The Finnish Association of Music schools is an umbrella organisation and its purpose is to develop the music education in Finland and to strengthen the Finnish society through it.

**Aims:**
- To ensure everyone’s right to participate in quality music education
- To develop learner centric and goal-orientated music education
- To create conditions for diverse music education with diverse values
- To introduce the function and goals of music schools

**About the association:**
Association has 98 members including all music schools that receive state funding. The association and its work is led by the board with seven full members and two deputies. The office is run by Managing director with the help of secretary of the association and information officer/ coordinator as well as project staff.

**Finances:**
The Finnish Association of Music School funds its activities with membership fees from the schools (72 %), state funding (13,6 %) and income from renting facilities and product sales (14,4 %). The entire budget of the association is approximately 250 000 € per annum.

**Cooperation with other arts:**
The Finnish Association of Music Schools is a member of the Finnish Association of Arts Education which aims to enhance the arts education and inter-arts cooperation in Finland. [www.artsedu.fi](http://www.artsedu.fi)

**International cooperation:**
The Finnish Association of Music Schools is a member of the European Music School Union (EMU), through which it improves the international cooperation and mobility as well as participates in the European Union’s cultural political interactions. [www.musicschoolunion.eu](http://www.musicschoolunion.eu)

"Music, just like all art, is a way to understanding and joy for individual as well as for the community. The younger one starts it, the richer the life will be”.

**President Tarja Halonen**

"Music schools open the way for children and youth not only to music but also to fulfil their dreams”

**President Sauli Niinistö**

www.musicedu.fi
MUSIC EDUCATION IN FINLAND

The aim of Finnish music education is to ensure circumstances for a life long relationship with music. Approximately 4% of the learners continue to professional music training.

90% of the teaching is classical music and the remaining 10% focuses on other genres such as pop and jazz as well as traditional music.

Music education is given by approximately 190 schools and facilities of which 89 receive state funding for the regulated basic arts education curriculum.

Annually 23,000 children and young people apply to study within the music education system and approximately half of them are admitted.

Music schools have over 3600 teachers in Finland.

There are 67,000 learners and 36% of them participating in early childhood music education which means that they are between 0 and school going age.

36% of the learners are boys and 64%, nearly two thirds, girls.

In 2013 music schools gave 1,652,000 lessons that were subsidised by the state and in addition of those they organise teaching with other funding resources.

The state funds music education with approximately 70 million euro per annum.

In 2013 the calculated price for one lesson given was 74.66 euro of which the state covers 57%, the municipality 25% and 18% the costs are covered by student fees.

Strengths:
The strengths of the Finnish music education system are its long tradition, early childhood music education which provides learners with solid foundation for future studies in music and a life long positive relationship with it. Also the high quality teacher training which results with very professional teachers is one of the strengths of music education in Finland.

Funding from the state and municipalities are a sign of high regard in which music education is held in the Finnish society.

Legislation:
Music education is legislated by the basic arts education act.