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Erasmus + Programme

E.P.S. (Erasmus Policy Statement)

Superior Institute of Musical Studies “Giuseppe Verdi”

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The Institute of Music Studies “Giuseppe Verdi” of Ravenna, with its 187-year long history, would like to undertake a path of innovation and of opening to a European and international level, to offer its students, teachers and staff an international experience fostering mobility and common projects with foreign partners. This can bring to an empowerment of didactic opportunities and artistic experiences of the students and to the development of community spirit for all members of the Institute.

The Institute “G.Verdi” was founded in 1826 and firstly was named Philharmonic Academy. It was a private institution supported by the social shares periodically provided by the Municipality.

In 1873 the Academy became totally at the expense of the City Administration, because of increasing expenditures and frequent defection of the supporting members. This granted the Academy the possibility of a stable and safe existence.

In 1901 the City Council decided to give the Academy the name of Giuseppe Verdi in honour of the great musician’s death occurred that year.

During its nearly bicentenary existence the Institute “G.Verdi” hosted prestigious directors and students, for example Angelo Mariani, who was the first in Italy to conduct Wagner’s pieces, and Francesco Balilla Pratella, who headed up the Institute from 1927 to 1945.

Conforming to the Reform Act 508/1999 of the academic year 2004/2005, the Experimental Second-Level Academic Diploma in Music Disciplines specialised in interpretation and composition was activated. This Two-year course is articulated in four didactic orientations: Piano; Wind instruments (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn, Trumpet); String instruments (Violin, Viola, Cello); Chamber Music.

To complete the Reform Act, the Three-year first-level course was created at a later stage. It offers the following academic courses: Clarinet, Horn, Bassoon, Flute, Oboe, Piano, Trumpet, Viola, Violin, Cello, Guitar, Contrabass, Sax, Trombone, Singing and Composition.

In this process of transformation, various education systems are now available at the Institute: an old system working until exhaustion; a Pre-academic education granting a proper preparation to enter the first-level academic courses; a Three-year academic first-level course which is structured in line with the university system.

The study plans are composed of various disciplines which give credits, generally after an exam. Enrolment to academic and pre-academic single courses is also possible.

The Institute provides a high-quality didactic opportunity, integrating the high-school and university system in Ravenna and is committed to activities aimed at promoting the listening and practising of music among the new generations. Finally it has a leading role in organising cultural events of great significance.

Participating to the European programme with artistic and cultural projects, the Institute "G.Verdi" will spread a culture of European multi-ethnic cohesion against all forms of discrimination and xenophobia. One of the main goals is to become part of a prestigious network of Music Institutes to offer the students and teachers the opportunity of a cultural, educational and professional growth in a qualified European institute and to create a common ground of international research and study.

The Institution will give visibility to international relations, both through traditional channels (publications, guides, showcase, bilingual website) and through the various activities carried out by students and teachers in the international actions (master classes, workshops, concerts, projects) .

In 2011 the Institute G.Verdi attended the event "Christmas Concert Ravenna-Bethlehem," an initiative that has linked the religious Holidays to music, solidarity and exchange between different cultures. This event provided two concerts of European Musicians Youth Orchestra which brings together musicians from 12 different countries first took place in the Basilica of St. Francesco in Ravenna, the second at St. Catherine's Church in Bethlehem.

The event was held in collaboration with Emilia-Romagna Concerts Cooperative, Consulate of Italy in Palestine, the Emilia-Romagna Region and the Archdiocese of Ravenna. In 2012 the Institute has participated together with the E.M.Y.O. to the "Christmas Concert Ravenna - Finale Emilia", a city of Emilia-Romagna Region, which was hit by the earthquake. This project was inserted in a project of training and education with attention to social issues. The Institute presented a project in the last call of LLP/Grundtvig Programme with a Workshop on literacy of adults through innovative methodologies and use of new musical and artistic languages aimed to teachers from the European countries. The goal is to improve the professional development of operators/teachers working with adult literacy, proposing teaching techniques enriched with new musical and artistic languages.

These languages, universals and easily understood, will enable a proper involvement of learners in the learning process and will invite them to reflect on the validity of the artistic languages as instruments of dialogue between peoples, to strengthen the value of European citizenship and cultural enrichment. Since 2012, the Institute organizes a Piano Master Class and in 2013 the theme will be "The bassoon in Baroque's Europe". The Institute intends to strengthen other European and international projects aimed at enriching of the internal professional skills and the improvement of the external image with the encouragement of mobility.

With the European programme the Institute aims at contributing to the realisation of a European area of lifelong learning, encouraging the development of knowledge and musical creativity, content and practice for innovative ICT-based curricula and promoting artistic production along with other European Institutes.

In particular the aim is to encourage an improvement in education of both students and adults in the European dimension; the development of critical skills on the different education systems in Europe; the creation of innovative tools and methodologies to enhance the quality of the educational development; the improvement of knowledge of music and art languages as teaching and aggregative techniques; the creation of a network of relationships among countries; the development and enhancement of professional and personal skills of the participants.

The participation in the program for the Institution is an important improvement opportunity for the development of different skills and for the creation of European citizenship