Dear Readers,

We can proudly present the 8th issue of the *Contexts of Music Education* academic journal, published by the Faculty of Composition, Music Theory, Conducting, Eurhythmics and Music Education of the Grażyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Łódź.

We hope you will find texts posted in this issue of the journal interesting. Authors of the presented articles share their knowledge, results of scientific research and personal experience from the field of broadly understood music education.

The first section – **Dissertations and academic papers** – starts with Stella Kaczmarek’s study on the *Future of culture and cultural education in Poland* (p. 11–28). The author discusses key aspects of the functioning of culture in Poland, drawing our attention to forms of financing the cultural activity as well as to the situation of artists and authors. Dominika Lenska in her article on the *Diversity of forms of children’s folk song and play* (p. 29–43) highlights benefits and important instructive-educational role of folk song and play in children’s repertoire. In the article on *Realization of a task as a method of work on the movement interpretation of a musical work* (p. 45–57), Barbara Dominiak presents her reflections on the existence of a musical and choreographic work, role of a performer as an essential link between author and recipient as well as methods of work with a group of performers. Joanna Buczyńska and Barbara Dutkiewicz (p. 59–73), when analyzing selected concepts of Jean Piaget, Lew Wygotski, or Rudolph Scaffer, notice a creative approach to the surrounding world developed in pre-school children thanks to application of *plastique animée* elements during eurhythmics classes, whereas Anetta Pasternak in her article *In the labyrinth of interpretations – plastique animée in the context of an open work* (p. 75–84) discusses problems occurring in the course of *plastique animée* realizations, connected with interpretation of an open work. Anetta Pasternak and Agata Trzepierczyńska in their article *On disintegration of the Emil Jaques-Dalcroze method in the Polish music education system. Reflections on the role of Dalcroze’s solfeggio in a 1st-level music school* (p. 85–94) seek answers to two questions: does the reduction of the solfeggio role not disturb the whole concept of the Dalcroze eurhythmics today and is the use of movement in aural training still necessary?

The second section – **Young people’s forum** – features one article. Martyna Romanowicz (p. 97–106) gives practical tips that might be of some use when recognizing individual problems faced by artists.

In the third section – **Reviews and reports** – we present a report from the 5th All-Polish Academic Conference, part of the ‘Contexts of
music education’ series, which was held on March 1–2, 2018 at the Grażyna and Kiejstut Bacewicz Academy of Music in Łódź, as well as two reports from student conferences: 6th International Conference for Music Therapy Students in Wrocław and 2nd Music Forum for Young Scientists and Artists in Łódź.

Enjoy the texts and feel welcome to publish with us!

Editor-in-Chief
Ewa Kumik