MEETS CONTEST
“MUSIC & TRANSVERSAL SKILLS”

Art. 1 - CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT
MEETS, Music in higher education to develop transversal skills, is a transdisciplinary and cross-border project funded by the European Erasmus+ program. The project has the double purpose of research and performance and it aims to realize a useful method for the development of soft skills (or transversal skills) through the study of music during the students’ academic years, namely in the university orchestras and choirs. In addition to Almo Collegio Borromeo of Pavia (Italy), which is the creator and leader of the project, other five European partners are involved: the University of Linköping (Sweden), the General Foundation of the University of Valencia (Spain), the Tallinn University Symphonic Orchestra (Estonia), the European Network of University Orchestras (ENUO) and Forte Fortissimo TV (Italy), as media partner.

The core idea of MEETS (www.meetsproject.eu) is that music - approached during the years of university education in a professional way, though not necessarily being professionals - can be an extraordinary tool for developing students' transversal skills, useful in everyone's future professional life. In addition to the “traditional” soft skills – i.e. communication, team building, decision making, problem solving – the project aims to investigate whether music can also develop more innovative and peculiar skills, important for many professional areas.

The key point is: even in professional life, it is necessary to give our contribution as a human being, including attitudes and sensitivities not directly linked to the labour field, even skills that seem so far from it. Which ones? Aesthetic sense, a sane skepticism, the related critical sense and openness to other ways, stress management, intuition and two really special skills: the ability to experience or to live fulfillment and the ability to live and manage the flow state, when you are performing. This is the ability to take contact with your emotions and know how to manage them even in contexts in which you don't have full control of the situation. A very important skill in professional life and, more in general, in human relationships. These innovative skills are necessarily developed by those practicing music, though unconsciously most of the time. The question is if and how music – as both an individual and collective form of art – can help this “holistic” development of the personality.

The MEETS project organizes a contest for young European composers.

To be eligible for the MEETS Contest, applicants should have either European citizenship or otherwise be based and active in EU countries/territory. The maximum age is 29 years old.
Art. 2 - SCORES
The candidates must write a piece inspired to one of the following “new” transversal skills:

LEADERSHIP
Personal leadership: Being able to take responsibility for your own actions and standpoints. Being able to control your emotions, mind and body language.
Leadership in relation to other individuals: Being able and willing to teach and mentor other individuals. Being able to maintain your integrity while taking responsibility for decisions made by yourself or your group. Being able to understand how to act as a good example for a group and acting accordingly.

LISTENING
Listening to others, what they are saying but also how/what they are playing, and adjusting to what you perceived if needed.

SOCIAL ABILITIES
Being able to give, receive and interpret communication on different levels through speech, body language, written language e.g. sheet music. Being able to build relationships with various individuals that have different cultural and social backgrounds

OPENNESS TO OTHER WAYS
Being able to understand and appreciate that there is more than one good way to think or do something

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
Being able to take responsibility for stand points taken during the decision making as well as made decisions as a whole

ABILITY TO PERFORM UNDER PRESSURE
Being able to function/deliver even under pressure, given the needed preparation

TEAM BUILDING
Being able to function in as a group/team by keeping in mind the group interest and being able to put that group interest above one individuals’ interest to a certain extent

AESTHETIC SENSE
Being able, based on pure emotion and sensation, to determine what is beautiful and ugly with respect and recognition to the environment the composition was created (the composer and time in history), the environment the music is played (concert hall), the conductor, fellow musicians, audience, own emotional state etc. This will of course depend very much on an individual’s perception. In any case, the development of the aesthetic sense helps to capture the overall picture of a situation, even in relation to its emotional impact

ABILITY TO EXPERIENCE OR TO LIVE FULFILLMENT
Being able to reach or even exceed your own or other’s expectations after having spent hours practicing alone or in sections with or without help of a tutor. Being able to experience intense
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The question is if and how music – as both an individual and collective form of art – can help this professional life and, more in general, in human relationships. These innovative skills are performing. This is the ability to take contact with your emotions and know how to manage them to experience or to live fulfillment and the ability to live and manage the flow state, when you are and openness to other ways, stress management, intuition and two really special skills: the ability seems so far from it. Which ones? Aesthetic sense, a sane skepticism, the related critical sense being, including attitudes and sensitivities not directly linked to the labour field, even skills that innovative and peculiar skills, important for many professional areas.

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practicing alone or in sections with or without help of a tutor. Being able to experience intense pleasure from playing/singing, being able to play your part in the best possible way you could have e.g. during a concert. It is a matter of feeling and living in the fullness of an action and of self

The genre has to be a piece for chamber orchestra or choir (mixed choir SATB or female/male choir). Orchestral piece, maximum 2.2.2.2-2.2.0.0-timpani-strings. The maximum length is 7 minutes. The composer must write a piece thinking that it could be played by an orchestra/choir of students.

The score must be free of rights. The submitted composition should not be a published work, or previously have received an award. The composition should be sent in .pdf format (A4 sheet music).

Art. 3 - DEADLINE

The scores must be sent exclusively by email and must be received no later than the 31st January 2022 to the following email address: info@meetsproject.eu. The pdf scores will be sent anonymously to the Jury (please write a motto instead of the composer’s name).

Art. 4 - FEES

The contest is free of charge.

Art. 5 - AWARDS

The piece written by the winner will be performed by the Orchestras/Choirs of the MEETS project and video recorded with a huge promotion throughout Europe.

Art. 6 - JURY

The Jury’s decisions are final and unappealable.

Jury Members:

- Carlo Galante, Italy (President)
- Marco Berrini, Italy
- Beatriz Fernández Aucejo, Spain
- Amparo Edo Biol, Spain
- Merete Ellegaard, Sweden
- Michael Bartosch, Sweden
- TBA, Estonia

Art. 7 - GENERAL CONDITIONS AND PRIVACY POLICY

Nothing will be due by the Contest Organization for the complete orchestral parts and their use in occasions related to the event. The composer of the winning work agrees to the work's recording (television, radio and audio) and to its posting on websites, without any extra cost to the MEETS Project. The project may use it also in other concerts free of charge.
In accordance with article 13 of the GDPR 2016/679 (E.U. General Data Protection Regulation) and article 13 of the Italian D.Lgs 196/2003 we inform you that personal data provided by participants will be used solely for the purposes of the competition.

Art. 8 - RESPONSIBILITY
The MEETS project disclaims any liability in case of failure or incorrect reception of registration documents caused by their transmission via any means and for any reason. Within the limits of its ability, the Organization will try to inform each candidate should the documentation be incomplete or illegible.

The organization disclaims any liability in the event of a breach of copyright by competitors.

Art. 9 - ACCEPTANCE
Participation in the Contest implies the unconditional acceptance by the participant of all the rules established by the competition announcement.

Art. 10 - LEGAL NOTICE
The organization reserves the right to make - at any time - changes to this regulation, giving immediate notice of it on the official website www.meetsproject.eu.

In the event of disputes, the exclusive competent Court will be in Pavia (Italy).