million at approximately 5,700 opera performances; ballet/dance visits of around 1.6 million (at circa 2,600 events), music theatres around 1.4 million and operettas 400,000 (at circa 2,300 and 850 events respectively). Since the turn of the millennium audience figures have remained fairly steady for dance, while they have declined in the opera and musical sector, with operetta audiences falling by more than a half. One reason for this development can be ascribed to the reduced offering: since the beginning of the millennium events staged overall by music theatres have dropped by more than 2,500 performances.
- In Germany there are currently 129 publicly funded orchestras accounting for a total of 9,746 permanent positions. In 1992 there were 168 publicly funded orchestras with 12,159 permanent positions. Since German reunification 39 ensembles have been dissolved or have merged.
- New concert halls and performance locations are crowd pullers: when it opened in 2017, 850,000 people attended sold-out concerts in the Elbphilharmonie; the Anneliese Brost Musikforum Ruhr attracted around 20,000 people alone to music education programmes in its opening season, while in 2018 the Dresden Philharmonic recorded a rise in subscriptions of 17 per cent, with audiences at events for families and schools increasing by 153 per cent.
- The world's oldest festival of contemporary music, the Donaueschingen Festival, takes place in Germany. Overall in Germany more than 70 festivals of national standing and professional standard are devoted to various directions in contemporary music.
- More than 150 museums and exhibitions in Germany focus on personalities from the world of music or musical instruments, regional music history or music ethnology; around half of these institutions are musical instrument museums and collections. Roughly more than a third of the music museums are devoted to the life and works of composers. These include the Beethoven House in Bonn, the Leipzig Bach Archive and the Richard Wagner Museum in Bayreuth as well as museums that focus on less well-known musicians such as the Johann Joachim Quantz exhibition in Scheden, Lower Saxony.

Music economy

- In 2016 the music economy in Germany numbered around 14,500 enterprises; this figure had risen by five per cent since 2010 – more than in the economy as a whole (up three per cent) and almost on par with the creative industry overall (up six per cent). Including collecting societies, private music teaching and other services, the revenue generated by the music economy in 2016 amounted to nearly €11 billion.

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- Very many creatives and freelancers in Germany are unable to live on what they earn from music: in 2016 around 18,000 performing musicians, 4,300 music authors and 26,500 freelance music teachers were insured through Germany's social insurance scheme for artists (Künstlersozialkasse, KSK). Their average annual income amounted to €12,650 (performing artists), €18,700 (music authors) and €12,500 (teachers).

22 articles, more than 50 sets of statistics, maps and hundreds of illustrations are included in:

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Press contact

Stephan Schulmeister, Director German Music Information Centre

Dr Christiane Schwerdtfeger, Research Associate

Deutscher Musikrat gGmbH * Weberstr. 59 * 53113 Bonn

Tel.: +49 228 / 2091-180 * Fax +49 228 / 2091-280 * Mail: info@miz.org * www.miz.org

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