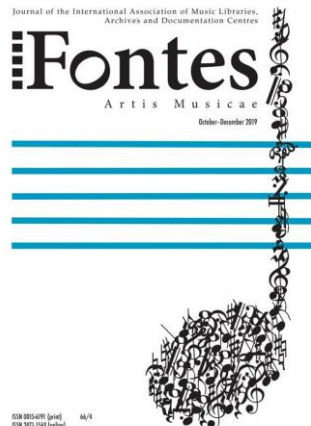# *Impact of COVID-19 on music provision in libraries, archives and music documentation centres*

May 2020

Preliminary survey results

Music Librarians, Archivists and Information Specialists of the World

- to encourage and promote the activities of music libraries, archives and documentation centres and to strengthen cooperation among individuals and institutions working in these fields

- to promote a better understanding of the cultural importance of music institutions nationally and internationally

- to promote professional education and training

- to support projects that improve the provision of music services through bibliography, cataloguing, preservation, digitization and research

- to promote the particular needs of music within the general library framework

IAML

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres

Survey on the impact of COVID-19

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres
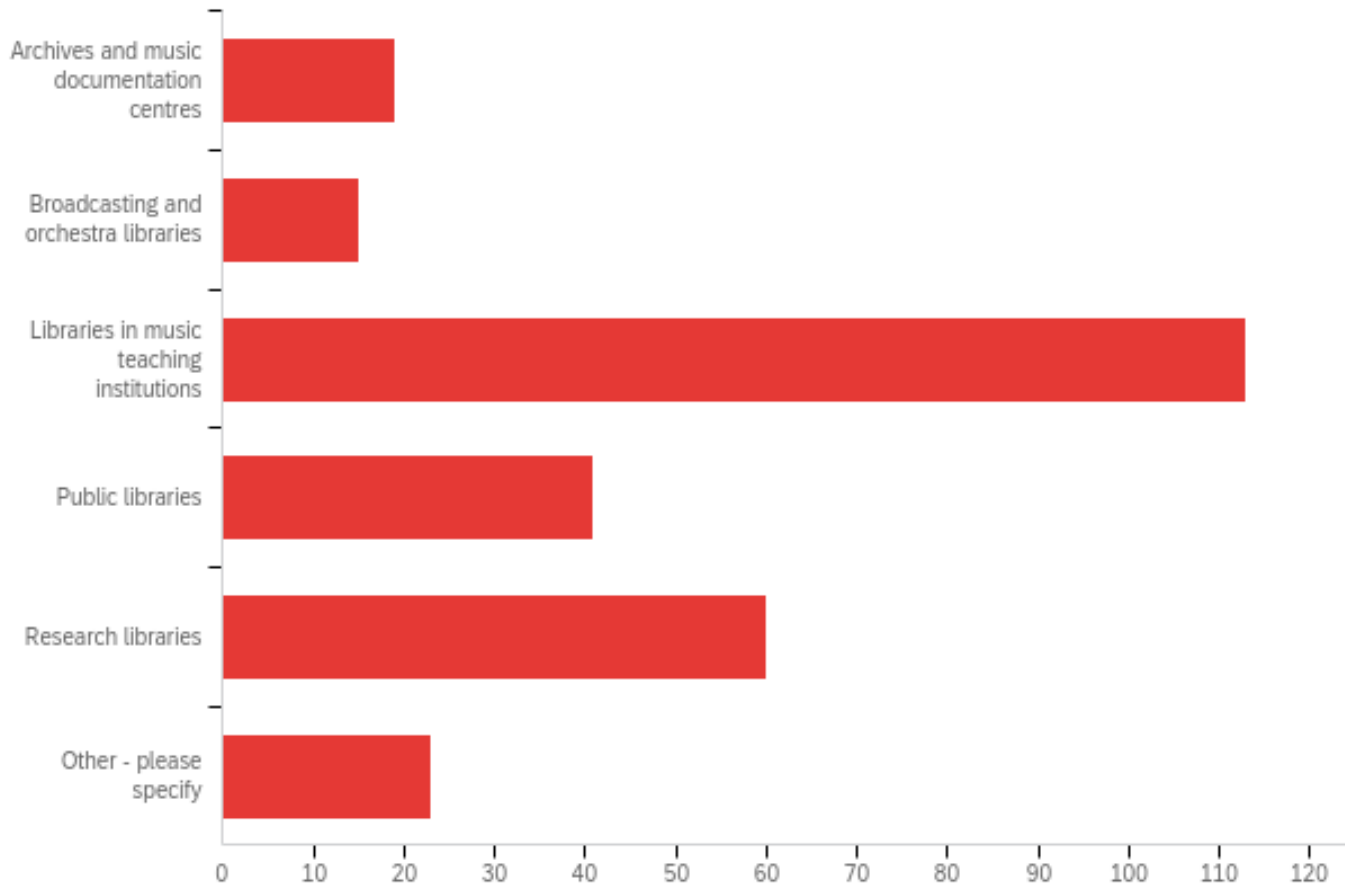
Snapshot during time of emergency responses

Focus on impact during the first six months since the emergence of COVID-19

Capturing ideas, challenges and solutions
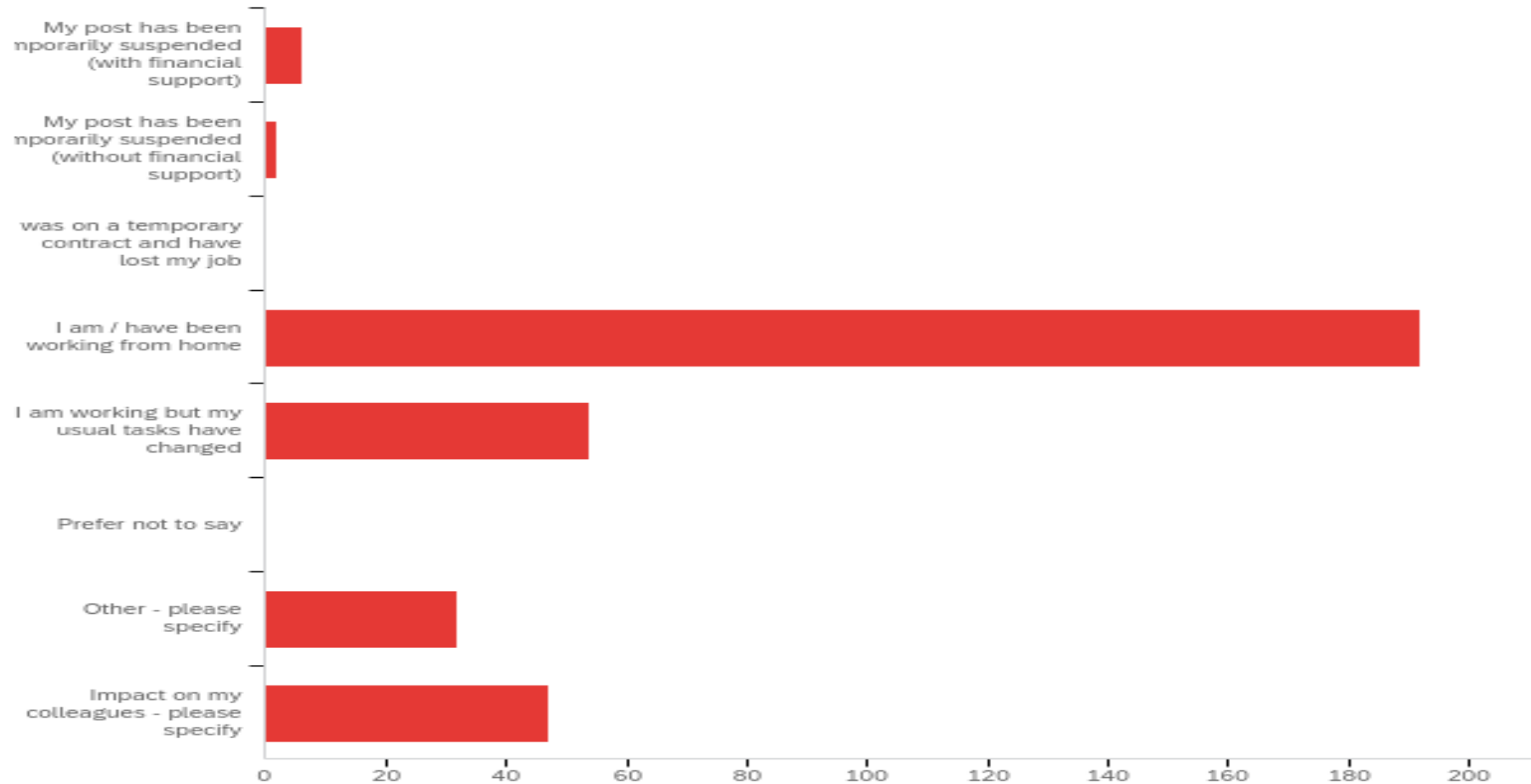
Limited statistical data

Which section best represents your library?

What is the immediate impact of COVID-19 on your post?

My country of residence is:

Countries
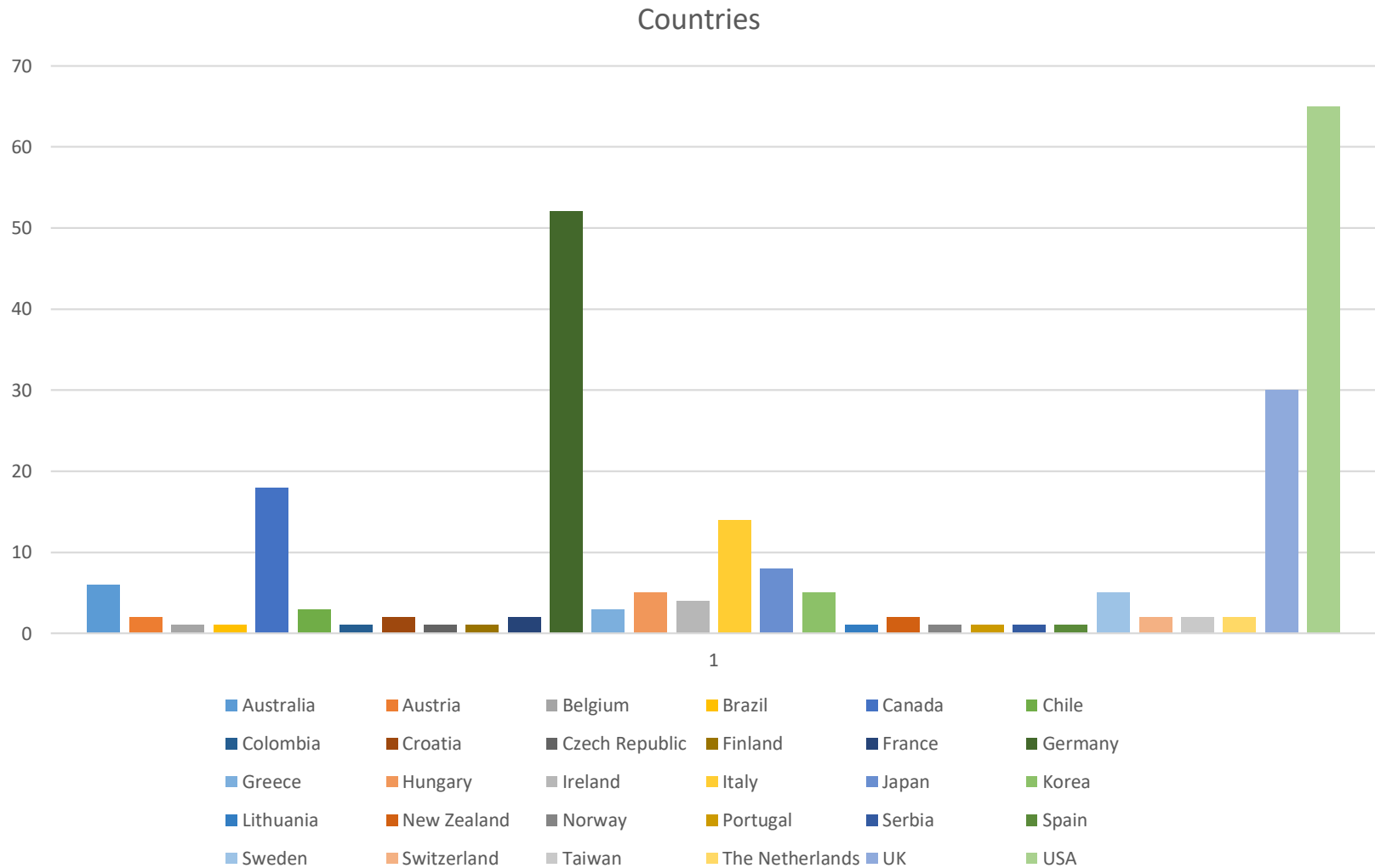
No access to physical collections relying on online provision only

Music literature: ebooks not always available creating significant gaps

AV materials: subscriptions and free resources

Notated Music: online provision problematic – only free resources available for many libraries

Archival materials and special collections: limited to already digitized content

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Paradigm shift towards online

Are we ready?

Resourcing and funding implications increase inequality

Content gaps: solutions go beyond online purchasing

The challenge of made to measure online content

**What were the main obstacles of resource provision?
To what extent have you been able to find solutions?**

➢Preventing the spread of COVID-19 with limited capacity for opening
     Quarantine, limited services, restrictions

➢Libraries closed to users to prevent the spread of COVID-19
     Scan and deliver, click and collect, home delivery of physical items

➢No access to buildings and physical collections
     Home working and online resources based services only

➢Availability and nature of online resources
     Content gaps, pricing, access limited to free online resources

➢ Copyright restrictions

➢ Funding

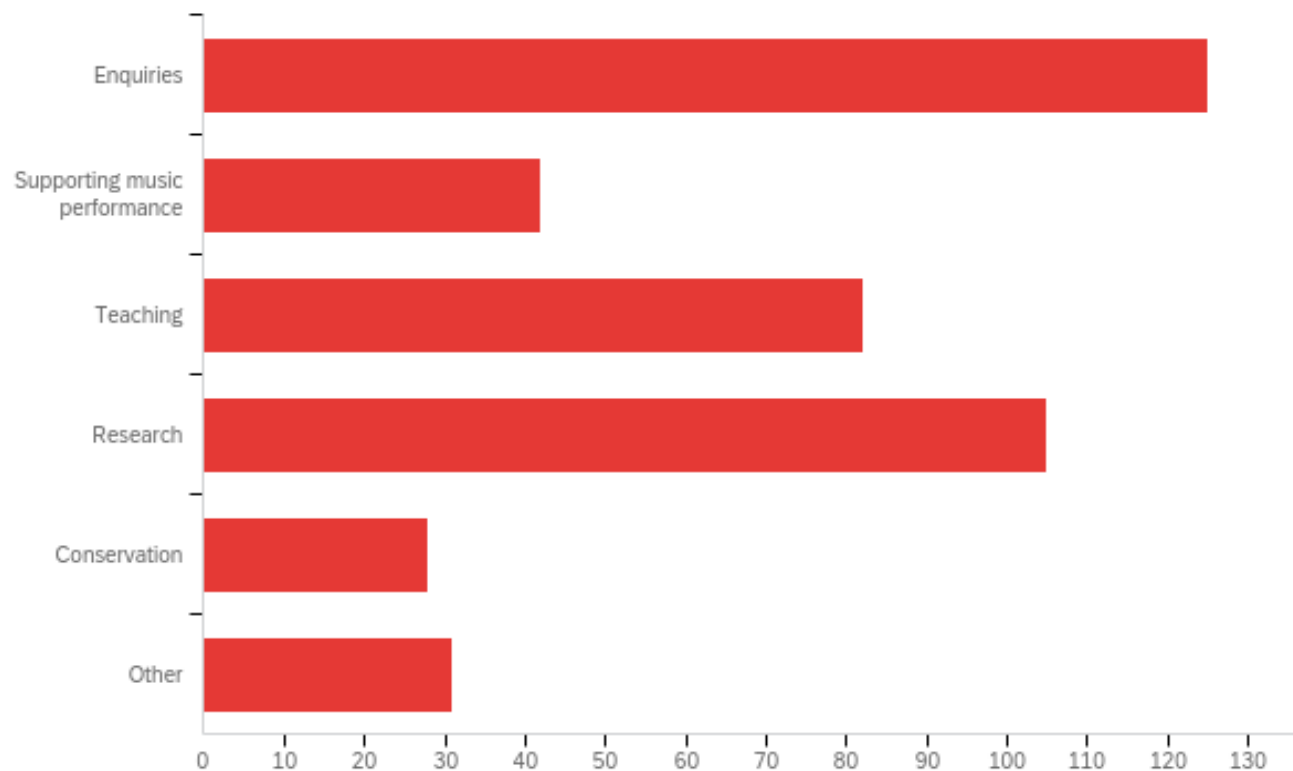➢ Travel restrictions and logistical issues

Were any adjustments made to existing collection development policies, copyright licenses or other forms of agreements?

Copyright adjustments:
limited, mostly text only

Collection development policies:
(temporary) shift to e-only

Other agreements:
Temporary access agreements
Adjustments of online subscriptions
Temporary service delivery

Which user services and support have you been able to provide?

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Enquiries
Reference and research
Resources and purchases
Music subject
Copyright

through various online platforms, tools and guides

Music performance
Support through online resources
Delivery of physical materials
Livestream concerts and studio performances
Social Media

Severe impact on orchestras
Many not able to support performance

Teaching
Preparing and delivering online courses

Provide resources for online courses

Provide online support to teaching staff

Research
Provide resources and signposting

One-to-one online consultations

Support often limited to materials available online

Conservation
Adding content to digital repository
Planning ahead
From business as usual to no support

Other
Cataloguing projects
Inter library loan / home delivery service
Broadcast
Online Music streaming
Online exhibitions

Communication with our users is most effective through:

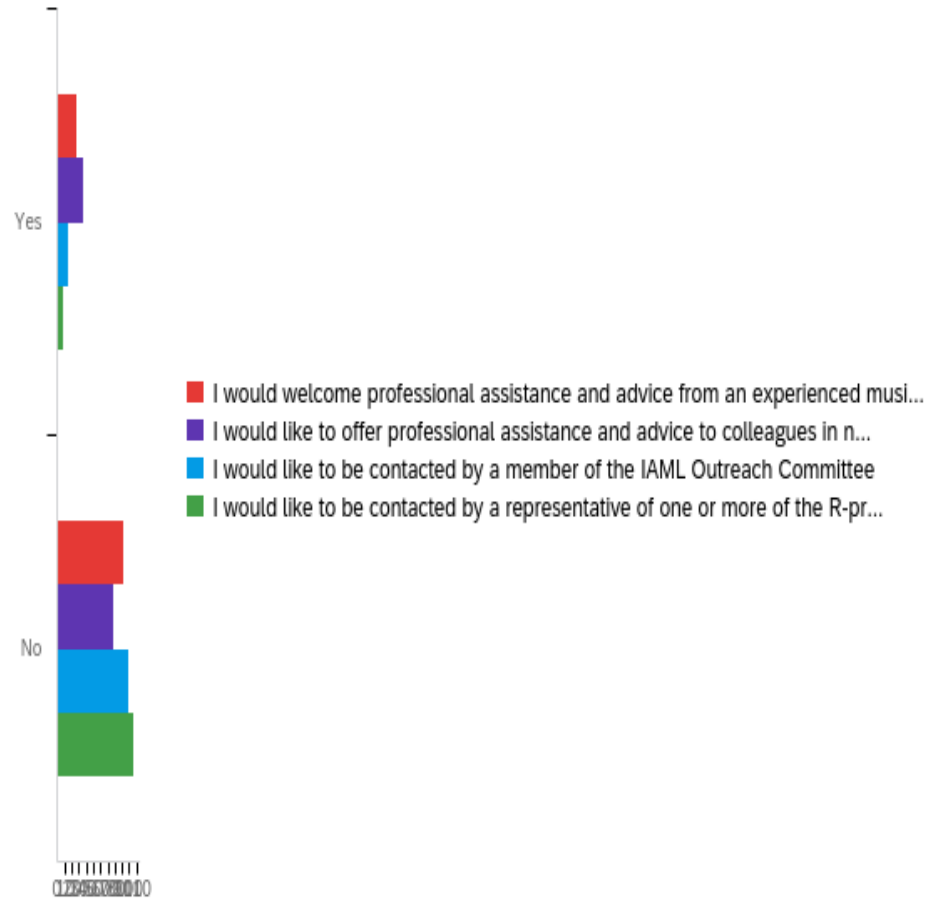|	
Social media	42.92
Email	74.70
Online meetings	47.83
In person	52.88
Other*	52.13

Number includes one-to-one online

Other: telephone, group email, online one to one, online teaching, website, newsletters, no communications (orchestra musicians not at work), Online self-help knowledge bases, library chat, instant messaging, research guides

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Going forward my main concerns are around

Content provision	**62.59**
User services	**68.22**
Job security	**48.58**
Funding	**67.33**
Contingency planning	**59.39**
Other*	**44.09**

Employment, wellbeing, safety, service delivery, copyright, events and performance, policies, finance

I would welcome professional assistance and advice from an experienced music librarian

I would like to offer professional assistance and advice to colleagues in need

I would like to be contacted by a member of the IAML Outreach Committee

I would like to be contacted by a representative of one or more of the R-projects (RISM, RILM, RIPM, RIdiM) for assistance in helping faculty and students (please specify which R-project(s) below)

What can IAML do for you in the context of COVID-19?

Support through sharing experiences:

Sharing ideas and good practices – Online Forums/platforms/tools – CPD – create recommendations

Resources

Negotiating for affordable online resources - compile information on online resources

Other comments

Thank you – share survey results – advocacy

Preliminary conclusions

Lack of access to physical collections is a significant problem for all music libraries

Recommendations around managing the current crisis and towards future disaster planning are required. How can IAML fulfil its role of promoting a better understanding of the cultural importance of music and music institutions in a socially distanced world?

Online music resources are potentially rich in content and diverse in format. There is huge unexplored potential for future developments. Continued communication between stake holders in the provision of online content will be beneficial to all.

Strong feeling of community within IAML is an excellent starting point for international cooperation. We can build on this to reach out to music and library organizations worldwide.