

APPLICATION

Study field "Arts" for assessment

Study field	<i>Arts</i>
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Self-evaluation report

Study field "Arts"

Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music

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1. Information on the Higher Education Institution/College

1.1. Basic information on the higher education institution/ college and its strategic development fields,.

The Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (JVLAM) is a higher education and scientific institution founded by the Latvian state, whose aim is to provide internationally recognised higher education in the fields of music and performing arts, arts education and science in order to promote excellence in artistic creation, develop talent and creative abilities, contribute to the development of professional art, culture and science, thus providing the labour market and the cultural sector with competent, artistically creative and internationally competitive specialists.

The JVLAM operates on the basis of the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the Law on Scientific Activities and the Constitution of the JVLAM, observing the Constitution of the Republic of Latvia, the Law on Education, and other regulatory enactments. The JVLAM has the legal status of a public entity, is registered in the Register of Educational Institutions as required by law, and is registered in the Register of Scientific Institutions. The JVLAM is under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture.

The JVLAM was founded more than 100 years ago - on 20 August 1919. According to Paragraph 2 of Cabinet Order No 655 of 17 September 2021 on the types of state higher education institutions, the JVLAM is included in the - Universities of Arts and Culture type of higher education institutions. In turn, in accordance with Paragraph 1.5 of Cabinet Order No 449 of 21 June 2022 on Strategic Specialisation of State Higher Education Institutions, the stated initial strategic specialisation of the JVLAM is in the field of humanities and arts, as well as in the thematic field of education - the arts.

The mission and vision of the JVLAM are defined in the *JVLAM Development Strategy 2016-2023*, the latest amendments to which were approved at the Constitutional Assembly meeting on 10 March 2021. The Strategy was extended on the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science (according to 12.01.2021 Ministry of Education and Science letter No. 4-10e/21/99).

The mission of JVLAM is to educate competent, artistically creative, demanded, internationally competitive professionals in music, choreography, music education and science, providing a high-quality innovation, creativity, and research-developing higher education environment.

JVLAM is an active participant in international academic, artistically creative and research activities, it promotes cultural contacts, co-operation between scientific disciplines and the application of knowledge.

The knowledge, talent and work of lecturers and students are the root of the success of JVLAM. JVLAM cares for the growth of the students' and employees' professional and artistically creative abilities by uniting studies and research, classical cultural traditions and dynamic development, thus serving the community and carrying the name of Latvia in the world.

The vision of JVLAM: in 2023, JVLAM is the leading music education centre in Latvia and one of the leading music education centres in the Baltic region. JVLAM is open to new interdisciplinary study programmes in creative industries, artistically creative projects and projects of scientific research. A modern, high-quality, internationally competitive academic and scientific environment enables JVLAM to be one of the most important European music education centres.

In late 2022, the JVLAM submitted documents for the evaluation of the following study programmes in two fields of study:

1) Study field *Arts* - 5 study programmes, including:

- one professional bachelor's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* (42212);
- one professional master's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* (47212);
- one academic master's degree programme *Music* (45212);
- one academic doctorate degree programme *Musicology* (52212);
- one joint professional doctoral programme *Arts* (51211).

2) Study field *Education and Pedagogy* - two study programmes:

- 1st level professional higher education study programme *Music, Dance, Arts Vocationally Oriented and Interest-Related Education Teacher* (41141);
- one professional bachelor's degree programme *Music, Theatre Arts, Dance, Visual Arts Teacher* (42141).

As the JVLAM does not have a branch, it does not run study programmes at ranches and does not plan to do so in the near future. At the end of 2017 - beginning of 2018, the possibility of establishing a Kurzeme Chapter was analysed, which was also welcomed by the representatives of the following professional institutions of state and local authorities: Inga Auziņa - Director of Liepāja Music Art and Design High School, Uldis Lipskis - Director of VSIA Liepāja Symphony Orchestra, Atis Deksnis - Deputy Chairman of Liepāja City Council for Education, Culture and Sports, Andris Grigalis - Director of Ventspils Music High School, Juris Jirgens - Head of Liepāja Culture Administration, Gunārs Anšņš - Vice-Chairman of the Liepāja City Council for City Development and Cooperation, Lieutenant Commander Uldis Locenieks - Head of the National Armed Forces (NBS) Big Band, Lieutenant Colonel Dainis Vuškāns - Chief of the National Armed Forces (NBS) Orchestra and Guest Conductor.

The JVLAM worked in several directions to implement this idea, both by identifying potential students, researching labour market forecasts in the Kurzeme region, and identifying the position of the RL Ministry of Culture and the of Academic Information Centre. Given that this idea could have been implemented by creating a branch instead of a JVLAM department (which would have required additional resources that were not available to the JVLAM), the JVLAM abandoned the idea.

In 2013, the number of students at the JVLAM was 543. In subsequent years, there was a slight drop in enrolments. After that, the number of students grew, and in 2017, for the only time, it exceeded 600 students. In 2022, the number of students at the JVLAM is 555, 12 more than at the beginning of the evaluation period. Taking the number of students at the beginning of the evaluation period as a baseline, the fluctuations during the evaluation period have been in the range of 12%. Therefore, it is reasonable to state that the dynamics of the number of students at the JVLAM has been relatively stable during the evaluation period. This is a good indicator, given that Latvia's population has been shrinking every year during this period.

According to the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the objectives of Institutions of Arts and Culture are determined by the Law on Higher Education Institutions, in accordance with the specialisation defined by its founder.

The *JVLAM Development Strategy* has been drawn up with the aim to define directions of development, objectives, tasks and targets to be accomplished by JVLAM in the time period from 2016 to 2023 in order to ensure fulfilment of the mission of JVLAM. The Development Strategy in

Latvian is available here:

https://www.JVLAM.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/1.2-JVLAM-attistibas-strategija-10.03.2021.pagarinata.pdf

The summary of Development Strategy 2016-2020 in English is available in the attachment.

The development directions of the JVLAM for 2016-2023 are:

(1) A high quality, internationally competitive centre of excellence in music, performance arts, music pedagogy studies, and artistic creation.

(2) Cultural heritage-based research that promotes innovation.

The first development direction defines the following objectives:

- To ensure access to studies to anyone who is willing, possesses the abilities and has undergone the appropriate training;
- To ensure high-quality studies, setting it as the key priority for all persons involved;
- To ensure competitiveness of studies;
- To ensure sustainable operation and development of JVLAM by targeting the possibilities of internationalisation.

The second development direction defines the following objectives:

- To strengthen its status as the country's leading scientific research centre for music;
- To maintain high standards of research quality;
- To promote international recognition of the Latvian music science.

1.2. Description of the management structure of the higher education institution/ college, the main institutions involved in the decision-making process, their composition (percentage depending on the position, for instance, the academic staff, administrative staff members, students), and the powers of these institutions.

In accordance with Section 12 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions and Paragraph 14 of the JVLMA Constitution, the JVLMA has the following decision-making bodies:

The **Council** is the collegial supreme decision-making body of the JVLMA, which is responsible for the sustainable development, strategic and financial oversight of the JVLMA, as well as for ensuring that the JVLMA operates in accordance with the objectives set out in its development strategy. The Council is composed of 5 members, 2 of whom are nominated by the Senate, 2 by the Ministry of Culture and approved by the Cabinet, and 1 nominated by the President of Latvia.

The **Senate** is the collegial supreme academic decision-making body of the JVLMA, which is responsible for the excellence, development and compliance with internationally recognised quality standards of the JVLMA's education, research and creative activities. The Senate regulates the academic, creative and scientific activities of the JVLMA. The Senate is composed of 20 senators, including the Rector, 15 academic staff representatives and 4 student representatives.

Representatives of the academic staff shall be elected to the Senate by the Constituent Assembly, student representatives shall be elected to the Senate by the Students' Self-Government. The members of the Senate elected by the Students' Self-Government shall be approved by the Senate of the JVLMA.

The **Rector** is a senior official of the JVLMA who exercises the general administrative and economic management of the JVLMA and represents the Academy without express authorization. Candidates for the post of Rector are selected by the Council and elected by the Constituent Assembly.

The **Rectorate** of the Academy is a management decision-making body, the composition of which, in accordance with Paragraph 63 of the JVLMA Constitution, is established and approved by the Rector by decree, and chaired by the Rector. The Rector's Office has Vice Rectors, a Head of Finance, a Head of HR and a lawyer. The Rector's Office has no student or academic staff representatives. The Rector may delegate to the Rector's Office the consideration, discussion and decision-making on matters within the Rector's competence related to the management, financial and organisational issues of the JVLMA. The support of the Rectorate's activities is provided by the structural unit "Rectorate Office", which is also competent for such issues as the organization of circulation and storage of JVLMA documents, the organization and provision of internal and external communication, the provision of legal support and quality management. Staff from the rectorate's office are selected through an open competition and employed on the basis of an employment contract. Vice-rectors are selected by the rector and enter into an employment contract with them for the term of rector's term.

The **Constituent Assembly** is the representative body of the academic, general staff and students of the JVLMA, which approves the Constitution, elects the Rector, elects representatives of the academic staff to the Senate and to the Academic Arbitration Court. The Constituent Assembly is composed of 40 members, elected by the JVLMA staff representative groups: 24 representatives from the academic staff, 8 from students, 8 from the general staff.

The **Academic Arbitration Court** reviews the applications of academic staff and students concerning restrictions of academic freedoms and rights set forth in the Constitution of the Academy, applications of Academy staff concerning challenges to administrative enactments issued or actions taken by the Academy, disputes between officials of the Academy, governing bodies of the departments under its authority, and makes appropriate decisions within its competence. The Academic Arbitration Court is composed of five members, 3 of whom are academics and 2 of whom are students. The Academic Arbitration Court shall be elected by the Constituent Assembly

The **Ethics Committee** is a collegial body that considers the conduct of the staff (employees and students) of the Academy regarding violations of the Code of Ethics of the Academy, including violations of academic integrity. The Ethics Committee is established and approved by the Rector's decree and includes at least 1 representative of the general staff, at least 1 representative of the academic staff and 1 representative of the students.

The **Students' Self-Government** represents the interests of students in matters of academic, social and cultural life of the academy and other state institutions and determines the procedure for students to be elected to the collegial bodies of the Academy. The Student Self-Government Board is composed of 9 student members, who are elected by the General Meeting of Students. The Student Council does not include representatives of academic staff or general staff.

Departments are the basic units of study, scientific, creative, artistic and methodological work, which represent a specialisation or profile of a certain sub-programme of a study field implemented by the JVLMA and unite the academic staff involved in the implementation of the study courses within the competence of the department and external teaching staff. The main task of the departments is to develop the content of study courses appropriate to the objectives and level of the JVLMA, to ensure quality implementation of the content and to control the development of study courses within its competence. Chairs are staffed entirely by lecturers. There are no student or general staff representatives in the departments. The heads of departments for each academic year are selected and approved by the rector by order. Lecturers of the academic staff of

departments are elected to an academic position for the provision of a specific study course within the competence of the department.

Units are structural divisions of the JVLMA established for the organisation of students' academic and professional higher education activities in one or more specialisations or profiles. The task of a department is to organise and manage the students' study process. The head of a unit is also the director of the study programme. Units bring together departments and students from study programmes. The heads of unit shall be selected in an open competition. Program directors are approved by the Senate.

The decision-making bodies and academic bodies considered above take decisions in accordance with the competence assigned to them. The execution of the decisions taken by these institutions, as well as the taking of decisions related to ensuring their execution, shall also be ensured by other structural units and officials of the JVLMA, who are employed on the basis of employment contracts and are selected according to the open competition procedure. All units of the JVLMA are listed in the Annex – structure of the JVLMA.

Annexes:

Annex 1.2.A Competences of the main decision-making bodies - Council, Senate, Rector - schematic diagram.

Annex 1.2.D, a list showing all internal laws and regulations - an extract from the Register of Internal Rules and Regulations.

1.3. Description of the mechanism for the implementation of the quality policy and the procedures for the assurance of the quality of higher education. Description of the stakeholders involved in the development and improvement of the quality assurance system and their role in these processes.

The [quality policy](#) is implemented through a quality management system ensuring:

1) attraction of professional and highly qualified local and foreign academic staff - on 16 June 2021, the JVLAM Senate adopted new, uniform criteria for all academic positions (Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLAM are available in Latvian here: [4.3-2022-04-27-nolikums-par-akadem-amatiem-JVLAM-red.pdf](#)), which apply to the following:

- a. election to an academic post;
- b. evaluation of the qualifications of tenured professors and associate professors by the Council of Professors (every six years);
- c. annual performance appraisal of each academic staff member (conducted by the Head of Department).

Eligibility for an academic post requires a certain number of positive evaluations in each set of criteria, and some criteria also have quantitative (measurable) indicators. The amendments, by introducing a uniform, systematic performance evaluation, ensure the achievement of the performance indicator "Improved performance evaluation system for lecturers" set out in Task 1.2.4 of the Development Strategy.

2) improvement and development of staff knowledge, skills and competences - in addition to the aforementioned criteria applicable to academic staff, the JVLAM Management Competence

Development Plan is implemented, in addition to the individual professional development activities included in the Human Resources Development Plan.

3) attraction of the most capable and talented young people from Latvia and abroad to study at the JVLAM - purposeful cooperation with professional Latvian music schools ensures that a consistently high number of students apply to study at the JVLAM, and as a result of an open competition, applicants with the highest possible results in the competence assessment are admitted.

4) continuous relevance of study content, excellence in learning and teaching, modern learning and research environment and use of advanced teaching methods - since the 2013 accreditation, the content of all professional bachelor study programmes has been updated and revised, as well as the content of professional master study programmes in the Arts field has been revised and improved. The concept and content of study programmes in the *Education and Pedagogy* study field have been completely revised - music pedagogy is provided in 1st level study programmes and in professional bachelor study programmes. Regular updating of study courses is also required for each lecturer in the annual performance evaluation, as this is one of the criteria to be evaluated annually - (No 5.2) Updating of course descriptions (updated/ partially updated/ not updated). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, skills and opportunities in the use of information technologies have become a major part of the methods of acquiring content. The JVLAM was able to ensure a continuous study process and to adapt in terms of methods and solutions, introducing new IT solutions and forms of cooperation with professional collectives (LOLA – low latency – etc.). In addition to the above, the importance of improving teaching methods is also highlighted as one of the criteria for assessing the qualifications of a lecturer - (No 2.16.) Innovations in teaching methods; (No.2.17.) Use of new technologies in course delivery.

5) To promote interdisciplinarity, the Senate centrally approves the development plans and key strategies for the study process, scientific and creative activities. The Scientific Research Centre is also the unit that centrally directs and develops all research activities of the JVLAM. In 2021, the Concert Department was reorganised into the Creative Projects Division, which centrally coordinates creative projects (not only concerts) at the JVLAM and beyond. This centralised approach does not create administrative obstacles to interdisciplinary projects - these units monitor the resources needed for science or creativity and propose the use of resources as needed.

6) In order to promote synergy between studies and scientific research and/or artistic creation, a performance evaluation system has been created, which includes the following criteria for evaluating the qualifications of academic staff: (No 1.10) other activities, including student involvement in research projects; (No 3.6) student involvement in artistic and creative activities. Similarly, the call for academic staff research or creative activity projects gives priority to projects involving Masters or PhD students. The exchange of international experience in the study process is promoted by the criteria for assessing the qualifications of lecturers - (No.1.8) improvement of scientific qualifications in foreign universities and scientific institutions; (No.2.6) management of classes in foreign universities; (No.2.8) improvement of pedagogical qualifications in Latvian and foreign universities or scientific institutions; (No.2.11) Conducting master classes in Latvia or abroad; (No 2.12) Work as an external expert in examinations in Latvian and foreign higher education institutions; (No. 2.13) Involvement as a lecturer in Erasmus+, Nordplus, etc. mobility programmes; (No. 2.14) Approval of skills acquired through professional development activities and mobility programmes in study content or maintenance of the study process (No. 2.15.) Transfer of information and/or skills gained from professional development activities and mobility programmes to other lecturers in the department or class.

7) promotion of national and international cooperation in the provision of study and

scientific research activities - cooperation is supported both within the ERASMUS+ and NORDPLUS programmes, and with professional ensembles - the Liepāja Symphony Orchestra (in the organisation of competitions and diploma examinations), State Academic Choir "Latvija" (in the organisation of diploma examinations, premiere performances of new works).

8) Positioning, strengthening and communicating the brand, uniqueness and sustainable value of the JVLAM at national and international level - the JVLAM has actively participated in drafting amendments to the Law on Higher Education Institutions regarding change of governance, arguing and justifying the importance of an Arts and Culture type of university and the JVLAM's compliance with it. The JVLAM has developed a new, modern JVLAM brand and incorporated it into the new design of the Academy's website. The JVLAM has also organised its centenary celebrations, showcasing its various facets to the public as widely as possible - a free concert in Dome Square with the participation of students from the Riga Cathedral Choir School and the JVLAM Jazz Music Department's combined Big Band and of the Early Music Baroque Orchestra, as well as a special festival orchestra - of alumni, students and future students - at the concert hall "Lielā Ģilde" for the occasion. JVLAM has released a disc of choral music, recorded in the new Kokari Hall of the Grand Stage in Mezaparks.

9) regular compliance monitoring, monitoring of targets, internal quality self-assessment and external quality assessment to identify performance improvement needs - see paragraphs 74-80 of the [Quality Management Manual](#).

The roles of the parties involved in the process of developing and improving a quality assurance system:

Rector (key role in decisions on elements of the system);

Rectorate (role: coordinators before decisions are taken on the impact of system elements on the work of the JVLAM);

Internal Audit Committee (role: coordinators before making decisions on the impact of system elements on the interests of staff groups (students, lecturers) of the JVLAM);

Process owners (role: decision-makers on the visual representation of the process, initiators of necessary changes to internal regulations);

JVLAM unit heads, Senate (role: coordinators before decisions are taken on the impact of system elements on the interests of staff groups (departmental staff));

JVLAM Staff Representatives - (role: coordinators before decisions are taken on the impact of system elements on the interests of JVLAM staff).

The JVLAM Quality Policy in English is available here: [Scanned Document \(JVLAM.lv\)](#)

The Quality Manual in English is available here: [JVLAM-quality-guidance-management-programmes-13.12.2021.pdf](#)

1.4. Fill in the table on the compliance of the internal quality assurance system of the higher education institution/ college with the provisions of Section 5, Paragraph 2(1) of the Law on Higher Education Institutions by providing a justification for the given statement. In addition, it is also possible to refer to the respective chapter of the Self-Assessment Report, where the provided information serves as justification.

1	The higher education institution/ college has established a policy and procedures for assuring the quality of higher education.	<p>On 30 September 2020, the Senate approved the JVLAM Quality Policy (Available in English here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_kvalitates_vadiba/7.6-quality-policy-jvlma-2020.pdf).</p> <p>On 2 January 2023, the second edition of the Quality Manual of the JVLAM was approved (Section 3 - Quality Assurance of Studies - Ensuring ESG Part 1 Standards at the JVLAM). Available in English here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/jvlma-quality-management-manual-02.01.2023.pdf</p> <p>The internal regulatory enactment "Regulations on Study Programmes" approved by the JVLAM Senate (incl. Paragraph 2.7). Available only in Latvian here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.7-2021-12-22-nolikums-par-s-tudiju-programmam-ar-grozijumiem-red.pdf</p>
2	A mechanism for the creation and internal approval of the study programmes of the higher education institution/ college, as well as the supervision of their performance and periodic inspection thereof, has been developed.	<p>Developing study programmes - see under "Other Annexes" process description and figure (Available in English) "NEW_STUDY_PROGRAM_DEVELOPMENT_PROCESS".</p> <p>Study programme improvement - see under "Other Annexes" process description and figure (Available in English) "PROCESS_OF_STUDY_PROGRAM_QUALITY_ASSESSMENT_AND_IMPROVEMENT".</p> <p>In accordance with the Regulations on Study Programmes, Paragraph 2.7 (available only in Latvian here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.7-2021-12-22-nolikums-par-s-tudiju-programmam-ar-grozijumiem-red.pdf), each year the Head of the Study Field, in cooperation with the Head of a Unit/Director of Study Programmes and Heads of Departments, prepares a report on the actions taken to improve the study field. The report is examined and approved by the Senate.</p>
3	The criteria, conditions, and procedures for the evaluation of students' results, which enable reassurance of the achievement of the intended learning outcomes, have been developed and made public.	<p>The JVLAM uses rules and criteria published on its website to assess students' competence, which are applied consistently (available in English here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.23-2022-11-02-eng-nolikums-par-studiju-k-ursu-parbaudijumu-org-un-kompetences-vertesanu.pdf). The completion of a study course is assessed according to the content, assessment criteria and requirements specified in the course description. The JVLAM has established the Procedure for the Organisation of Study Course Examinations and the Assessment of Students' Competence (the Regulation on the Organisation of Study Course Examinations and the Assessment of Students' Competence approved by the JVLAM Senate), applicable to full-time students registered in study programmes at all levels. This procedure regulates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • types of tests and the test planning process; • test forms; • the basic documents for the assessment of the student's competence and the procedures for displaying the assessment; • taking exams outside the scheduled dates of the JVLAM; • the conduct of the tests; • criteria for assessing knowledge and skills; • Rights and responsibilities of students; • rights and duties of the procurement commission (lecturer); • an appeal procedure for justified student complaints about the assessment of knowledge and skills received during testing. <p>The JVLAM also establishes the procedure for organising and conducting national examinations, final examinations and state final examinations, the conditions for establishing the composition of national examinations, final examinations and state final examination committees, as well as the procedure for appeals in cases of justified student complaints.</p> <p>Available in Latvian here:</p> <p>1) Regulations on state examinations and state examination commissions in professional bachelor's and professional master's study programs (Available in English here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.21-2021-05-26-eng-nolikums-par-valsts-parbaud-2.lim-prof-bak-un-mag.pdf);</p> <p>2) Regulations on final examinations and final examination commissions of the academic master's study programme (Available in English here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.22-2020-05-27-eng-nolikums-par-akad-ma-g-gala-parbaud.pdf);</p> <p>3) Regulation on State Examinations and the State Examination Commission in the Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts (Available only in Latvian here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.28-2019-10-28-prof-dok-nolikums-par-valst-s-parbaudijumiem.pdf)</p>
4	Internal procedures and mechanisms for assuring the qualifications of the academic staff and the work quality have been developed.	<p>On 16 June 2021, the JVLAM Senate approved a new regulation on academic positions at the JVLAM, according to which a unified system of qualification evaluation and annual performance evaluation has been introduced for all academic positions - indicators of academic performance evaluation (evaluated annually) and qualification evaluation criteria (collected and analysed annually, evaluated every six years) have been established for lecturers. See the Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLAM, available only in Latvian here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_darba_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/4.3-2022-04-27-noliku-ms-par-akadem-amatiem-jvlma-red.pdf</p> <p>An information technology system has been developed for inputting these lecturers' evaluation data, which will greatly facilitate the collection, compilation and use of data for decision-making. The first evaluation of all academic staff lecturers using the IT tool will take place in June 2023. See in the "other appendices" section, the pages of the IT system for the evaluation of lecturers have been developed. Appendix (Available only in Latvian) named as "IT_novertesanas_sistemas_izskati".</p>

<p>5 .</p>	<p>The higher education institution/ college ensures the collection and analysis of the information on the study achievements of the students, employment of the graduates, satisfaction of the students with the study programme, efficiency of the work of the academic staff, the study funds available, and the disbursements thereof, as well as the key performance indicators of the higher education institution/ college.</p>	<p>The quality of studies for students of the JVLAM is analysed and the decision on the change of the source of study funding is proposed by the Study Quality Commission, which consists of the Rector, the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, the Head of Study Fields, as well as student representatives, heads of departments, study programme directors, and the Head of Studies. The Commission shall assess the results of students at least once a year.</p> <p>Students' study performance is analysed and evaluated in depth within their specialities - at departments.</p> <p>Information on graduates' employment is collected, but the number of respondents tends to decrease:</p> <p>JVLAM Alumni Questionnaire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -) Year 2015 - 88 Number of respondents (graduates); -) Year 2016 - 92 Number of respondents (graduates); -) Year 2017 - 3 Number of respondents (graduates); -) Year 2018 - 43 Number of respondents (graduates); -) Year 2019 - 71 Number of respondents (graduates); -) Year 2020 - 21 Number of respondents (graduates). <p>Surveys of employers, graduates and students have also been collected and analysed in a 2019 study of the Arts field. The results are available only in Latvian on the JVLAM website:</p> <p>https://www.jvlma.lv/uploads/pages/lv/203/files/jvlma-petijums.pdf</p> <p>The Senate has determined that from December 2021 the head of a study field shall develop and maintain a system of regular surveys related to the study process, including the content, frequency, form and obligation to use the data obtained, preparing reports on issues concerning the study process and the quality of its implementation and organisation (Paragraph 2.6.¹ of the Regulations on Study Programmes).</p> <p>Information on students' achievements, graduates' employment, students' satisfaction with the study programme, academic staff efficiency, available means of study and respective costs, relevant indicators of the institution's performance are collected and analysed through self-evaluation reports (see the structure of the self-evaluation report) and the Rector's annual report on the institution's performance. As part of the improvement of the quality management system, a process measurement system will be gradually introduced.</p>
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6 .	The higher education institution/ college shall ensure continuous improvement, development, and efficient performance of the study field whilst implementing their quality assurance systems. Curriculum development - see under "Other Annexes" process description and figure: "PROCESS_OF_STUDY_PROGRAM_QUALITY_ASSESSMENT_AND_IMPROVEMENT" (available in English). See section 3.9 of the Quality Manual (paragraphs 212-218) available in English here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/jvlma-quality-management-manual-02.01.2023.pdf
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2.1. Management of the Study Field

2.1.1. Aims of the study field and their compliance with the scope of activities of the higher education institution/ college, the strategic development fields, as well as the development needs of the society and the national economy. The assessment of the interrelation of the study field and the study programmes included in it.

The aim of the *Arts* field of study is to ensure the training of top professionals in music and performing arts-related fields at all levels of professional higher education study programmes, as well as the training of musicology researchers in academic master's and doctoral programmes, in line with the cultural and social needs of the country. The aim of the study field is fully in line with the strategic specialisation of the JVLAM as an Arts and Culture University, i.e. Humanities and Arts (thematic area of education - the arts).

Cultural Policy Guidelines 2022-2027 "Cultural State" in section 5 entitled *Policy results and performance indicators*, five indicators are defined, three of which are as follows: (1) wide availability of high-quality cultural offer to society is ensured; (2) opportunities for broad public participation in cultural processes are ensured; (5) talent regeneration and professional development of those working in the cultural and creative industries are ensured. The study field *Arts* has a great influence in achieving these performance indicators. On the other hand, the 5th action direction of this document, entitled *Culture and education*, defines five tasks, two of which apply to JVLAM: (1) strengthen higher education and research; (2) provide opportunities for professional development, qualification acquisition and further education for those employed in the cultural and creative industries. In addition, in the document's section *Cultural export capacity and international cooperation*, it is stated: "Certain cultural sub-sectors in which language as a means of expression plays a smaller role, especially music (..) have a high potential for export capacity, which is clearly demonstrated, for example, by the international success of Latvia's academic music and cinema industry."

The aim of the *Arts* field of study also corresponds to the first of the two development directions of the *JVLAM Development Strategy 2016-2023* - a high quality, internationally competitive centre of excellence for music, performing arts and music pedagogy studies and artistic and creative activities, as well as to the first three of the four aims of this development direction, which are also considered to be the aims of the field of study at the same time: (1) Ensure access to studies for all who are willing, able and adequately prepared; (2) Ensure quality studies as a top priority for all stakeholders; (3) Ensure the competitiveness of studies.

From the study programmes offered by the *Arts* field of study, interested students can choose between professional study programmes and academic study programmes. The *Arts* study field includes three consecutive professional study programmes with the same name - the professional bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, the professional master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* and the sub-programme *Music and Performing Arts* of the

joint professional doctoral study programme *Arts at the JVLAM*. The professional study programmes corresponding to the *Arts* field of study offer a full range of tertiary education options up to the professional doctorate. The *Arts* field of study includes two consecutive academic study programmes - the academic Master's study programme *Music* and the academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*. Academic programmes are open to students who have graduated from the professional study programmes of the JVLAM, as well as to graduates of other universities who have obtained a bachelor's degree in natural sciences; medical and health sciences; social sciences; or humanities and arts, or a master's degree.

2.1.2. SWOT analysis of the study field with regard to the set aims by providing explanations on how the higher education institution/ college expects to eliminate/improve weaknesses, prevent threats, and avail themselves of the given opportunities, etc. The assessment of the plan for the development of the study field for the next six years and the procedure of the elaboration thereof. In case there is no development plan elaborated or the aims/ objectives are set for a shorter period of time, information on the elaboration of the plan for the development of the study field for the next assessment period shall be provided.

The SWOT analysis took into account internal and external factors and assessed strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Internal factors

Strengths

The field of study is in line with the strategic specialisation of the JVLAM as an arts and culture university, i.e. humanities and arts (thematic area of education - the arts)

JVLAM is the only higher education and scientific institution in the country that implements music and choreography study programmes at all three levels of higher education: bachelor's, master's and doctoral

The study programme plays an important role in ensuring the intellectual, social and cultural environment of society by training high level music and performing arts specialists and music researchers, while developing access to education, infrastructure, further education of society, promoting the artistic activity of amateur/amateur collectives and professionals

The study field provides ample opportunities for artistic activity

A wide range of cooperation partners provides personalised internship opportunities

Studies and research work oriented to both Latvian and international labour market demand

The implementation of the study field involves highly qualified academic and guest lecturing staff: Latvia's most distinguished musicians, choreographers and music researchers

Among the students, lecturers and graduates of the JVLAM there are many laureates of local and international competitions

Within the field of study, there is a very clear structure of study programmes in professional and academic study programmes: the professional study programme *Music and Performing Arts* is offered at the consecutive Bachelor, Master and Doctoral levels, while academic studies are offered at the consecutive Master and Doctoral levels

Systematic and creative cooperation with government institutions, professional organisations, creative industries and non-governmental organisations to update study content and plan joint development of the sector

Very high employment rate of graduates of the respective study field

Eligibility of graduates of the Bachelor of Arts degree programme to work as teachers in vocational and special interest education institutions

Wide mobility opportunities and long-term international cooperation

Within the study field, the principles of student-centred education are implemented, the content of study courses and the methods of learning are adapted to the specifics of the study courses, as well as to the skills, abilities and preferences of each individual

The Scientific Research Centre (ZPC) of the JVLAM is the only one in Latvia that focuses on music research in all subfields of musicology, which are also areas of specialization of academic study programmes within the study field. It encourages students' involvement in research and prepares highly competent staff for music and science institutions

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Weaknesses

The material and technical base is insufficient and obsolescent for the purpose of ensuring the quality of study programmes. Insufficient resources prevent systematic renewal of the material and technical base from being planned on a long-term basis

Funding (per student) for both academic and research activities is insufficient and below the EU average

Low number of students in certain sub-programmes, specialisations and profiles

Fragmented curricula of sub-programmes, specialisations and profiles, making study programmes difficult to understand and administer

As the JVLAM has so far only one study programme in English, this situation hampers the internationalisation of the study field and prevents the admission of full-time foreign students

Insufficient administrative resources and capacity for study programmes, lack of clear separation of roles, duties, responsibilities of staff in several departments

Limited funding opportunities for the development of the field of study, as EU and other foreign financial instruments mainly focus on improving the quality of STEM study programmes

Low interest of the faculty members involved in the study field, who are representatives of professional organisations/performing artists, in the development and improvement of documentation related to the implementation of the study process

Opportunities

Negotiate with the Ministry of Culture to increase the tuition fee coefficient from the state budget in the thematic areas of music and choreography education

Motivate staff and students to learn foreign languages more intensively to promote internationalisation

To implement all study programmes in English in line with the field of study, taking into account the interest shown by foreign students

Promote the prestige of the profession of artist, especially musician

To improve and develop cooperation with partner universities involved in the implementation of the professional doctoral programme

To attract funding from EU and other foreign financial instruments, such as EU Structural Funds for various purposes, for the development of the quality and competitiveness of the study programmes and research work of the JVLAM

Separate the roles of the Director of Study Programmes and the Head of Units

Promote cooperation with other Arts and Culture Universities outside Latvia

Strengthen cooperation with different patrons

Threats

Declining population, school pupil numbers, applicants and consequently enrolled student and graduate numbers

The impact of changes in the higher education funding system on student numbers and the motivation of top talent

Regular changes in legislation requiring significant administrative resources to adapt

Passivity of employers' organisations in the sector in terms of interest and involvement in updating occupational standards

Decreasing numbers of budget spots

Allocation of part of the budget grant (base funding)

Declining prestige and/or salaries for the profession of artist, especially musicians

The decision of the Study Quality Commission to accredit the field of study for 2 years, which would entail a significant use of resources for the evaluation and accreditation process in less than 2 years

A mediocre rating for a study programme in the Arts field, which would preclude the right to implement study programmes in English

Poor quality and inefficient administration due to insufficient administrative resources

Increasing the efficiency of mobility in the European education area and the resulting increased direct competition with Lithuanian and Estonian universities, as well as other European universities, seriously limit the possibilities of attracting foreign students to the field of study

The regulatory framework limits the possibilities of attracting specialists highly valued in the professional field and the labour market, but who have not obtained a Master's degree, as teaching staff to acquire practical skills in certain specific study courses

Lack of sufficient funding to ensure competitive salaries to attract highly qualified staff

External circumstances (Covid-19 pandemic) have reduced the possibility of ensuring a full uninterrupted face-to-face study process, which has an impact on the quality and results of studies

Increased costs of maintaining the infrastructure needed to ensure a quality study process due to the energy crisis

In order to address the weaknesses and threats related to financial issues, the JVLAM plans to negotiate with the *Ministry of Culture* to increase the tuition fee coefficient from the state budget in the thematic areas of music and choreography education, to actively engage in working groups on

the methodology for calculating the base funding established by the Ministry of Education and Science, and to involve the newly established Council in addressing these issues.

In order to maintain and increase the number of students (especially in sub-programmes and specialisations with few students), as well as to promote internationalisation, the JVLAM plans to implement all study programmes corresponding to the *Arts* field in English, as well as to more actively inform bachelor graduates of the study field Education and Pedagogy about the opportunity to study in the *Music and Education* specialisation of the *Music* sub-programme within the *Arts* field of the JVLAM Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*.

In order to promote the prestige and importance of the music profession in society, the JVLAM plans to continue actively organising international concerts, festivals, competitions and conferences so that both lecturers and students have the opportunity to participate and present themselves at these events, as well as to make them widely known both in Latvia and abroad. This is one of the best ways to attract and interest students from Latvia and abroad.

The development of the study field currently has four objectives, which are related to the objectives of the *JVLAM Development Strategy 2016-2023*: (1) Ensure access to studies for all who are willing, able and adequately prepared; (2) Ensure quality studies as a key priority for all stakeholders; (3) Ensure the competitiveness of studies; (4) Make better use of internationalisation processes. Since the *Development Strategy* of the JVLAM is developed up until 2023, and as it is important that the objectives of the development of the study field are not only consistent, but also follow from the development objectives of the institution, drafting of the study field development plan will start immediately after the approval of the Development Strategy of the JVLAM for the next period. The head of a study field, the Director of the heads of major departments, at least one student and graduate of the study programmes relevant to the study field, as well as at least one employer, will participate in the development of the Study Field Development Plan.

The next challenges for the field of study are: (1) Given that in 2022 all seven professional bachelor programmes were merged into one professional bachelor programme in *Music and Performing Arts*, the task is to provide the successful transition of students from previously implemented professional bachelor programmes to a single, structurally and materially updated bachelor study programme in 2023/2024; (2) to carry out the necessary work to ensure that all study programmes in the *Arts* field of study are ranked *good* and *excellent*; (3) to carry out the necessary work to ensure that all study programmes in the *Arts* field of study are entitled to be implemented in English at the accreditation of the field of study; (4) from 2024, at least three study programmes or sub-programmes in the *Arts* field of study will be implemented in English.

2.1.3. The structure of the management of the study field and the relevant study programmes, and the analysis and assessment of the efficiency thereof, including the assessment of the role of the head of the study field and the heads of the study programmes, their responsibilities, and the cooperation with other heads of the study programmes, as well as the assessment of the support by the administrative and technical staff of the higher education institution/ college provided within the study field.

The strategic management, supervision and control of the management of study programmes in the field of study is provided by prorectors for academic affairs, research and creative affairs, and infrastructure.

The development of the content of study programmes and the implementation of the programmes are planned and coordinated by the **Study Programme Directorate** (SPD), which is supervised by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs. The Directorate establishes and maintains an information database on students and study programmes, analyses the achievements of study programmes, promotes further education and professional skills development of lecturers.

In order to improve the management of study work, changes were provided to the SPD structure in the year 2018. The structure of the SPD can be seen in the Annex Study Direction Management Structure. Decentralization of the management of study programs should be mentioned as one of the restructuring needs, with the aim of avoiding the consolidation of management and administrative functions in one place. The change of the management model in the SPD is related to meeting the tasks and requirements formulated in the Action Plan of the JVLMA Development Strategy for 2016-2020. The new management system allows combining students and lecturers of identical or similar specializations characteristic of professional activity, separating the functions of technical management of their study work. The key benefits:

- 1) Student-centred study management;
- 2) A unit brings together both students and lecturers;
- 3) The Head of Unit coordinates the work of study programmes, thus contributing to the development of professional fields;
- 4) A unit brings together specialists from related professional fields, whose responsibility is to ensure the development of the field and the quality of the study programmes of the JVLAM;
- 5) Student and lecturer services will be provided in a more coordinated way in one place;
- 6) Structural changes offer higher quality of service without increasing wage costs. This results in more rational use of the JVLAM's financial resources.

From September 2018, the SPD will establish three core units to carry out the study, scientific, creative, artistic and methodological activities of the JVLAM. These are entities without legal personality. A unit is an organisational entity established in place of a faculty where the requirements for scientific potential cannot be met in a field of higher education. A unit brings together students and lecturers from one or more specialisations or profiles of study programmes to organise and implement study, scientific and artistic activities. A unit has no right to elect lecturers.

The *Arts* are most relevant to the **Performing Arts Unit and Unit for Musicology, Composition and Technologies**. Both Heads of Unit are also the directors of the Professional Bachelor's and Professional Master's programmes. The 2022 Functional Review found that it is difficult for one person to carry out governance and study management activities as both director of study programmes and head of unit. There are plans to separate the functions of the two posts. According to the Ministry of Education and Science, the JVLAM has one of the lowest student support staff costs. On the one hand, funds are rationally allocated to the provision of study courses (individual contact hours), on the other hand, there is insufficient organisational support for students. Additional human resources and reallocation of responsibilities are planned for the academic year 2023/2024.

The Study Division is an entity (in addition to the three main units) whose main task is to deal with general and common organisational issues related to studies, including the admission of refugees, student registration, matriculation and matriculation, the preparation and provision of reports and reports on student personnel, and the maintenance of an information base on issues related to studies.

In 2018, the position of the **Head of Study Fields** was created for the management of study fields; their main responsibilities are related to drafting the strategy for the development of study fields and study programmes in accordance with the JVLAM Development Strategy and the national cultural policy, implementation of the strategy for the development of study fields, development of internal regulations and documentation related to study and academic activities, coordination, control of their implementation and further development, the monitoring of compliance of the JVLAM regulatory enactments regulating the study process with external regulatory enactments. The **Head of Study Fields** coordinates the work of study programme directors. Study programme directors are responsible for organising, updating and implementing the development of study programmes. Study programme directors coordinate and supervise the work of department and class masters, provide advice and information to students, provide methodological, organisational and informational support according to their competence, develop study programme content and evaluation criteria, collect student achievements and study results (in cooperation with filing clerks), organise internship work, documentation records and control of internship implementation.

For the study, scientific, creative, artistic and methodological work of the JVLAM, **departments** and **classes** have been established. A department is a subdivision devoted to the study, scientific, creative, artistic and methodological activities of a unit, representing a study programme, sub-programme, specialisation or profile and uniting academic staff involved in the implementation of study courses within the competence of the department, as well as teaching staff invited for the implementation of study courses. The main task of the departments is to develop the content of the study courses relevant to the objectives and scope of the academy, to ensure quality implementation of the content and to control the development of the study courses within its competence. To manage the implementation of study courses with professionally distinct specialisations or profiles, subunits - classes - have been created. The Performing Arts Unit has 12 departments, while the Musicology, Composition and Technology Unit has 4.

The Scientific Research Centre provides links between education and science, preservation of national cultural heritage, research, inclusion of scientists in contemporary music research, interdisciplinary research. The activity of the Scientific research center is regulated by the regulations approved by the Senate.

The **Scientific Council, the Professors' Council and the Doctoral Council** of the Academy provide advisory management of the research activities of the field of study.

Support for students and staff is provided by several structural units.

The **Creative Projects Division** is one of the academy's units that have undergone very rapid development and improvement - from initially only a few dozen concerts to more than 300 events during the academic year. The main aim of the Creative Projects Division is to provide artistic practice opportunities for both students and staff, as well as to serve the public interest by creating a link between JVLAM and the wider audience.

The interests of students in academic, social and cultural life are represented at the JVLAM and other state institutions by the **Students Self-Government**. Representatives of Students' Self-Government have the right to participate in the decision-making bodies of the JVLAM, to receive information from any official on issues affecting the interests of students.

Cooperation has been established between study program directors, developing and updating study plans, study content, creating financial resources for the academic year, coordinating the work of lecturers in the department. At the system level, the organization of study courses in the academy has been transferred to the competence of the departments, thus promoting the mutual cooperation of study program directors in planning.

The existing management structure corresponds to the specifics of JVLMA, that is, it focuses on an individualized approach in planning the study process. This is mostly determined by the large proportion of one-to-one lessons. Within the framework of the existing administrative structure, it would be necessary to separate the functions of department heads from the functions of study program heads. To increase human resources, significant financial resources would be required, which is not possible in the current situation.

2.1.4. Description and assessment of the requirements and the system for the admission of students by specifying, inter alia, the regulatory framework of the admission procedures and requirements. The assessment of options for the students to have their study period, professional experience, and the previously acquired formal and non-formal education recognised within the study field by providing specific examples of the application of these procedures.

Admission to the JVLAM is in accordance with the JVLAM Admission Rules, which are approved for each academic year. In order to determine the adequacy of professional preparation for entry to the study programmes of the JVLAM and to select the most talented applicants in a competitive procedure, all applicants are required to take additional requirements tests, which are agreed upon with the Higher Education Council. For example, in order to qualify for admission to the professional bachelor's study program *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programme *Academic music* in the specialization *Piano*, the applicant must play a program (part of it is determined by JVLAM, part is up to the applicant's choice), as well as in the colloquium he must demonstrate knowledge of the specialty that is chose to learn, including reading sheet music text.

The Admission Rules of the JVLAM consist of two independent parts: (1) the rules for admission to study programmes, and (2) the content of the requirements of the admission tests. The management of JVLMA has made sure that this is the optimal way to organize enrollment in study programs of the study field *Arts* and uses the opportunity to improve it.

The admission rules and the content of the admission test requirements for the following academic year shall be developed, approved and made public by the JVLAM (Available in English at: <https://www.jvlma.lv/en/studies/application-and-admissions>), in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Law on Higher Education Institutions. Admission to the study programme is ensured by the Admissions Committee of the JVLAM, which operates in accordance with the regulations approved by the Senate of the JVLAM (available in Latvian here: https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_uznemsanas_process/3.7-2009-10-21-uzn.-komis.-nolik.pdf). The head of the Admissions Committee is the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, and the secretary is the Head of the Study Division.

Recognition of competences acquired outside formal education or in professional experience and study results achieved in previous education within the field of study is applied by the JVLAM as two different procedures, i.e. a separate procedure for recognition of the study period for later stages of studies and a separate procedure for recognition of study results acquired outside formal education or in professional experience.

1) Recognition of the study period for studies at later stages of studies in the field of study "*Arts*" at the JVLAM shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure established in the document *JVLAM Regulations on the Procedure for Commencement of Studies at Later Stages of Studies in Study Programmes of the Field of Study "Arts"*. Document available in Latvian at

https://www.JVLAM.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.19-2022-11-02-nolikums-par-skolotaju-programmas-studijam-velakajos-studiju-posmos-red-47.pdf

The procedure has been developed taking into account the requirements formulated in Section 47 of the *Law on Higher Education Institutions* and Cabinet Regulation No 932 of 16 November 2004 *Procedure for Starting Studies at Later Stages*.

Students who have completed a higher education study programme or a part thereof which is licensed or accredited in accordance with the procedure established by the laws and regulations may commence studies at later stages.

The following may be considered for later stages of study:

- transferring from another institution or college study programme to a study programme at the JVLAM;
- transferring from a study programme of the JVLAM to another study programme of the JVLAM. This includes cases where the student returns to a study programme that has been substantially changed or discontinued after a break in studies;
- resuming studies at the JVLAM after matriculation, if the student has fulfilled their academic obligations at least to the extent allowing to increase their workload by no more than 20 CP during the remaining study period. This includes cases where the student has failed the national examination, the final examination;
- if the person wishes to enrol in a study programme of the JVLAM and has recognised knowledge, skills and competences acquired outside formal education or in professional experience, or study results achieved in previous education, which are relevant to the study programme or part of it implemented by the JVLAM.

Recognition of the study period for later stages of studies has been successfully carried out several times during the reporting period. For example, in March 2022, a student submitted an application to change her study programme from the Professional Bachelor's programme *Teacher of Music, Theatre Arts, Dance, Visual Arts*, sub-programme *Teacher of Music and Cultural Studies*, specialisation *Teacher of Music/Trumpet in Vocational Education* to the Professional Bachelor's programme *Instrumental Music*, sub-programme *Wind Instrumental Performance*, specialisation *Trumpet Performance*. The Director of the study programme evaluated the student's report card. The evaluation showed that the change of study programme and field of study was possible to the 3rd semester of the new programme, during the spring semester of the academic year 2021/2022, subject to certain requirements, which the student fulfilled.

2) Recognition of study results acquired outside formal education or in professional experience at the JVLAM shall be carried out in accordance with the regulations approved by the JVLAM Senate's JVLAM Regulation on Recognition of Competences Acquired Outside Formal Education or in Professional Experience and Study Results Achieved in Prior Education, available in Latvian at

https://www.JVLAM.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.16-2018-10-24-nolikums-par-arpus-formalas-izglitibas-un-iepriekseja-pieredze-rezultatu-atzisanu.pdf

The Regulations have been drafted on the basis of Cabinet Regulation No 505 of 14 August 2018 "Rules for the recognition of competences acquired outside formal education or acquired through professional experience and study results achieved in previous education".

A person who wishes to have the results of their previous education or professional experience recognised shall submit an application for recognition of the results of their studies to the Rector's Office of the JVLAM. The application must be accompanied by documents certifying the results of the previous education or professional experience.

The Head of the Rector's Office shall hand over a person's application with the resolution of the Rector of the JVLAM and the documents attached to the application, to the Secretary of the Recognition Commission of the JVLAM, who shall assess the formal compliance of the documents to the specific study programme, give their opinion, copy the documents, and hand them over to the Commission for evaluation within one week. The decision on the recognition of learning outcomes achieved in previous education or professional experience shall be taken by an appropriate committee.

Within one month of receipt of the application, the Commission shall examine it and take a decision on the recognition or refusal of recognition of the results of the previous education or professional experience. The decision shall be sent to the applicant. The Commission is entitled to verify that the information and data provided correspond to the actual circumstances. If necessary, the Commission may impose tests to assess the learning outcomes of previous education or professional experience.

The JVLAM has recognised study results acquired outside formal education or in professional experience several times in the reporting period. For example, in June 2019, the JVLAM received an application with a request to assess the eligibility of the sub-programme of *Instrumental Music* of the Professional Bachelor's Study Programme for the specialisation of *Oboe playing*. The documents, as well as audio and video files of the applicant's participation, on the basis of which the study plan was compared, were attached for the purpose of evaluation of the application. The Commission decided that the outstanding courses listed in the study plan comparison, with the exception of the national examination courses, should be taken at the Continuing Education Unit in order to obtain the professional qualification of *Musical Instrumentalist* and the professional degree of Bachelor of *Music*. After completing the study courses at the Continuing Education Unit for the national examinations, one is eligible to apply for studies at the JVLAM in the later stages of studies for the 8th semester.

2.1.5. Assessment of the methods and procedures for the evaluation of students' achievements, as well as the principles of their selection and the analysis of the compliance of the evaluation methods and procedures with the aims of the study programmes and the needs of the students.

The system of evaluation of students' achievements and study results is described in the Regulation of the [*Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music REGULATIONS on the procedure for organising examinations and assessing students' competence*](#) (available in English). The Regulations describe the types, forms and conduct of examinations, as well as the rights and obligations of students, lecturers and administrators in the process of evaluating the results of study course learning. The procedure for organising examinations and assessing the competence of students is applicable to students of all levels of study programmes. The procedure and requirements for the conduct of national examinations and final examinations shall be determined by separate JVLAM Regulations on national examinations and Examination Boards in the respective study programmes.

The following guiding principles shall be followed in assessing the content of study programmes:

- the principle of knowledge and skill assessment transparency - a set of requirements for the assessment of the achievement of positive learning outcomes is defined in accordance with the aims and objectives of a programme and the aims and objectives of the study courses;

- the principle of compulsory assessment - one must obtain a positive grade (at least 4 points or a pass) in the study courses and national examinations included in the study plan.

The **types of testing** are pass-fail tests and examinations. The most appropriate types of tests are chosen to assess the knowledge and skills acquired in the course, according to the specifics of the course. Examinations shall be evaluated by the lecturer of the study course or by an examination board, the number of members of which, as well as the duration of the examination, shall be determined by a document approved by the Senate - Norms of Additional Resources Required for the Implementation of Study Programmes (available only in Latvian - see under "Other Annexes" and named as "Studiju programmu īstenošanai nepieciešamo papildresursu normatīvi"). National examination boards are always attended by representatives of professional organisations and employers. The content, requirements, assessment criteria and methods of an examination shall be determined by the course description, and the procedure for each examination shall be determined by the course lecturer or the chair of the examination board. According to the specifics of a course, the tests are organised as one of the following:

- written test (the student completes a written or e-test task);
- oral test (oral answers and explanations, demonstrations);
- a combined test (both oral answers and written assignments);
- artistic-creative challenge (performance of compositions, performance-making, dance composition, choreography, playing scores, orchestral or choral work, composition, instrumentation, arrangements, improvisation, sound recording, etc., forms of artistic-creative challenge).

Criteria for assessing knowledge and skills

In the examination, the mastery of the course content is assessed on a 10-point scale:

- very high level of learning (10 - "excellent", 9 - "excellent");
- high level of learning (8 - "very good", 7 - "good");
- average level of learning (6 - "almost good", 5 - "average", 4 - "almost average");
- low level of learning (3 - "poor", 2 - "very poor", 1 - "very, very poor").

In the course of the course, the assessment of the level of learning and the achievements of the internship is either pass or fail.

Appeal procedure

Students who have a justified complaint about the assessment of their knowledge and skills in the examination have the right to submit a reasoned written request for a review of their assessment. The Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs shall assess the situation described in the application and instruct the examination board or the lecturer to evaluate the decision on the assessment of the student's knowledge and skills and to provide a reasoned explanation. The explanation shall be signed by all members of the relevant inspection panel. The Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs shall consider the explanation of the examination board or the lecturer and notify the student of their decision. If the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs has decided to re-examine the student through appeal procedure, an examination board shall be approved, consisting of at least one lecturer who did not participate in the assessment of the previous examination.

The procedures for appealing examinations (except for State examinations, State final examinations) are laid down in the [Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music REGULATIONS on the](#)

procedure for organising examinations and assessing students' competence (available in English).

The procedures for appealing State examinations are laid down in *the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music Regulations on national examinations and national examination boards for professional bachelor's and professional master's study programmes* (available in English). The procedures for appealing the final examinations are laid down in *the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music REGULATIONS on the final examinations of the academic master's study programme and the final examination board* (available in English). In the professional doctoral study programme Arts of State examinations, the procedure for appeal is laid down in the Regulations on State examinations and the State examination commission in the professional doctoral study programme in Arts (available only in Latvian:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.28-2019-10-28-prof-dok-nolikums-par-valsts-parbaudijumiem.pdf)

Student opinions

Student surveys, discussions and discussions with students are carried out to find out their opinions on the quality of studies, including the effectiveness of the evaluation system. The results of the surveys are compiled and analysed by the study programme directors and, where appropriate, referred to the relevant departments for discussion.

The JVLAM students are surveyed at the end of group lectures / study courses by filling in evaluation questionnaires. The final examination of the semester of the individual study course includes a discussion with the committee on the student's progress during the semester. Students' activity in filling in the questionnaires is low, students more often use the opportunity to inform the heads of departments or the Study Programme Directorate about the need for changes in direct communication or through the Student Self-Government of the JVLAM.

Students who have taken part in the surveys are generally satisfied with their studies. Department heads, as well as most course lecturers, inform students about the requirements, criteria and deadlines of the competency tests at the beginning of a course. In the assessment of individual courses, students' dissatisfaction tends to arise mainly on the question of the validity of the assessment of artistic-creative tasks.

The impact of Covid-19 restrictions on student performance assessment

During the reporting period, the study process was sometimes conducted face-to-face, sometimes remotely. The methods and procedures used to assess student performance had to be adapted to remote working and studying due to the limitations of the pandemic. The adaptation was particularly challenging for the artistic and creative challenges. Different departments adapted differently. For example, the Piano Department used the situation creatively, successfully conducting remote coaching and assessment of JVLAM students on the ZOOM platform, both remotely listening to student performances given at the JVLAM and listening to remote student performances from home at the JVLAM premises. A lecturer at the String Instruments Department, realising that it was impossible to provide sound equipment for each student individually, approached Latvian Radio with a request for microphones. Choreography Department students were allowed to stage and submit their diploma performances for evaluation in a format of their choice, either by setting up video dances or by submitting a video recording of a dance performance or concert programme. In contrast, for objective reasons, the most difficult situation due to the limitations of Covid-19 was in the field of collective music-making - orchestra and choir.

In general, the evaluation system of the JVLAM is considered to be successful, the methods used correspond to the specificity of study courses, the set objectives of the programmes and the needs of the students. In order to improve the evaluation system, the faculty members are invited to give

more reasons for their evaluation if the students so wish, and in order to promote a unified approach to evaluation between different departments, with the launch of the renewed Professional Bachelor's Degree Programme *in Music and Performing Arts*, faculty members are encouraged to transfer their experience by participating in examinations by other departments as committee representatives or as free listeners.

2.1.6. Description and assessment of the academic integrity principles, the mechanisms for compliance with these principles, and the way in which the stakeholders are informed. Specify the plagiarism detection tools used by providing examples of the use of these tools and mechanisms.

In order to ensure a favourable and creative study environment, to promote mutual respect in student-lecturer relations, the JVLAM adheres to the [Code of Ethics](#) (available only in Latvian), which is publicly available on the JVLAM website. The basic principles of professional ethics and behaviour of students, lecturers and employees with regard to academic integrity are specified in the *JVLAM Regulations on Academic Integrity*, available in Latvian on the JVLAM website:

https://www.jvlam.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/2020-05-27-nolikums-par-akademisko-godigumu-jvlam-red.pdf

These define, among other things, the concept of academic integrity: adherence to ethical and professional principles, standards and practices, and a consistent value system to guide decision-making and actions in education, research and academia.

Academic integrity of the JVLAM is implemented by observing certain ethical principles and defining the responsibility of lecturers, researchers and persons carrying out scientific activities, students, experts in the evaluation of intellectual property, members of the jury commission, reviewers, members of the scientific council, members of examination boards, members of the Academic Council, members of the national examination Board, members of the State Final Examination Board, members of the Commission for Examination of Additional Requirements for Admission, and every person involved in academia towards ensuring academic integrity.

For 1st-semester Bachelor's and Master's students, from September 2020, an information and briefing session as well as an introductory seminar in the library will be organised to familiarise students with the principles of academic integrity at the JVLAM and how to apply them.

The JVLAM has an Ethics Committee. It is a collegial body that deals with the conduct of the Academy's staff (employees and students) concerning violations of the Academy's Code of Ethics, including violations of academic integrity. The Ethics Committee is approved by the Rector's decree and includes at least 1 representative of the general staff, at least 1 representative of the academic staff and 1 representative of the students.

The Regulations on Academic Integrity of the JVLAM, approved by the Senate at its meeting on 27 May 2020, also define the concept of plagiarism: the use of published or unpublished works (including words, statements, phrases, passages, etc.) by another author without making an accurate and truthful reference to the author and/or work in question, including any of the following:

- the author submits a work written by another author, identifying themselves as the author;
- the author copies large passages (one or more paragraphs or parts of paragraphs) from

another text without paraphrasing them; the author tries to conceal plagiarism by copying passages from several sources into their text and making small changes to the sentence structure to make the different passages fit together, but mostly the wording of the authentic text is preserved;

- the author has retained the essence of the authentic source, but has slightly rephrased it and modified key words; the author paraphrases passages from other authors' works so that the individual passages fit together, instead of writing original text; the author makes copious use of passages from their own previous works, thus violating the conditions of originality expected in an academic environment.

Procedures have been developed and approved on 26 August 2020 on how the guiding principles set out in this **Academic Integrity Regulation** will be put into practice with regard to the eradication of plagiarism and the implementation of monitoring. Also, on the deadlines and forms of retention of academic work:

- a. **"Methodological guidelines for the preparation and submission of academic theses";**
- b. Decree on the **"Procedure for the storage of academic works";**
- c. **Decree "Procedure for submitting information on possible breach of academic integrity to the JVLAM and the procedure for conducting an academic integrity assessment";**
- d. **Decree on the Procedures for the Organisation of the Examination of Academic Work in the Computerised Plagiarism Control System.**

Since autumn 2019, the JVLAM has been using the Unified Computer Assisted Plagiarism Control System (VDPKS) - an inter-institution system where submitted works are compared with each other and with works submitted to other Latvian universities. All submitted written national examinations - diploma theses, bachelor theses, master theses, master's theses, doctoral dissertations - are checked in the JVLAM VDPKS system when the theses are received at the Directorate of Study Programmes before they are passed on to thesis reviewers and representatives of the national examination Board for review. No final works with signs of plagiarism have been found since the JVLAM joined the VDPKS.

Since the development of the "Regulations on Academic Integrity at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music", the Ethics Committee has not reviewed any cases related to breach of academic integrity. However, in 2019 the JVLAM terminated its employment relationship with a lecturer elected to an academic position on the basis of Section 101, Paragraph 1, Clause 3 of the Labour Law - the employee, while performing their work, acted contrary to good morals and such conduct is incompatible with the continuation of the employment relationship, because the employee submitted a manuscript at the JVLAM Scientific Council meeting which was found to have been plagiarised (passing off other authors' works as one's own and using incorrect references). The case was heard by the court to which the employee applied, but the court found the dismissal to be justified.

The forms of study agreements that have been used since the 2020/2021 academic year have been revised, as well as the study agreements with current students have been gradually updated, including provisions on the student's obligation to comply with the *Regulations on Academic Integrity at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music*, that the JVLMA may perform automated plagiarism checking for course examination papers and final papers (bachelor, master, qualification and diploma theses) of a study programme.

2.2. Efficiency of the Internal Quality Assurance System

2.2.1. Assessment of the efficiency of the internal quality assurance system within the study field by specifying the measures undertaken to achieve the aims and outcomes of the study programmes and to ensure continuous improvement, development, and efficient performance of the study field and the relevant study programmes.

The **Quality Management Manual** approved on 13 December 2021 is a document describing the quality policy, objectives and quality management system of the JVLAM. The quality manual shall contain or refer to the procedures of the quality management system and specify the structure of the documentation to be used for the quality management system.

Quality management is ensured by the Rector of the JVLAM. The Rector approves the quality manager, who is responsible for the implementation of quality management at the Academy.

The JVLAM quality management system is designed in accordance with the comprehensive quality management approach, using the excellence model developed by EFQM 2020 and elements of the ISO 9001:2015 standard, and integrating ESG 2015 standards and guidelines into the quality assurance of studies. The process of improving the quality management system is continuous.

The purpose of the manual is to document the quality management practices of the JVLAM to ensure a common understanding and compliance with the quality management system by all JVLAM staff and stakeholders, and to inform the public about the quality standards at JVLAM.

The current manual is available in Latvian to everyone on the JVLAM website

https://www.JVLAM.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/1.16-JVLAM-kvalitates-vadibas-r-ogasgramata-13.12.2021.pdf

The need for improvement of the quality management system is assessed and planned as part of the annual strategic planning and monitoring process. Changes are made to the manual when a new version of a section is published to replace the previous one. Any employee of the JVLAM may submit suggestions for changes to the Manual, identifying inconsistencies between the implemented working practices and the working practices set out in the Manual, as well as suggesting improvements to existing working practices. Revision and updating of the manual is carried out by the JVLAM quality manager, who records changes in the manual and informs the staff.

During the reporting period (30.09.2020.) The JVLAM Senate approved the *JVLAM Quality Policy*, which is available in English on the JVLAM website:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_kvalitates_vadiba/7.6-quality-policy-jvlma-2020.pdf

The aim of the Quality Policy is to formulate the attitude and commitment of the JVLAM to quality, which will be ensured by fulfilling its mission and contributing to the balanced development of the JVLAM, in accordance with the defined strategic development directions and in line with its stated values.

The cyclical evaluation of the functioning of the internal quality assurance system is organised according to a process description: "Quality Management System Evaluation Process" (see under "Other Annexes").

JVLAM is in the process of quality improvement, which was provided by outsourced service

providers SIA CSE COE (within the framework of the European Social Fund project "Ensuring Good Governance at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music" No. 8.2.3.0/18/A/013). In cooperation with the Quality Manager, the development of a new Quality Policy of the JVLAM, the development of a Quality Management Manual, the development of 27 process descriptions for the JVLAM, the development of a process measurement system for the JVLAM, and the implementation of risk management was ensured. In order to secure the interests of different groups of staff representatives and their opportunity to participate and express their opinions in the quality improvement process, two academic staff representatives (nominated by the Senate) were involved in the quality improvement process of the JVLAM, and both of them were not only lecturers but also experienced in organising the work of academic departments, as well as one student representative (nominated by the Student Council of the JVLAM) was included. Lecturer and student involvement was mainly divided into three types of activity:

1. Practical internal audits to identify and take a different perspective on the activities of the JVLAM and also to research, analyse and prepare information for process descriptions;
2. Coordinating and recommending actions to improve the quality management system, including:
 - a. Agreement on internal audit topics;
 - b. Involvement in the definition of the internal audit activity programme, objectives and targets, as well as the scope (not only for self-audits, but also for those of the other members of the commission).
3. Coordination, advice and proposals of outsourced services (SIA CSE COE), directly from the point of view of the staff group as represented by an expert, including:
 - a. Harmonisation of a draft quality policy;
 - b. Harmonisation of individual sections of the Quality Management Manual (e.g. harmonisation of the ESG Principles section of the manual, harmonisation of the process passport structure, harmonisation of the list of selected processes, harmonisation of composed process drawings).

In order to ensure the achievement of the objectives and results of the study programmes, the continuous improvement, development and efficiency of the field of study and its corresponding study programmes, structural and substantive changes were made to all professional bachelor study programmes in 2021-2022. The **structural** changes in the study programme in fact mean the merging of all previously implemented and accredited professional bachelor study programmes (*Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Conducting, Choreography, Composition, Music History and Theory, Music and Performing Arts*) of the JVLAM study field Arts into one professional bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, as submitted for the evaluation of the study field. It has eight sub-programmes and plans to award graduates one of two Bachelor degrees (*Music or Choreography*) and one of seven Level 6 professional qualifications (*Instrumental Musician, Vocalist, Conductor, Choreographer, Composer, Musicologist or Sound Designer*). The changes from the existing programmes, sub-programmes and specialisations to the new programme, its sub-programmes and specialisations are shown in the Annex. The most significant structural changes have affected the renewed *Early Music* and *Jazz Music* sub-programmes, which were previously specialised in both the *Instrumental Music* and *Vocal Music* programmes. The *Early Music* and *Jazz Music* sub-programmes, as separate units that include the study of both ancient/jazz instruments and ancient/jazz vocals, will find it easier to position themselves and attract students within the renewed curriculum structure. The structure of the renewed study programme can be found in more detail in the study plan.

The **substantive** changes imply updating the study programme content in line with the latest

trends in the professional field, as well as the requirements for career development opportunities and competitiveness of young professionals in the labour market. A more detailed description of the new courses and the rationale for their selection can be found in the Self-Assessment Report of the Professional Bachelor's Degree Programme in *Music and Performing Arts*.

The **most important benefits** of the **structural changes** made to the study programme are:

- (1) making the sub-programmes more commensurate with each other, as the parts of the programme are designed to be of the same scope, and all students will receive the same amount of CPs for their work in the common group study courses. This, in turn, is a prerequisite for the JVLAM to introduce the evaluation of the quality of studies by applying rotation for the state budget-funded places among students of different specialisations, thus increasing competition. It also allows for a single competition for state budget scholarships between students of different specialisations, thus increasing competition;
- (2) the possibility to establish the programme on a similar basis as the professional Master's programme in *Music and Performing Arts* and the JVLAM part of the joint professional doctoral programme in *Arts Music and Performing Arts*;
- (3) the possibility to reduce the fragmentation of professional bachelor study programmes and the insufficient number of students in certain professional bachelor study programmes in the field of *Arts*;
- (4) the opportunity to review the compliance of the study programme with the regulatory framework in preparation for the evaluation and accreditation of the *Arts* field of study;
- (5) the possibility to create a single catalogue of study courses in the study programme of the respective study field and level;
- (6) the possibility to reallocate the number of granted budget places within a programme (between sub-programmes) rather than between programmes;
- (7) optimising the human resources required for the maintenance and development of the study programme by reducing the amount of duplicate documentation, reports, self-assessment reports, etc.

The **most important benefits** of the changes **in the content** of the study programme are:

- (1) the possibility to update the content of existing bachelor programmes in order to meet the needs of the field;
- (2) possibility to take into account the results of the study on the compliance of the study programmes of the JVLAM with the requirements of the labour market, as well as the recommendations provided in the expert opinions of *MusiQuE*, as well as the recommendations of the students and graduates of the JVLAM professional bachelor study programmes for the improvement of the study programme;
- (3) the possibility to take into account the good practices of European music universities;
- (4) the possibility to compare bachelor level study sub-programmes with equivalent programmes in higher education institutions of European Union countries, thus contributing to the integration of the JVLAM programme into the modern European higher education system;
- (5) implementation of a balanced curriculum, with more resources dedicated to specialisation courses.

Similar changes took place in 2016 within the Professional Master's degree programme *Music and*

The above mentioned review of professional study programs is one example of the effective functioning of the internal quality assurance system within the study field, helps develop study programs and supports them in achieving their goals.

2.2.2. Analysis and assessment of the system and the procedures for the development and review of the study programmes by providing specific examples of the review of the study programmes, the aims, and regularity, as well as the stakeholders and their responsibilities. If, during the reporting period, new study programmes have been developed within the study field, describe the procedures of their development (including the process of the approval of study programmes).

The establishment of study programmes and the review process are regulated by the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music Study Programme Regulations (available in Latvian) at:

https://www.JVLAM.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.7-2021-12-22-nolikums-par-studiju-programmam-ar-grozijumiem-red.pdf).

The development and conduct of the professional doctoral study programme is governed by the *Regulations for the Implementation of the Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts* (available in Latvian):

https://www.JVLAM.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.26-2019-10-28-prof-dok-studiju-istenosanas-nolikums.pdf).

The Regulations have been developed on the basis of the requirements of external regulatory enactments - the Law on Higher Education Institutions, Cabinet Regulation No 793 of 11 December 2018 Regulations on Opening and Accreditation of Study Fields and Cabinet Regulation No 795 of 11 December 2018 Licensing of Study Programmes.

Among the 27 created JVLMA process descriptions and drawings, one of them is the *New study program development process* and one *Study program quality assessment and improvement process*. Both descriptions and drawings were created in 2022 and are available in the "Other appendices" section in both Latvian and English. They record the current procedure and examples of good practice that have worked successfully at all three study levels of the study field *Arts*.

The objectives, regularity, stakeholders and responsibilities of the curriculum review are determined based on feedback, evaluations and suggestions received from students, graduates, academic and general staff, employers, as well as external experts, which are analysed, and decisions are made on the necessary changes. The content of study programmes, their assessment criteria, and types of tests are regularly reviewed, updated and introduced. Examples of review processes:

- 1) based on feedback and suggestions received from students (Study Programme Directors);
- 2) based on annual departmental self-assessment reports prepared by the heads of departments, academic staff self-assessment questionnaires and departmental presentations on information and knowledge gained during mobility and professional development activities (on each return from mobility), academic staff reports (once a month for doctoral programmes at the Doctoral Council meetings) (responsible: Study Programme Directors and Heads of Departments);
- 3) based on comparison with study programmes abroad (responsible: Study Programme Directors);

4) on the basis of the updating of course and module descriptions and its annual analysis by the Directorate of Study Programmes (responsible: Directors of Study Programmes). The description of study courses and modules is initially developed by the lecturer and approved by the relevant department, based on the most relevant current developments in scientific research, methodological approach and the need for artistic and creative development of the students;

5) based on internal and external normative acts (responsible officials: Study Programme Directors, Head of Study Fields), including in the context of content changes attributable to the amendments to the Regulations on the National Education Standard adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers.

During the reporting period, several significant changes took place in the structure of the programmes of the JVLAM Arts field - in 2016, the professional Master's study programmes *Music* and *Choreography* were merged into one programme *Music and Performing Arts*. Following the recommendation of the AIC expert opinion to reconsider the possibility of developing the *Music and Performing Arts* study programme in both Bachelor and Master programmes, all professional Bachelor study programmes in the Arts were reviewed in 2021-2022. The **process of curriculum development** was shaped by regular working groups of external experts (seven experts involved in the project) and internal experts (heads of departments, departments and classes).

Representatives of various stakeholder groups - the head of the field of study, study programme directors, heads of departments, lecturers, students and employers' representatives - participated in the development process. The experts initially assessed the relevance of the existing professional standards and compared the study programmes and their curricula with equivalent study programmes abroad. The Head of Study Fields, together with the Heads of Departments, further discussed with the Heads of Departments the new courses to be included in the updated curriculum. The working groups then worked on specific sub-programme plans. The renewed curriculum was finally approved by the Senate.

During the reporting period, a new professional doctoral study programme *in Arts* was established, which is joint with the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - LKA) and the Art Academy of Latvia (hereinafter - LMA). The relevance of the professional doctoral study programme in Latvia has been outlined since at least 2014 in the strategic planning documentation of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia - for example, in the "Cultural Education Sector Strategy 2014-2020" under the section "Cultural Education and Creating Excellence", the Ministry of Culture's activity - to facilitate the cooperation of the JVLAM, LKA and LMA in the establishment of a joint professional doctoral study programme in arts, as well as in the development strategies of the JVLAM, LKA and LMA universities, which provide for three levels of higher art education in all fields of art studies.

In 2018, the JVLAM, LKA and LMA signed an agreement on cooperation in the development of a joint professional doctoral study programme. A programme design group was set up, involving representatives of all the cooperation institutions. The Task Force was led and coordinated by the JVLAM, setting deadlines, defining the scope of work to be carried out and organising internal and external communication within the Task Force.

Representatives of each institution in the programme development working group, according to their areas of expertise, have provided information on the necessary and available resources for the implementation of the programme, while at the same time planning modules for the implementation of the compulsory part of the study programme and offering ample opportunities for the development of professional competence and creative activity, including the provision of competitive and high-quality infrastructure.

The curriculum is designed with the involvement of students, graduates, employers and employers' organisations in the sector. The involvement has been both direct and indirect - using and analysing data from studies on the effectiveness of Latvian cultural education and the adequacy of human

resources to the requirements of the cultural and creative industries labour market. The 2019 Study on the Compliance of the Art Study Programmes of the JVLAM with the Human Resources Development Forecasts and the Requirements of the Professional Standards" developed by SIA Dynamic University includes surveys with students, graduates and employers on the study content, the process and the "final product" entering the labour market, highlighting also the missing elements of the existing study programmes. These missing elements were introduced in the new study programme with the aim of contributing to the modernity of study methods, clarity of expected results, development of problem-solving skills, sufficiently broad pedagogical practice, and others. The most significant recommendations of the alumni for the improvement of the study process and content are related to the monitoring of the quality of studies, supplementing the study content by including management-related study courses (*Art of Living on Art*), as well as improving the institution's communication with students. The development of the study programme has also included the direct involvement of employers through the drafting and signing of Cooperation Agreements on the implementation of internships, as well as listening to suggestions and opinions to strengthen successful cooperation. Both in the above-mentioned description and during the expert visit, several employers have pointed out that people working in the sector need to have cultural background, a broad knowledge of culture and the arts, an understanding of both current cultural processes today and their history and patterns. The new study programme has started to implement these employer requirements, both in the study courses and in the artistic creation and institution practice.

The joint professional doctoral study program was approved by the Senates of all three cooperating universities - JVLMA on 28.10.2019, LKA on 21.10.2019. and LMA on 31.10.2019. The Study Quality Committee made a decision on the licensing of the study program on 30.09.2020. The study program was started in January 2021.

2.2.3. Description of the procedures and/or systems according to which the students are expected to submit complaints and proposals (except for the surveys to be conducted among the students). Specify whether and how the students have access to the information on the possibilities to submit complaints and proposals and how the outcomes of the examination of the complaints and proposals and the improvements of the study field and the relevant study programmes are communicated by providing the respective examples.

The procedure for submission and consideration of student complaints and proposals is regulated by:

- Chapter X of the Statute of the JVLMA "Dispute Settlement Procedure at the institution" (available here:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/1.1.-2022-05-25-eng-jvlma-satversme-apstiprinats-30.03.2022-apstiprinats-09.05.2022-pienemts-25.05.2022-precizeta-31.08.2022.senata.pdf)

- Statute of the Academic Arbitration Court of the JVLMA (available only in Latvian here:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_ieksejie_reglamentejosie_dokumenti/1.6-09.05.2022-akademiskas-ski-rejtiskas-nolikums.pdf);

- Statute of the Ethics Committee of the JVLMA (available only in Latvian here:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_padomes_kolegialas_institucijas/2018-04-25-jvlma-etikas-komisijas-n

[olikums.pdf](#));

- JVLMA Internal Regulations for Students (available only in Latvian here:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_studiju_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/2.1-2021-09-08-ieksejas-kartibas-noteikumi-studejosajiem-grozijumi-red-1.pdf);

- Whistleblowing Procedure at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (available only in Latvian here:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_trauksmes_celsana/4.12-2022-02-01-trauksmes-celsanas-kartiba-jvlma.pdf);

Students can obtain information on where to get acquainted with internal regulatory enactments, as well as contact persons, in the JVLMA Information Guide Student Manual (available to the user of the JVLMA account on the academy's internal website, as well as attached to this report in the section " Other Annexes " (only in Latvian)).

The procedure for the submission and consideration of student complaints and proposals is established as taking into account the requirements laid down in the Law on Complaints. Written complaints from students are very rare at the JVLAM, as problems that arise are usually addressed and resolved favourably through negotiation.

In cases where students have problems during their studies that they cannot solve by themselves in communication with lecturers, students are invited to contact the heads of the relevant departments, who get involved in solving problems. If a situation cannot be resolved at department level, students or department heads contact the *Directorate of Study Programmes* and department heads are involved in resolving the issues.

During the reporting period, complaints from students were received, for example, regarding lecturers' non-academic teaching style, unclear test timing, or inadequate requirements for obtaining grades. In order to assess the situation, the heads of the departments or study programme directors in such cases have sent questionnaires to other students of the courses in question to find out their opinions, have hosted classes, and have held discussions with lecturers. As a result, it has been possible to agree on clarification of examination requirements or deadlines, and in some cases. It was decided not to continue cooperation with lecturers. In order to reduce the conflict situation between the study support staff and a student, the institution instructed another non-conflicted and higher-ranking official to communicate with the student. Depending on the decisions taken in the case, the complainants or petitioners are informed of the actions taken and the results, according to the format of the complaint or petition received, either in writing, orally or through a meeting with the complainants or petitioners to further discuss the problem and possible solutions.

The interests of students are also actively represented by the JVLAM Student Council. In order to facilitate the cooperation of the Student Council with the Directorate of Study Programmes, representatives of the Student Council have been invited to participate in regular meetings of the Directorate of Study Programmes during the 2021/2022 academic year. Representatives of the Student Self-Government have repeatedly used the invitation to inform the Directorate of Study Programmes about the issues of concern to students, to participate in discussions and to receive answers to their questions.

Student representatives are also actively invited to contribute with proposals to the various planning processes. Students are also invited to participate in other processes together with representatives of the Directorate of Study Programmes, for example, in the planning of new student recruitment activities, where the idea of a less formal cooperation has emerged, starting in the academic year 2021/2022 with the joint production of the JVLAM audio podcast series "Come to

Study!", in which the directors of study programmes talk to students about their experience at the Academy.

Certain issues have also been raised and addressed on the initiative of a student member of the Internal Audit Committee.

In August 2021, the Academic Arbitration Court held a hearing on the application of a student of the JVLAM against the decision of the JVLAM Study Quality Assessment Commission of 21 July 2021, according to which the source of funding of the applicant's studies was changed from studies with state budget funds to studies for a fee as of the academic year 2021/2022. And, although the Arbitral Tribunal found that the decision was justified and complied with the requirements of the JVLAM's laws and regulations, it adopted a subsidiary decision to propose that the possibility of reallocating budget places to address the situation of the student in question should be assessed. Based on this suggestion, a solution was found that met the requirements of the student. This indicates that the institution's complaint handling process is not merely formal, but is aimed at finding solutions that are acceptable to all parties and comply with the laws and regulations.

In spring 2018, at the Senate meeting, the students exercised *their veto* right, which resulted in the Senate re-examining the matter of the *Study Plan Implementation Calendar* after reviewing it and drafting a new version at the "Coordination Commission", which was established on the basis of the parity principle.

In spring 2018 a student of the 8th semester of the *Keyboard Instruments* sub-programme of the *Instrumental Music* professional bachelor study programme at the JVLAM, specialisation *Piano*, submitted a request for revision of the grade obtained in the Diploma Examination of 28 May 2018, which was examined by the national examination Board.

In 2017, the Ethics Committee examined a complaint of a student about unethical conduct of a lecturer at the JVLAM.

In the 2021-2022 academic year review of all professional bachelor study programmes in *Arts*, a meeting was held with students to listen to their suggestions on the most valuable study courses they think should be kept in the renewed study programme, the least valuable study courses that could be done without in the new programme, as well as to listen to the suggestions of others. One of the students' suggestions that was taken into account in the renewal of the study programme was to devote the foreign language course more to the content specialisation and language proficiency of the students concerned, rather than to general foreign language study. The updated study programme includes a course of study entitled *Foreign Language for Specialisation*, which divides students by level. Another suggestion from students was to make the workload more commensurate between sub-programmes and courses. The programme management has taken this recommendation into account by establishing a more even relationship between CP and contact hours than in previous professional bachelor programmes.

2.2.4. Provide information on the mechanism for collecting the statistical data, as developed by the higher education institution/ college. Specify the type of data to be collected, the regularity of collection, and the way the information is used to improve the study field. Describe the mechanism for obtaining and providing feedback, including with regard to the work with the students, graduates, and employers.

Statistical data at the JVLAM are divided into two information extraction groups:

(1) Statistical data related to the provision of information required by external laws and regulations:

(1.1.) Cabinet Regulations No. 276 of 25 June 2019 National Education Information System Regulations detail what data are collected and submitted to the State Education Information System. The Head of the Study Division is responsible for providing the necessary information in the State Education Information System (VIIS).

(1.2.) Provision of data in the form of reports as stipulated in the Agreement and Memoranda of Agreement concluded between the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Culture and the JVLAM on training of specialists, development of scientific activity and artistic creation at the JVLAM with the state budget funds. The JVLAM shall inform the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Science annually about the fulfilment of obligations under the Agreement.

(2.) Data defined in internal regulatory enactments and used for the analysis of internal activities of the JVLAM, improvement of activities, as well as for obtaining necessary information.

To ensure the assessment of students' competences and the analysis of the results achieved, information on students' achievements is compiled in a document:

- Student Progress Summary Log. The information is used by:

* The Scholarship Committee, to award Scholarships on a competitive basis;

* The Study Quality Assessment Board, to allocate state-funded study places to students in a competitive process, using the merit ranking method, as laid down in the Regulations;

* Heads of Departments, to assess a student's eligibility for study exchange programmes abroad or participation in international competitions or other creative activities.

- Students' artistic/creative/research achievements in Latvian and international projects;

- artistic/creative/research/educational achievements of lecturers in Latvian and international projects;

- statistics on student mobility (with study programmes).

Depending on the information to be obtained, it is collected in different ways. The information is used in the process of assessing the performance of lecturers (respectively, in decision-making on the performance of lecturers), in the annual preparation of self-assessment reports of the field of study and study programmes (respectively, in decision-making on the quality of the field of study and study programmes), in the preparation of the Rector's annual report on the activities of the University (respectively, in decision-making on the assessment of the University's activities and future perspectives).

Information on how feedback is obtained at the JVLAM can be found in several internal regulatory enactments of the JVLAM, including the JVLAM Regulations on Study Programmes, the JVLAM Regulations on Unit, Department and Class Activities, and the JVLAM Student Council Regulations.

The JVLAM hosts different types of surveys - for students, employers and alumni. In general, two types of questionnaires can be distinguished at the JVLAM: (1) standard questionnaires with fixed questions that are used repeatedly (cyclically or regularly), e.g. questionnaire on the quality of study courses for foreigners, employer questionnaire, JVLAM alumni questionnaire; and (2) non-standard questionnaires that are carried out to target a question of interest, e.g. student questionnaire on distance learning process. The turnout rate for the non-routine surveys is much higher than for the standard surveys, where it is low but variable. It should be noted that the surveys have so far been partly electronic and partly paper-based, which has made it difficult to compile the results.

In order to understand the mechanism of obtaining and providing feedback, it is important to take into account four specific circumstances that JVLAM has in comparison with other universities: (1) there are a lot of individual contact hours due to the content, (2) in the case of a rare instrument, a lecturer may have only a few students, (3) specialty-related study courses tend to take 6, 7 or 8 semesters, (4) most lecturers also work elsewhere as employers or employees. Therefore, in addition to formal questionnaires, the JVLAM still has an individual/verbal way of obtaining and giving feedback, both between lecturers and students, between lecturers and graduates, and between representatives of the Academy and employers. Verbal feedback is particularly common among parties who have long-standing cooperation and/or collaborations across multiple environments.

In the spring of the 2021/2022 academic year, a survey of students was carried out on the availability of technology for the study process during distance learning. This was particularly important in the music performance-related courses. As a result of the survey: (1) the need to purchase technology (microphones, digital recording devices) was identified; (2) a delivery mechanism for the necessary devices to students was organised; (3) in some cases, large instruments (pianos) were provided to students.

In order to ensure systematic receipt of students', graduates' and employers' opinions, as well as systematic collection of results and taking them into account in the development of the study field, as well as to create a common understanding and clear procedure for all parties involved, development of a survey procedure/scheme and a new JVLAM Survey System were at the turn of 2021/2022 at the JVLAM was commenced. This defines the essential characteristics of the feedback questionnaire: (1) respondents or parties involved in the activities of the JVLAM, (2) purpose, (3) timing or frequency, (4) who is responsible for handling the mailing of the survey, collecting results, developing and presenting suggestions, (5) use, (6) access rights to the survey results, (7) content developer and maintainer, (8) change approver, (9) process, (10) retention period and (11) location of the results.

Through these characteristics, the following nine different surveys were defined based on the respondents and the purpose of the survey: (1) student satisfaction survey on the content of each study course and lecturer, (2) student overall satisfaction survey on the quality of the study process in the study programme, (3) reflection survey on the quality of the admission process, (4) 1st-year student survey on satisfaction with adaptation opportunities at JVLAM, suitability of the environment, (5) satisfaction survey of foreign students on the suitability of the study environment for foreign students, (6) survey of prematurely exmatriculated students on the reasons for their exmatriculation, (7) graduates' satisfaction survey on the quality of studies in the graduated study programme, (8) employers' satisfaction survey on the competence and labour market readiness of the graduates of the JVLAM, (9) non-routine surveys to find out their opinion on current problem situations. The *JVLAM Survey Framework* was approved by the Rector on 19 August 2022 and is attached as a table in the chapter - Other Annexes.

Due to the serious Covid-19 illness of several colleagues involved, as well as the workload of the staff, the implementation of the JVLAM Survey System has taken longer than originally planned. However, the necessary preparations have been made to enable it to function successfully as of academic year 2022/2023.

As part of developing the quality management system, 27 processes were described and mapped. Work on describing and drawing other processes will be further developed by adding them to the **process measurement system**, which will also be one of the mechanisms by which statistical data is collected and analysed (see JVLAM Process measurement system in the chapter Other Annexes, available only in Latvian).

2.2.5. Specify the websites (e.g., the homepage) on which the information on the study field and the relevant study programmes is published (in all languages in which the study programmes are implemented) by indicating the persons responsible for the compliance of the information available on the website with the information published in the official registers (State Education Information System (VIIS), E-platform).

Information about the field of study and the two corresponding study programmes is published both in the Latvian version of the JVLAM website www.jvlma.lv under *Studijas* and in the corresponding English version www.jvlma.lv/en under *Studies*. These sections contain practical, concise information with references to relevant documents. The programme directors are responsible for the information contained in these sections. The document JVLAM Study Programme Register is available in the Documents section of the JVLAM homepage under Internal regulatory enactments regulating the study process (available only in Latvian, and only in the Latvian version of JVLAM homepage). The document contains detailed information on both study fields and corresponding study programmes, sub-programmes and specialisations, as well as degrees, qualifications and other information. The Head of the Study Programme is responsible for the information contained in the JVLAM Study Programme Register.

The Head of the Study Division is responsible for information on study programmes, students and graduates in the State Education Information System (VIIS). The Head of the Personnel Division is responsible for information on elected lecturers in the VIIS Academic Staff Register. The Head of the Study Division and the Head of the Personnel Division work with the VIIS in accordance with Cabinet Regulation of 25 June 2019 No. 276 National Education Information System Regulations.

The Head of Study Fields is responsible for the information on the E-platform. At the time of writing the Self-Assessment Report, information on eleven study programmes relevant to the *Arts* field of study is available on the E-platform. All eleven of the study programmes identified are in progress at the time of writing the self-assessment report. However, only five study programmes are submitted for evaluation and accreditation. All students of the other six professional bachelor programmes (*Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Conducting, Composition, Choreography, Music History and Theory*) will transfer to the renewed professional bachelor programme *Music and Performing Arts* after this academic year. After the transfer of students, these six professional bachelor programmes will be closed and will no longer be offered. Therefore, the self-assessment report includes information on only five of the eleven study programmes currently listed on the E-platform.

2.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Field

2.3.1. Provide information on the system developed by the higher education institution/college for determining and redistribution of the financial resources required for the implementation of the study field and the relevant study programmes. Provide data on the available funding for the scientific research and/or artistic creation activities, its sources and its use for the development of the study field.

According to the Conceptual Report "[Introduction of a New Financing Model for Higher Education in Latvia](#)" (available only in Latvian) approved by the Cabinet on 29 June 2015, structural reforms in the sector are gradually being implemented to ensure the establishment of an efficient and sustainable higher education system.

To achieve Latvia's development goals, a three-pillar financing model is put forward to ensure that higher education supply is aligned with the needs of Latvia's economic development and labour market, higher education content is of high quality and research-based, and higher education institutions manage results.

Pillar 1, or core funding, is delivered through state-funded study places. The determination of the number of state-funded study places is regulated by Sections 51 and 52 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/37967-augstskolu-likums#p-50515>, available only in Latvian).

Pillar 2 - Performance funding, *is allocated on the basis of the results achieved by the institution in the previous planning period*. The procedure for allocating this funding is regulated by Cabinet Regulation of 12 December 2006 *Procedures for Financing Universities and Colleges from State Budget Funds* (hereinafter in this chapter - *Procedure*), sub-paragraph 17.4.

The number of state-funded study places for full-time students at the JVLAM is determined in accordance with the projected demand for cultural development, in agreement with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia each academic year.

The amount of the basic funding for studies is determined on the basis of the number of study places at the JVLAM, as well as the basic cost of a study place and the coefficients of the cost of studies in thematic areas of education.

The cost of study ratios for thematic areas of education are indicators that determine the cost of a study place in a given thematic area of education in relation to the base cost of the study place.

The cost coefficients for the thematic areas of education are set out in Annex 1 to the Procedures for Bachelor's and Professional Study Programmes (Available in Latvian at): (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/149900-kartiba-kada-augstskolas-un-koledzas-tiek-finansetas-no-valsts-budze-ta-lidzekliem>), [Annex 1](#).

The values of the tuition fee coefficients for Master's degree programmes are one and a half times and for Doctoral degree programmes three times higher than those *set out in the Procedures Annex 1* (available only in Latvian) the values of the study costs coefficients for the relevant subject area of education.

Table 1. Thematic areas of study courses and their coefficients in the Arts study field.

Thematic areas of study	Cost coefficients under Cabinet Regulation No 994
Music, choreography	3.9

The basic cost of a study place and the social security costs of a study place shall be determined in accordance with [Annex 2 to the Regulations](#) (available only in Latvian).

The Ministry of Education and Science shall annually calculate the base cost per study place for the following budget year and, by 1 November of the current year, shall reconcile its calculation with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, under whose supervision the JVLAM is placed.

More detailed information on the procedure for allocating funding and the calculation per study place is available in the *Regulation*.

The **budget of the JVLAM** is planned in order to ensure the achievement of the JVLAM's strategic objectives, as well as to ensure the JVLAM's commitments in relation to the use of the budget grant and the commitments entered into.

The implementation of the budget plan is characterised by a balanced budget in terms of revenue and expenditure, which ensures the continued operation and development of the JVLAM, progress towards the achievement of the JVLAM's strategic objectives, and the JVLAM's commitments in relation to the use of the budget grant and prior commitments.

The budget of the JVLAM is planned for the financial year, from January to December.

In order to ensure quality implementation of study programmes, the heads of all structural units participate in the financial planning of the JVLAM and request the necessary resources. All proposals are collated by the Finance Unit and the necessary funding is calculated, a preliminary budget plan is drawn up and submitted to the Rector's Office, the Senate and the Academy Council for consideration. (in the chapter Other Annexes see process description and Figure 24_Budget formulation and execution monitoring process.)

The JVLAM Senate shall give its opinion on the draft budget for the financial year, before approval by the Council.

The Council of the Academy approves the overall budget plan of the JVLAM without dividing it by study fields and study programmes.

The budget of the JVLAM is not divided into study fields and study programmes. Such an approach to budget planning is rational and effective, it ensures quality implementation of all study programmes, especially taking into account the fact that, in accordance with the Protocol of Agreement with the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, the state budget funding is allocated for a certain number of study places in total with the planned average cost per study place, without dividing it by study fields and study programmes.

The costs of each specific study programme are calculated taking into account the parameters included in the list of equipment and additional resources necessary for the implementation of study courses, the number of contact hours, types and forms of competency testing, as well as the group saturation specified in the study plan and course description of the study programmes of JVLAM.

Composition of the JVLAM budget:

- Grant or basic budget funding;
- Paid student funding;
- Own revenue from paid services (concert ticket revenue, room hire, hire of musical instruments and equipment, ground rent);
- Performance funding;
- Financing of the scientific basis;
- Project funding (5 EU projects, ERDF project, CCF projects).

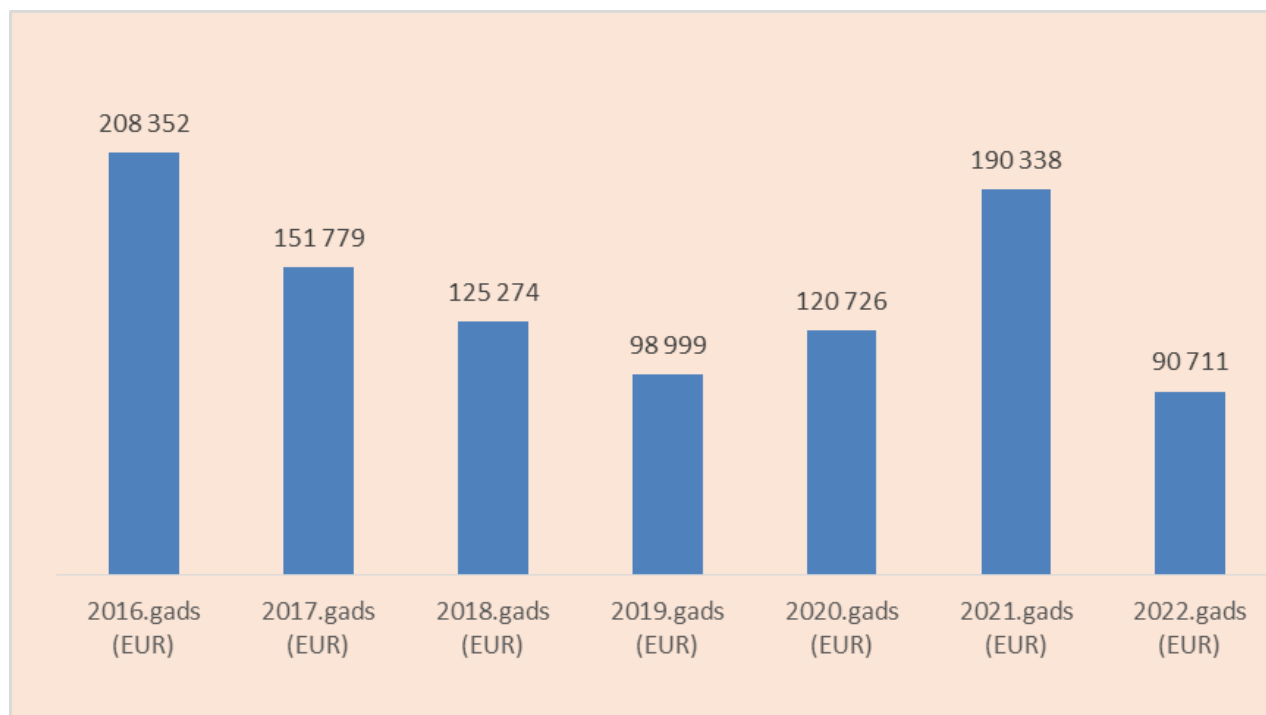
Table 2. JVLMA grant.

Year	Grant	Increase, Euro	Increase, %
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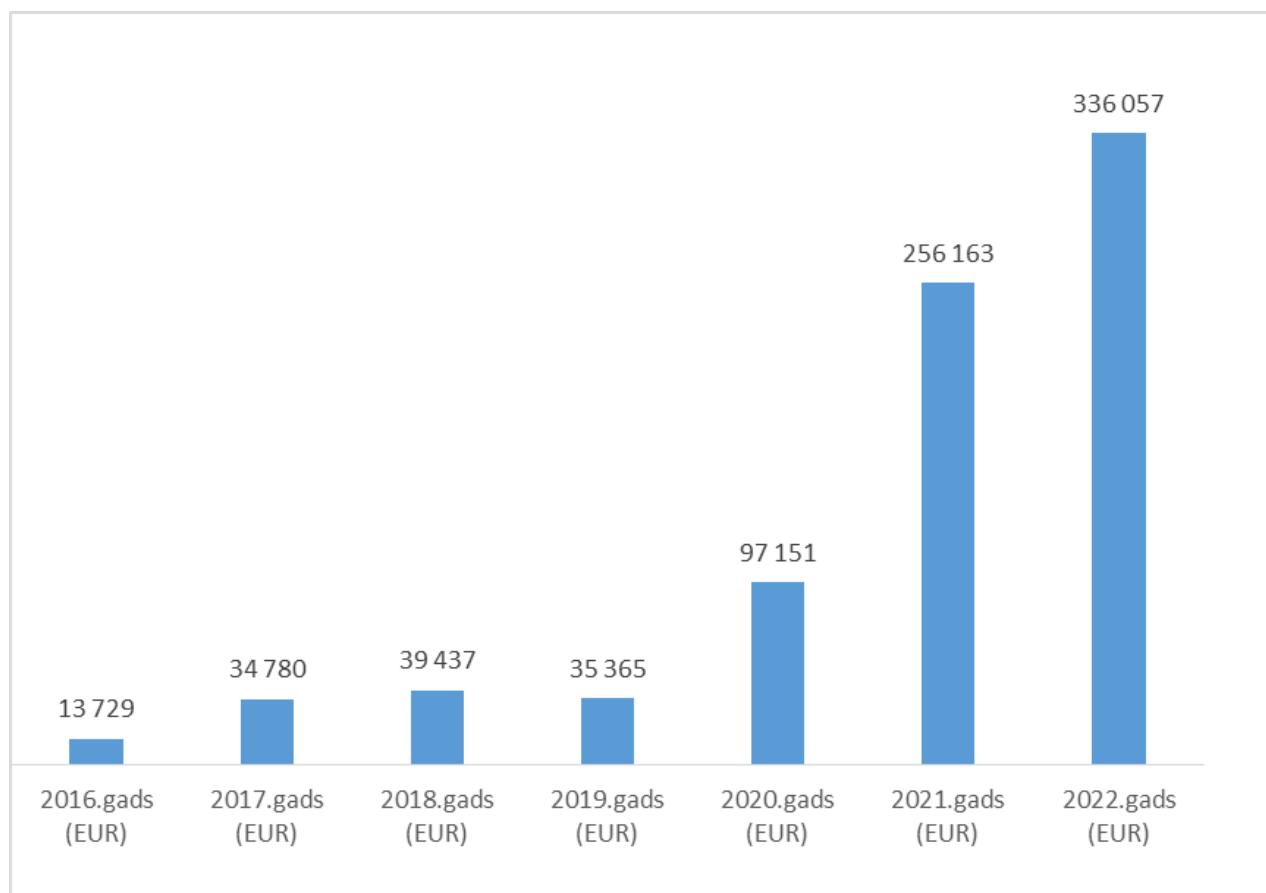
2012	2'354'595		
2013	2'521'429	166 834	7,09
2014	2'521'429		
2015	2'521'429		
2016	2'640'625	119 196	4,73
2017	2'773'456	132 831	5,03
2018	3'134'430	360 974	13,02
2019	3'266'302	131 872	4,21
2020	3'280'720	14 418	0,44
2021	3'515'030	234 310	7,14
2022	3'802'490	287 460	8,18

The basic funding for research (state funding) is distributed centrally. The budget allocation is decided simultaneously with the overall budget of the JVLAM, with priority allocated to the needs of the JVLAM Research Centre, scientific publications, publishing, database subscriptions, membership fees to organisations, conferences and seminars.

Picture 1. Financing of the scientific basis:



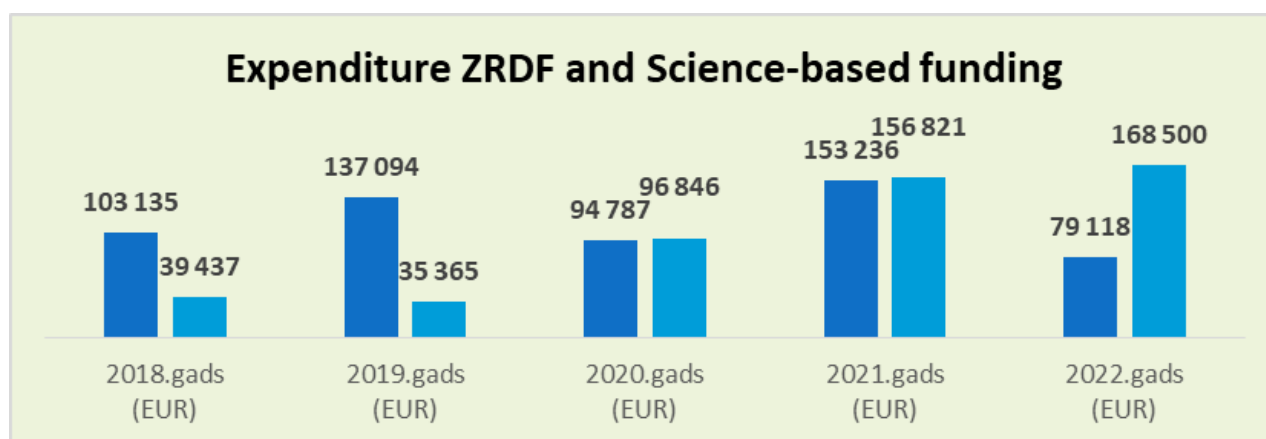
Picture 2. Funding for scientific and creative activities is available from 2016:



Funding of research and artistic creativity has a positive effect on the development of the field of study and corresponding study programs, as it promotes the creation of study sources and literature base, as well as allows students to be involved in scientific and artistic creative projects. During the year, the JVLAM organises 2 competitions for research and creative activity projects with internal funding, in which the funds allocated in the annual budget are distributed without any centralised division into study fields and study programmes. In the competition procedure, funding is awarded for artistic, research and interdisciplinary projects, including international ones - for the preparation and performance of concert programmes, preferably outside the JVLAM, for the creation of compositions and for research projects. Projects are administered by the Creative Projects Division of the JVLAM and supervised by the Vice-Rector for Research and Creative Work.

ZRDF - funding for scientific and creative work.

Picture 3. Expenses from Scientific Creative Work Funding and Science Base Funding.



2.3.2. Provide information on the infrastructure and the material and technical provisions required for the implementation of the study field and the relevant study programmes. Specify whether the required provision is available to the higher education institution/college, available to the students, and the teaching staff.

Study programmes corresponding to the field of study Arts are implemented in the JVLAM building at Krišjāņa Barona iela 1. The JVLAM has no branches or faculties outside this address. Listed below are the premises of the JVLAM, all of which are available for the implementation of the relevant study programmes of the study field Arts.

JVLAM Area of premises

	Area, m ²
Total area	7667
including: area study and research spaces	3372
area of sports and leisure facilities	379
area of business premises	139
area of dormitories	70
area of other rooms	3707
Of the total area, area leased to other users is	305

The ASIMUT system, which is used to book the Academy's premises, is available to the faculty and students of the JVLAM; access to the system will be granted to all those who have a domain email address for the JVLAM - lecturers, students and general staff. Some rooms are only available to students or lecturers of specific departments (e.g. the *Jazz Department* rooms or the *Sound Recording* rooms), but both lecturers and students can use the other rooms for classes and rehearsals (the JVLAM offers a total of 82 classrooms and concert halls). Detailed information on the ASIMUT system is available in Section 2.3.4.

In the academic year 2019/2020, a list of equipment and additional equipment required for the implementation of study courses by the departments of the Performing Arts Division of the JVLAM was established. It defines both mandatory and quality-enhancing optional equipment. Information on both group and individual study courses. Fully equipped classrooms for group study courses, which are at the disposal of the JVLAM, are mentioned as equipment required for study courses. However, the equipment required for the quality delivery of Part B or specialised courses is very specific to each study programme and sub-programme/specialisation. For example, for all instrumental musicians it is the respective instruments and related equipment, for sound engineers it is a room equipped with the appropriate equipment, and for choreographers it is a specially equipped room.

Having assessed the necessary equipment and the equipment at the disposal of the JVLAM, it can be concluded that the equipment required for the implementation of study courses is at the disposal of the JVLAM and available to lecturers and students. For financial reasons, however, only

some courses have access to quality-enhancing equipment. Taking into account that the JVLAM is a state university, in order to proactively improve the situation, the JVLAM has repeatedly written to the Ministry of Culture, including information comparing the actual available funding with the desired funding for quality studies, based on a detailed assessment of the necessary equipment. Unfortunately, such steps have not had the desired effect.

Despite the above, a number of new musical instruments and accessories have been purchased during the reporting period, with funding from Structural Fund projects, the State Culture Capital Foundation and philanthropists: grand piano, trumpet, piccolo trumpet, flugelhorn, alto flute, piccolo flute, bass clarinet, saxophone, double-melody planer (bassoons - oboes), micrometer for measuring the thickness of bassoon tongues, harpsichord, euphonium, digital piano, accordion, drum set, double bass amplifier, guitar amplifier, keyboard amplifier, vibraphone, flugelhorn, trumpet, English horn, timpani, piccolo trumpet, euphonium, a dance floor for the choreography study programmes, as well as additional lighting for concert arrangements in the Great Hall of the JVLAM.

During the reporting period, a 'first stop' was set up in the JVLAM lobby to improve the organisation and administration of studies. In addition to a modern workplace for the attendant who issues room keys to students and lecturers, the 'first stop' also includes a screen where rooms can be reserved and room reservations can be checked.

SIA "Ugāles ērģelbūves darbnīca", commissioned by the JVLAM, built and handed over in 2014 a new teaching organ, which allows students to learn organ playing in a specially equipped teaching room.

Systematic Musicology class software is provided for recording and processing neurofunctional data: NeuroGuide, Matlab, Simulink, MAX/MSP, PureData, BCI2000, WinEEG, OpenVibe). The JVLAM acquired electroencephalography equipment and software to enable systematic musicological studies of the human brain in response to music.

The sound engineering equipment is regularly updated and equipped with both new devices and the latest software.

A ventilation project has been developed for the JVLAM Great Hall and Choreography Hall.

2.3.3. Provide information on the system and procedures for the improvement and purchase of the methodological and informative provision. Description and assessment of the availability of the library and the databases to the students (including in digital environment) and their compliance with the needs of the study field by specifying whether the opening times of the library are appropriate for the students, as well as the number/area of the premises, their suitability for individual studies and research work, the services provided by the library, the available literature for the implementation of the study field, the databases available for the students in the respective field, the statistical data on their use, the procedures for the replenishment of the library stock, as well as the procedures and possibilities for the subscription to the databases.

Systems and procedures applied for the development and acquisition of methodological and information support.

The JVLAM library plays an important role in the provision of methodological and cognitive literature. In cooperation with the heads of departments and lecturers of study courses, the library updates, supplements and accumulates all the necessary teaching resources in order to achieve the deliverables of study courses and programmes. The main directions and motivations for the creation of the JVLMA Library's collection are determined in the Jāzeps Vītolas Latvian Academy of Music Library's collection order (Available only in Latvian in "other annexes" section named as "JVLMA Bibliotēkas krājuma komplektēšanas kārtība")

Library and database access for students (including digital).

All the literature necessary for the implementation of the study programs corresponding to the study field, as well as their sub-programs and specializations, as well as notes and other materials in the library, including the subscribed databases, are available at a level that can successfully achieve the results of each study course and each study program. The library's resources and services are available to all students of the JVLAM both in person and remotely. The library provides students with learning materials - literature, sheet music, monographs, sound and video recordings. Students have access to 3 library databases and 9 subscription databases (three of them funded by the Ministry of Education and Science). Database access is based on the JVLAM IP address range, but access to databases is also provided remotely via a VPN connection or by issuing access credentials for a specific database. The Library's new acquisitions can be found in the "New acquisitions" section of the JVLAM website, as well as in the Music and Book Departments, where new acquisitions exhibitions are regularly held to showcase the latest books and sheet music in the JVLAM library.

Library working hours.

Standard library opening hours:

	Music Department	Reading Room	Audio-Visual Department
Monday	8:30-17:00	8:30-19:00	8:30-19:00
Tuesday	8:30-17:00	8:30-19:00	8:30-19:00
Wednesday	8:30-17:00	8:30-19:00	8:30-19:00
Thursday	8:30-17:0	8:30-19:00	8:30-19:00
Friday	8:30-17:00	8:30-19:00	8:30-19:00
Saturday	9:30-14:30	9:30-14:30	9:30-14:30
Sunday	Closed	Closed	Closed

From the second half of 2019/2020, the opening hours are linked to the epidemiological situation in the country.

Currently, due to saving electricity, the Library is open on working days - Monday-Thursday from 9.00-17.00, Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Number of rooms, space, suitability for permanent study and research.

The library is structured in three departments:

- Music department (103A -79,1 m2; 103B -78,6 m2),
- Book department and reading room (105 - 4,46 m2; 106 - 61,8 m2; 107 - 35,8 m2),
- Audiovisual department (215 - 36,2+21,5 m2).

Library storage (003A - 25,9 m2)

Library manager's office (104 -23,5 m2)

The Music Department is equipped with 3 computer workstations and a digital piano.

The reading room is equipped with 4 workstations at the computers and a communal table for 10 people to work independently or in groups. One computer is equipped with a scanner.

The reading room also has a touchscreen. The Audiovisual Department also has three computer workstations for listening to discs, records and cassettes.

Library services.	Free services	
	<i>For registered users</i>	<i>For non-registered users</i>
	Home subscription	-
	Electronic ordering and reservation of information resources in the library's electronic catalogue	-
	Scanning (self-service)	
	Use of electronic resources (subscription, open access, trial)	
	Use of the reading room	
	Enquiries and advice in the library, by phone or email	
	Paid services	
	Photocopying - order for library staff	
	Copying - self-service using cards	
	Scanning service (order from the librarian)	
	Binding (with plastic spiral)	
	Printing information from a computer	

Databases available to students.

Databases created by the library:

Library electronic catalogue

The image database contains photographs and historical evidence of the history of Latvian music up to the present day.

JVLAM Digital Library The Digital Library collection includes manuscripts of Latvian composers, which are stored in the Library's Latvian Music Archive and Jāzeps Vītols Memorial Room.

Database subscriptions:

Oxford Music Online (Grove Music Database) is the leading online database for music research, offering a comprehensive collection of music knowledge and full-text dictionaries from The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 2nd edition (2001), The New Grove Dictionary of Opera (1992) and The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz, 2nd edition (2002).

[Letonika.lv](#) is a database of encyclopaedic reference information, terms in various fields, dictionaries, unique and high-quality digital resources about Latvia in Latvian. The portal currently offers the possibility to read and search information in 10 encyclopaedias, use dictionaries in more than 10 translation strands, and view images, audio and video recordings separately.

The Berliner Philharmoniker Digital Concert Hall offers concerts, films and interviews.

The *Naxos Music Library* contains over 2,216,700 tracks from over 143,040 CDs - classical, jazz, blues and more. Biographies of the composers and artists, a list of the works on the CD and the cover art are available.

Naxos Music Library Jazz offers more than 207 400 jazz tracks from over 17 610 CDs. More than 12 000 jazz artists are represented in the database. This is one of the most complete catalogues of jazz music, as well as one of the largest catalogues of blues and R&B music.

[JSTOR](#) is a database of journals, books and primary sources, consisting of several collections. JVLAM subscribes to the JSTOR Arts & Sciences III collection. More information about the collection is available [here](#).

The ScienceDirect database contains full-text journals from Elsevier in the sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities.

SCOPUS is Elsevier's multidisciplinary database of scientific publications, bibliographic and citation information. The database provides visual analysis of journals, searches by author, institution name, keywords and other criteria, and provides a citation index for journals and articles, allowing access to the scientific achievements of the authors of publications.

Web of Science is a research platform for electronic resources that combines bibliographic information retrieval, and citation index databases. Find the latest and most relevant information on more than 20 000 peer-reviewed, high-quality journals in the sciences, social sciences, humanities and arts. The visit statistics of several databases can be found in the Database statistics folder, which can be found in the Other Annexes.

The library's replenishment procedure and database subscription procedure and facilities. Literature for implementing the field of study.

The collection is carried out in compliance with the principle of balance of information provision in all study programmes, and in cooperation with the JVLAM teaching staff according to the needs of study programmes the Library acquires sheet music materials, books, sound and video recordings. The possibilities of renewal and improvement of the information support are implemented in accordance with the state budget funds allocated to the JVLAM.

Students can make their suggestions for additions to the collection by filling in the form in the "Suggestion for additions to the collection" section of the JVLAM Library website.

As of 2013:

- Books - 458 copies (300 titles) - EUR 11 900.33
- Sheet music - 1093 copies (978 titles) - EUR 25 387.24
- CD - 264 copies (261 titles) - EUR 3629.62
- DVD - 4 copies (4 titles) - EUR 37.35

Donations received from various organisations:

- Books - 65 copies (50 titles) - EUR 772.19
- Sheet music - 635 copies (482 titles) - EUR 3851.75
- CD and DVD - 67 copies (60 titles) - EUR 739.32

The library also regularly receives donations of sheet music, books, CDs and DVDs from individuals.

Subscriptions to databases are based on the suggestions of staff and students and on an assessment of financial possibilities. It also takes into account the interest shown in existing subscriptions. Database subscriptions are contracted both directly with the database and through the Cultural Information Centre.

The Head of the JVLAM Library, in collaboration with specialists in the field, regularly keeps up to date with the latest publications in pedagogical methodology and pedagogy. Much attention has been paid to creating an environment for the availability of print and digital tools in new developments in pedagogy, such as digitisation in creative pedagogy, adaptive learning musicality tests, etc. Recent publications such as Music Learning Today: Digital Pedagogy for Creating, Performing, and Responding to Music; Leadership of Pedagogy and Curriculum in Higher Music Education (ISME Global Perspectives in Music Education); Digital Organization Tips for Music Teachers (Essential Music Technology (Essential Music Technology: The Prestissimo) can be found in the JVLAM library. Access to the Musicality Research and Methodology Database is provided in collaboration with the University of London (Prof. D.Muehlensiefen, LongGold Project) (Available in English at): (<https://adaptiveeartraining.com/macgregor>;

https://shiny.gold-msi.org/longgold_demo;

<https://longgold.org>;

http://www.doc.gold.ac.uk/~mas03dm/papers/Preckeletal_TADModel_2020.pdf).

2.3.4. Provide a description and assessment of information and communication technology solutions used in the study process (e.g., MOODLE). If the study programmes within the study field are implemented in distance learning, the tools specially adapted for this form of study must also be indicated.

Several information and communication technology solutions are used in the implementation of the study process at JVLAM.

The JVLAM uses the subsystems of the **University of Latvia Information System** (hereinafter - LAIS) to document the study process in order to accelerate and automate the circulation of

information on the organisation of the study process. During the reporting period, several LAIS functions have been and continue to be implemented in the documentation of the study process at the JVLAM. The LAIS system is used to enter and maintain data on students, prepare study agreements and orders related to the study process, register students for study courses, enter up-to-date study plans and link them to student profiles, for lecturers to enter course grades, etc. Students can use the LAIS system to apply for scholarships, electronic tickets in Riga city public transport (*e-talons*) with student discounts, to view the list of study courses for a semester and their personal performance, as well as to provide feedback by filling in questionnaires on the study courses in the semester and on the work of lecturers.

While expanding the use of the LAIS system in the organisation of the study process, work continues on the introduction of several functions, for example, to create the possibility for students to select restricted and free elective study courses for the next semester in the LAIS system, to indicate the choice of the related instrument, while the heads of departments plan the resources of the study courses transferred to the competence of the departments, to create charging cards for lecturers according to the contact hours of study courses and the number of students.

The **ASIMUT system** is used for planning the study process and scheduling classes at JVLAM - it is computer software used in many music, theatre and art universities around the world. The system is accessible to students, faculty and administrative staff and provides all the necessary information on room reservations, timetables and other activities related to the study process and the life of the Academy. The ASIMUT system is available for use on computers and mobile phones. It is an information system that does not contain information about study plans or credits, but about the locations and times of classes, so both students and JVLAM staff can keep track of group class schedules and book rooms for their own rehearsals.

Before the start of the school term, the ASIMUT system is used to create a transcript of all group and individual classes. After all days and times have been confirmed and all students have been added to the group classes so that there is no overlap, this timetable is published and is available to any user of the JVLAM information systems. During the academic year, lecturers and students keep track of the information and changes that are posted in the system and make all their bookings online, making the process of tracking room availability easier and more accessible than before the system was introduced (according to both lecturer and student feedback). When classes are online, it is possible to add Zoom or Google Meet links in ASIMUT so that students and lecturers can access remote classes instantly from their own timetables.

The **JVLAM e-learning environment** (MOODLE platform) <https://estudijas.JVLAM.lv/> provides an opportunity to ensure a convenient, modern study process for both the student and the teaching staff. The e-learning environment is an opportunity for the lecturer to quickly and easily share with students the materials necessary for the study process, track students' activities in a given study course, conduct knowledge and skills tests, fill in surveys, and get full feedback. The first acquaintance with the e-learning environment takes place before the students are admitted to the JVLAM, as the e-learning environment contains samples of theoretical entrance examinations.

The platform played a particularly important role in the distance learning process. In 2020, e-learning training was organised for the academic staff of the JVLAM, facilitating the full implementation and use of the functions offered by the e-learning environment. More than 230 study courses are currently deployed in the e-environment.

During the reporting period, the available European Social Fund (ESF) funding was successfully used to promote the development of the e-learning environment of the JVLAM, both for training of teaching staff in the use of this environment and for the development of new course materials. For example, in the academic years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, new study materials are being

developed for a number of general education courses with the support of ESF funding.

The development of information and communication technology solutions applied in the study process during the reporting period was facilitated by the constraints of the epidemiological situation, seeking and finding various solutions at a time when full face-to-face study was not possible. For example, in 2020, EUR 150 000 was received and additional funding of EUR 149 009 was received from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia to support distance learning and face-to-face studies, within the framework of which an online conferencing system solution was developed for the Senate Hall of the JVLAM, a mobile multi-camera video recording system was purchased for the JVLAM concert halls for lectures, examinations, concerts, IT systems - computer network modernisation, hardware purchase (25 computers, 3 mobile displays, 17 network switching devices and computer line renewal). The LOLA streaming system was introduced - a low-latency, high-quality audio/video transmission system for networked musical performances and interaction, developed by the Conservatorio di Musica "Giuseppe Tartini" of Trieste (Italy) in collaboration with GARR, an Italian research and academic network. Portable sound and recording systems have been purchased to support the study process.

2.3.5. Provide information on the procedures for attracting and/or employing the teaching staff (including the call for vacancies, employment, election procedure, etc.), and the assessment of their transparency.

Based on the JVLAM [Development Strategy](#) (available only in Latvian, summary of Development Strategy is available in the attachment - in the chapter "Other annexes") and its core values (excellence, academic freedom, academic culture and responsibility), the JVLAM has approved a Personnel Policy, which defines the principles of the JVLAM in the areas of human resources planning, remuneration, staff development and professional development, work organisation, work environment and employee health, as well as social activities.

The elections of JVLAM teaching staff shall be held in accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions and 25 February 2021 Cabinet Regulation No. 129 *Procedures for the evaluation of the scientific and pedagogical qualifications or the artistic creation of a candidate for the post of professor or associate professor and of an incumbent professor or associate professor* requirements. The requirements for applicants for academic posts, the procedures for election and recruitment, as well as the tasks and criteria for performance evaluation, are set out in [The Regulation on Academic Positions](#) (available only in Latvian) at the JVLAM. The Regulations, as well as the JVLAM Rules of Procedure (available only in Latvian - see under "Other Annexes"), also address the responsibilities, rights and obligations of the JVLAM academic staff related to the quality assurance of studies, involvement in decision-making, activities outside the JVLAM, etc.

The JVLAM sets appropriate requirements for applicants seeking academic positions at all levels, i.e. assistants, lecturers, assistant professors, associate professors and professors, as well as research assistants, researchers and senior researchers (*Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLAM*).

According to the Regulations, the procedure for the election of academic staff is divided into the following stages:

- Before the beginning of each academic year, the need for academic posts in each department is identified, taking into account the terms of election of existing teaching staff. A vacancy for an academic staff member may be initiated by the Department, by providing an assessment of the

staff development in the annual report on the work of the Department, as well as by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs in accordance with the development directions and deliverables defined in the JVLAM Development Strategy. The need for vacancies of academic staff (lecturers) shall be assessed by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, taking into account the basic directions of academic work development defined in the Development Strategy of the JVLAM, the information included in the self-assessment reports of study fields and study programmes, the results of the performance assessment of lecturers in previous years, the proportion of lecturer positions in relation to the quotas defined in the calculation formula of state budget funding, as well as the suggestions of the departments.

- The number and proportion of academic staff - professor, associate professor, assistant professor, lecturer, assistant professor - in a unit or study programme shall be determined by the Senate in accordance with the need for resources for the quality implementation of study programmes and the availability of funding.

- The competition and application for the vacant academic positions is announced by publishing an advertisement on the JVLAM website, in the official publication of the Republic of Latvia, *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, as well as in the local information environment of the JVLAM.

- In accordance with the *Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLAM*, the documents submitted by applicants for academic positions are evaluated, and all applicants are invited to a meeting so that those present at the Senate, Professorial or Scientific Council meeting can ask the applicant questions about their qualifications, previous work experience, motivation for applying for an academic position, as well as make a justified assessment of each applicant.

- After reviewing the applicant's documents, the results of the summaries of the individual evaluations of the members of the Senate, the Council of Professors or the Scientific Council, the results of student surveys on the applicant and after discussions with the applicants, the Senate, the Council of Professors or the Scientific Council shall, by open vote, decide on the election and award of the academic title, or non-election. The decision shall be based on the results of the aggregate of the individual assessments for each criterion and on whether the applicant's qualifications have been assessed positively. The Chair of the Council of Professors organises the evaluation of applicants for professorships and associate professorships by an independent, internationally recognised expert.

- Election results. The Rector shall conclude an employment contract with the person elected to the academic post.

The JVLAM promotes the generation of academic staff by involving graduates in studies and research, as well as by implementing various activities to attract the highest-qualified intellectual potential, including encouraging the re-emigration of qualified academic staff from abroad and from non-academic fields of activity in Latvia. For example, Edgars Tomševics, concertmaster of the Latvian National Opera, was initially invited to work at the JVLAM as a guest lecturer, but has now been elected to the post of academic assistant. Composer and multiple winner of the Grand Music Prize Ēriks Ešenvalds is now also a member of the JVLAM academic staff as an assistant professor. Krišjānis Geidāns, a sound engineer and active member of the Latvian music scene, has also just been elected to the post of assistant professor. Also among the lecturers is composer Kristis Auznieks, who until recently was on the faculty of the Yale School of Music and Montclair State institution. These and other outstanding musicians, professionals in their fields have made a major contribution to the development of young professionals.

The teaching staff consists not only of staff elected to academic positions, but also of guest lecturers and lecturers who are professionals in their field and are invited to teach individual study

courses. In certain cases, representatives of the staff of the JVLAM, as well as retired academic staff of the JVLAM, may be involved in the implementation of study and scientific work. At the request of the departments, the Rector signs a contract with these lecturers for a specific academic year.

The process of recruiting and/or employing teaching staff is regulated in:

- *Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLMA* (available only in Latvian here:

https://www.jvlma.lv/data/doc_darba_procesu_reglamentejosie_ieksejie_normativie_akti/4.3-2022-04-27-nolikums-par-akadem-amatiem-jvlma-red.pdf) (available only in Latvian)

- *Statute on Remuneration, the JVLMA Rules of Procedure, Employment Contracts and Staff Job Descriptions, the Decree on the professional development of higher education of academic staff, the Regulations on mobility of staff of the JVLMA within the Erasmus+ Lifelong Learning Programme, the Procedures for planning and organising business trips and qualification improvement activities and their documentation, the Procedures for granting academic leave to academic staff for scientific research or scientific/creative work at the JVLMA* (please see "Other Attachments" section)

JVLMA account users (employees and students) on the internal website, in the "Documents" section have access to all internal regulatory enactments of the JVLMA. In the "Documents" section of the publicly available JVLMA website, only *Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLMA* are available in the "Laws and Regulations Governing the Work Process" subsection, as it is also binding on persons who wish to apply for academic positions.

In compliance with the conditions set out in the documents, as well as their actual implementation, the JVLAM has established and maintains clear, open and fair procedures for the recruitment of staff, as well as working conditions that confirm the importance of studies, provide opportunities and encourage teaching staff to develop their professionalism, promote scientific activity, thus strengthening the link between education and science, encourage innovation in teaching methods and the use of new technologies.

2.3.6. Specify whether there are common procedures for ensuring the qualification of the academic staff members and the work quality in place and provide the respective assessment thereof. Specify the options for all teaching staff members to improve their qualifications (including the information on the involvement of the teaching staff in different activities, the incentives for their involvement, etc.). Provide the respective examples and specify the way the added value of the possibilities used for the implementation of the study process and the improvement of the study quality is evaluated.

A procedure has been developed for ensuring the qualification and quality of work of the academic staff. The head of the relevant department is responsible for the quality of the work of lecturers, planning of qualification upgrading and opportunities for mastery development, based on the requirements set out in the documents regulating the employment process.

A unified position and quality assessment system has been created, which includes all groups of academic positions. It allows analyzing the quantitative achievements of lecturers' work (scientific and artistic research, artistic achievements, organizational activity, etc.) in correlation with qualitative indicators (e.g. student feedback, self-reflection on the initiatives and innovations in

didactics offered within the year, self-motivation to offer new content and forms of work). Thus, the connection between professional self-growth and its manifestations in study work is promoted and monitored (self-growth should be linked to students' needs). The quality assessment system allows you to notice and take action in cases where the lecturer's performance does not meet or exceed the requirements for the position (an additional argument for the creation and rotation of a new position).

Self-assessment is provided annually. It is evaluated by the head of the Unit, Head of the department. The work is supervised by the Vice-Rector of Academic Work, and the Head of the Personnel Department.

The *Regulations on Academic Positions at the JVLAM* were approved at the Senate meeting on 16 June 2021 and updated at the Senate meeting on 27 April 2022. The Regulations specify the requirements for academic staff laid down in external regulatory enactments, applying them to the JVLAM as an art higher education institution and a scientific institution in accordance with the aims and objectives of its activities as laid down in its Constitution.

The Regulations provide:

- (1) the procedure for determining the number of academic staff posts;
- (2) the requirements for applicants for academic posts;
- (3) the procedure for the election and recruitment of academic staff;
- (4) the tasks of the academic staff and the procedures and criteria for performance evaluation.

Academic staff are offered further training opportunities in different segments, based on an assessment of their capabilities and needs.

For example, training in the use of the e-learning environment (Moodle) was organised in 2019 on the basis of a needs assessment, while in 2021, with the expansion of the LAIS system, some lecturers were trained in the use of this system. Taking into account that work is currently underway to adapt the LAIS system to the needs of the JVLAM and to expand the field of activity, the JVLAM is planning to train a wider range of lecturers in autumn 2022.

The JVLAM also organises English language courses, in which 38 staff members have already improved their knowledge of a foreign language and are continuing to do so. For example, in the 2019/2020 academic year, 14 academically elected lecturers upgraded their English language level from B1 to B2 or from B2 to C1, while some staff started a new English language course in spring 2022.

Between 2019 and 2021, a series of group training activities were organised to improve communication skills, managerial competences and leadership skills. In particular, heads of departments, class masters and heads of structural units were invited. By dividing the participants into several groups, it was possible to update the topics according to the specialisation of each group.

After each development activity, participants complete evaluation questionnaires, which reflect the participants' interest, involvement, relevance of the topics and improvements needed.

Faculty members are also offered opportunities to participate in various conferences, seminars and workshops throughout the academic year.

For example, Professor Anda Beitāne travelled to Malta in March 2020 to participate in the international scientific conference "Performance Knowledges: Transmission, Composition, Praxis" and lead workshops, while lecturer Diāna Zandberga participated in the international conference on

supervision of artistic research doctoral theses "Advancing Supervision for Artistic Research Doctorates" at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna in autumn 2021. In order to promote the transfer of experience and good practice in music pedagogy and choir conducting, Assistant Professor Liene Batņa travelled to Preveza (Greece) in 2019 to participate in the 37th International Choral Festival of Preveza, a conference organised by the choir association "Armonia", which includes choir competitions, master classes for conductors and music educators, and demonstrations by internationally acclaimed choirs. In 2019, assistant professors Liene Batņa, Ilze Vilde and Edgars Vītols went to the EAS International Conference in Malmö (Sweden) to ensure the effective participation of the JVLAM and the Department in the EAS International Conference for Music Teachers.

The JVLAM also hosts various professional development events. For example, in May this year, the JVLAM Department of Early Music hosted master classes by Baroque violinist Ulli Engel from the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, while the JVLAM, in collaboration with the Art Academy of Latvia, the Latvian Academy of Culture, the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia and the National Library of Latvia, invited to attend the International Artistic Research Conference in the fields of music, visual arts, design, film, theatre, contemporary dance and choreography.

The involvement of lecturers in the educational activities organised by the institution results in the increased use of the E-learning environment in group and stream lectures, in the development of new content and the offer of diverse forms of work (independent work and individualised work guided by the E-learning environment, according to students' needs in face-to-face meetings, as well as in the development of new digital materials (Block A of the Study Plan).

2.3.7. Provide information on the number of the teaching staff members involved in the implementation of the relevant study programmes of the study field, as well as the analysis and assessment of the academic, administrative (if applicable) and research workload.

There are 224 teaching staff involved in the implementation of the *Arts* field of study, 113 of them are elected to one of the academic positions at the JVLAM, and some are employed as academic staff of other universities. 36 lecturers have obtained doctoral degrees, 32 of them are members of the JVLAM academic staff.

JVLAM assesses the need and invites lecturers who have the appropriate education and extensive professional experience in the field of study.

In general, when evaluating the data on the teaching staff of the JVLAM, it can be concluded that the lecturers are professionals in their field and have acquired higher education in the field relevant to their study course.

Types of work, workload and accounting arrangements for lecturers.

Types of activity for lecturers:

1. contact hours;
2. artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work;
3. department/class management;
4. work on collegiate bodies;

5. other supplementary work, including covering for a lecturer on leave.

The academic staff of the JVLAM shall have the following workloads corresponding to one rate of pay and the following principles of remuneration:

Academic position	Lecturer one workload (total working hours per academic year)	Contact hours (classes, lectures, exams, dissertation/thesis advisory, review, etc.)	Artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work (25% of a lecturer's contact hours, up to a maximum of 200 hours)	Monthly salary (salary rate in euros)
Professor	1000	800	200	Not less than the lowest rate of salary laid down by the Cabinet
Associate professor	1000	800	200	
Assistant professor	1000	800	200	
Lecturer	1000	800	200	
Assistant	1000	800	200	

The workload of academic staff, the rate of workload, the distribution of types of work, except for additional work and work in collegiate bodies, indicating the number of working hours per academic year, shall be reflected in the academic staff wage rates. They shall specify the number of contact hours, in accordance with the rates for contact hour resources of the relevant department approved by the Vice-Rector of Academic Work for the purpose of drawing up the tariffs, the amount of artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work, and the total workload of a lecturer (including additional work) shall not exceed the normal weekly working time set by the *Labour Law* - 40 hours per week or 1600 hours per academic year, excluding the substitution of lecturers on leave.

For example, the associate professor, head of the Department of Music Technology, carries out an academic workload of 1.026, which includes both pedagogical and artistic-creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work. In addition, he holds the Department of Music Technology with a 0.09 load share. Total employment - 1037 hours per year, but not exceeding a full-time workload of 1600 hours per year. In the opinion of the JVLAM, such a total workload is acceptable.

According to the competences of the departments, the head of a department, or class master in cooperation with the head of the relevant department, shall develop a draft of the contact hour resource charging for the lecturers of the departmental study courses, observing the maximum number of contact hours allowed for 1 lecturer. If it is found that the number of contact hours planned for a lecturer together with the amount of artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work exceeds the maximum number of working hours, the lecturer's study courses and students (for individual classes) shall be reviewed again and a solution is sought by reallocating the exceeded amount of hours to another lecturer with appropriate qualifications employed at the Academy or by using an external lecturer. The resources of the Department for contact hours for the establishment of tarification (wage charges) are approved by the Vice-Rector for Academic

Affairs.

The responsible staff member of the Directorate of Study Programmes prepares the individual charge cards of the lecturers from the approved contact hour resources of the departments for the purpose of charging.

According to the individual charge cards (draft) of the lecturers of the department, the responsible person of the Directorate of Study Programmes prepares a draft summary of the lecturers' contact hours, which is approved by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, and submits it to the Finance Department.

The Finance Department prepares a fee summary, which summarises the number of contact hours of the lecturer, calculates the amount of artistic-creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work and the approved workload of the department/class masters.

In accordance with the summary of the charges and the summary of the contact hours of the lecturers, the responsible employee of the Directorate of Study Programmes updates the individual charge cards of the lecturers, indicating the amount of contact hours, the contact hour load, the calculated amount of artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work. The individual charging schedules of lecturers shall be agreed with the head of the department concerned.

Artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work:

1. Artistic and creative work: solo concerts/full public concerts/portrait concerts; creation and performance of new works in concerts, creation and performance of original choreographies, dance compositions, staging and performance of new works in concerts; recordings, recordings for radio, TV, CD, DVD; publications of compositions, original choreographies; participation in programme performances at concerts, festivals, shows, competitions at national level; participation in international cultural and artistic projects (concerts, competitions, shows, festivals, etc.etc.); expert jurying (concerts, competitions, shows, festivals, etc.) at national level; expert jurying (concerts, competitions, shows, festivals, etc.) at international level; preparation and performance of dance/choreography performances at public concerts; sound recording (sound direction) for concerts and public events, etc;
2. Scientific work: publications in international academic journals of the arts (journals, almanacs, collections); participation in scientific conferences (with papers) in Latvia and abroad; management of or participation in the implementation of scientific research projects and programmes; expert activity in Latvian Science Council and international projects and programmes; preparation of monographs, collections of articles, journal issues; publications in collections of articles, journals, etc.;
3. Methodological work: preparation of lectures and classes; development and updating of course descriptions; development and management of study programmes and sub-programmes; participation in presentations at academic conferences; preparation and submission for publication of textbooks and teaching materials; qualification development at Latvian and/or foreign universities or scientific research institutions; preparation and delivery of lectures at foreign universities; preparation and delivery of master classes; work as an external expert, etc;
4. Organisational work: chairing or participating in scientific, academic and methodological committees; chairing or participating in the organisation of conferences, festivals, competitions; chairing or participating in the editorial board of scientific publications; chairing or participating in international scientific, academic or artistic associations; chairing or participating in the activities of Latvian professional non-governmental organisations; chairing or participating in the

implementation of artistic creation, cultural projects and programmes, etc.

Lecturers report on their artistic, creative, scientific, methodological and organisational work in an annual report to the Head of Department.

In order to further promote the scientific and creative activities of academic staff, the JVLAM may grant funding for scientific and creative activity projects, the leaders and, above all, implementers of which are the academic staff of the JVLAM, on a competitive basis. Competition is organised if the JVLAM has received additional funding for its performance in providing research-based higher education, in accordance with the procedure set out in the "Regulations of the JVLAM Scientific and Creative Activity Project Competition".

The monthly salary rate for the work of the head of department/class master (according to the planned workload) shall not be lower than the lowest salary rate for the work of the Head of Department as determined by the Cabinet.

2.3.8. Assessment of the support available for the students, including the support provided during the study process, as well as career and psychological support by specifying the support to be provided to specific student groups (for instance, students from abroad, part-time students, distance-learning students, students with special needs, etc.).

All students at the JVLAM are provided with opportunities:

- to use the premises of the JVLAM free of charge (including Saturdays and Sundays) for independent work assignments;
- to use the premises and equipment of the Sports Complex and the sound recording studio of the JVLAM in accordance with the established procedures;
- to access the internet free of charge;
- to apply for financial support to participate in international competitions, other creative or research projects;
- to apply for a scholarship;
- take out a study or student loan;
- to get information on study-related issues and job opportunities in professional and cultural education institutions;
- within the requirements of the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the student self-government receives a set amount of funds, which are used in accordance with the self-government's statutes. The self-government allocates a significant part of its budget to support students' creative trips. In accordance with the Regulations on the Procedure for the Evaluation of Applications for Creative Trips by Students of the JVLAM, the self-administration announces at least 4 times a year a call for applications for support (up to EUR 500.00 per student), thus promoting student participation in competitions, concerts, festivals, conferences, summer schools, master classes, etc., which aims to promote the improvement of student competence in a professional field related to the study programme.

In order to attract donations and gifts from organisations, legal entities and individuals to support

students, the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Music Academy Support Foundation (JVLAM AF), a public benefit organisation, was established in 2019. The Foundation was established to support the process of professional development and creative activity of the most talented students in the fields of music, dance, education and research, as well as to promote all types of educational, musicological and interdisciplinary scientific and cultural projects. The JVLAM AF is also designed to create and develop an environment for personal development and education of graduates, current students and lecturers, exchange of knowledge and experience, professional and personal networking, as well as to support JVLAM students, staff, alumni and former staff in exceptional circumstances.

To support students, the JVLAM AF may award scholarships for professional development, to support creative processes, to cover tuition fees or other educational expenses for young people in temporary financial difficulties, to promote excellence, to provide financial support for participation in international competitions or conferences, as well as for the purchase of technical equipment or a musical instrument necessary for education. For example, in the academic year 2021/2022, 9 JVLAM students have received a scholarship from JSC Latvijas Finieris for the purchase of instruments or technical equipment worth a total of EUR 9700, while 1 student received a scholarship from the Japanese musical instrument manufacturer Yamaha Music Europe GmbH for the purchase of an instrument in the amount of EUR 1000.

In 2022, several students from Ukraine, who came to Latvia as war refugees, have been admitted to the JVLAM. With the support of JVLAM patron "Latvijas Finieris", two Ukrainian female students, who continue their music studies in Latvia due to the ongoing war in their homeland, have been granted scholarships for the academic year 2022/2023.

During the reporting period, three students with visual impairments have studied in the professional bachelor study programmes of the JVLAM study field *Arts*. In order to adapt to the information learning capacities of these students, department chairs, in collaboration with the faculty members involved, choose appropriate, personalised ways to deliver the necessary data and information to these students. Firstly, the written part of the entrance tests is adapted so that it can be answered orally. Secondly, all materials related to reading texts in the various courses are converted and sent to these students so that they can be easily and easily read by special computer programmes for blind people. Other forms of learning (notation, reading from a page, etc.) are also adapted to enable these students with special needs to develop the relevant skills and competences. Individual meetings with the heads of the departments are also held on a regular basis, where these students are provided with all the relevant information and problems are solved verbally, thus facilitating their everyday life, providing moral support and reassurance that visual impairment is not an obstacle to obtaining quality professional higher education in the field of music.

In order to ensure the successful implementation of the study process, various activities have been implemented during the reporting period to provide psychological support to students. For example, in response to the epidemiological constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic, the digital environment became almost the only meeting place and the study process was conducted remotely, resulting in students facing not only technical challenges but also emotional ones, including anxiety, anger, fear, procrastination, etc. In February 2021, a webinar "Adapting to the Covid-19 situation - how to continue to ensure a quality learning process" was organised for JVLAM students, led by psychologist, art therapist and supervisor Ilze Dreifelde, which addressed these and other topics of relevance to the students.

Taking into account the specifics of the relevant study programmes in the Arts study field, during their studies students constantly cooperate with their specialty lecturers and heads of departments, representatives of professional organisations and employers are closely involved in the study process. Students are regularly offered opportunities to participate in various master classes,

competitions and exchanges of experience, which contribute to the development of their professional skills and support them in their career development. For the academic year 2022/2023, work is underway to introduce a new career guidance solution.

The professional achievements of young talent (students) are recognised in cooperation with patrons - with such annual awards as the JVLAM and LMT (until 2015 - Swedbank /Hansabanka) Annual Award, composer and flautist Arnolds Šturms Award, piano professor Olgerts Zīverss Award, composer Tāļivalžius Ķeniņš Award, Pastor Dr. Anita Gaide and rev. Ivars Gaide Prize, the Nick Gotham Prize, the 7 June Prize and the Ilga Štauvēre Prize. The prize winners can be found here (Available in English):

<https://www.jvlma.lv/en/academy/traditions-and-awards>

During their studies, students are involved in artistic collectives, participate in various joint projects with other students, teaching staff and representatives of professional organisations. In order to provide students with an opportunity to fully develop their professional and artistic skills, the institution takes care of timely planning of educational activities - the JVLAM study calendar each semester includes study weeks, during which lectures, seminars and practical classes are held; practice weeks, during which internships, master classes, open lectures, consultations, orchestra programmes are held; as well as examination weeks.

In the international quality assessment procedure carried out by the international experts of MusiQuE (Music Quality Enhancement), the independent accreditation and external evaluation body for European music universities, in the academic year 2020/2021, the international experts assessed that the teaching staff provide individual mentoring to the students also outside the classroom, introducing them to work with different ensembles. Teaching artists regularly invite students to join them in various professional artistic activities, participating in rehearsals, performances and recordings, helping students to gradually integrate into the professional community, making contacts and developing the skills necessary for a successful professional career. During their studies, a large number of students work and practice with various artistic collectives.

In order to expand employment opportunities for students and graduates, as well as to help fill the shortage of music teachers, students of the JVLAM Arts field are given the opportunity to acquire the right to teach alongside their professional qualification during their studies. Students of the study programme are offered to study courses related to pedagogy and psychology, as well as courses in the methodology of subjects corresponding to the students' specialisation and to undergo a teaching practice during their studies. JVLAM students regularly receive job offers from various educational institutions, and many students start working at educational institutions during their studies.

Students of the JVLAM who go on exchange studies or on internships to foreign universities are supported and advised by the staff of the JVLAM External Relations Division.

Students from abroad, as well as students from Latvia, have constant cooperation with professors of their specializations and heads of departments during their studies, which not only ensures the implementation of the assigned study courses, but also promotes the overall progress of the study process for the optimal development of the student's artistic and professional skills. When starting the implementation of study programs in English, foreign students are expected to be provided with professors of chosen specialization who have high-level knowledge of the English language and intercultural communication skills. The knowledge of the English language of the JVLAM general staff is at a sufficient level, so that foreign students can be provided with the same support in the study process as students from Latvia. When starting to carry out studies in English, the possibility

of creating a position or revising the duties within the existing positions is foreseen, creating a position for providing additional support to students from foreign countries in matters relevant to them.

2.4. Scientific Research and Artistic Creation

2.4.1. Description and assessment of the fields of scientific research and/or artistic creation in the study field, their compliance with the aims of the higher education institution/ college and the study field, and the development level of scientific research and artistic creation (provide a separate description of the role of the doctoral study programmes, if applicable).

The JVLAM is a university of arts and culture with a strategic specialisation in the Humanities and Arts. The mission of the Academy is to provide internationally recognised higher education in the fields of music and performing arts, arts education and science, and to preserve and develop the Latvian national musical cultural traditions. In pursuit of its mission, the Academy promotes excellence in artistic creativity, develops talent and creativity, contributes to the development of professional art, culture and science, thus providing the labour market and the cultural sector with competent, artistically creative and internationally competitive specialists. The objectives of the JVLAM, in accordance with the strategic specialisation defined by its founder, are (1) to develop academic and professional studies, lifelong learning programmes, artistic creation, scientific and research activities in the humanities and arts, as well as in the creative industries; (2) to develop research-based studies and artistic creation by ensuring participation in national and international artistic creation competitions and other artistic creation projects; (3) to conduct fundamental and applied research, ensuring the creation of new knowledge in the fields of study, technological and non-technological innovations, thus promoting the development and competitiveness of Latvian science and artistic creation at the national and international level; (4) to train human resources necessary for the state and national economy in the fields of music, performing arts and dance; (5) to develop study, research and creative activities that preserve, develop and promote national cultural values, traditions and cultural heritage, artistic expressions and cultural diversity, as well as intercultural communication; (6) to cooperate with the cultural and creative industries, promoting growth in these and other sectors of the economy and building interdisciplinary cooperation; (7) to ensure the successful integration of the JVLAM into the international ecosystem of arts and culture universities and scientific institutions by focusing on excellence in its field of activity, both in research and in studies. The applied research and artistic creation of the study programme are fully in line with these objectives.

Until October 2018, the scientific activities of the JVLAM were organised and supervised by the *Scientific Research Centre* (hereinafter referred to as the ZPC), which, contrary to the legislation of the time, had the status of an independent scientific institution. In accordance with the amendments to the Law on Scientific Activities of the Republic of Latvia, since 1 October 2018 the JVLAM has acquired the status of a Scientific Institution and is a leading music science centre in Latvia, which implements national and international projects, including interdisciplinary projects, and is well-known in the international scientific community, especially in the field of systematic musicology and ethnomusicology. In February 2021, the JVLAM was awarded a positive rating of 3: good level of research in the International Assessment of Scientific Institutions. Currently, the ZPC

is an academic unit of the JVLAM scientific academic staff - researchers, senior researchers and research assistants, which provides links between education and science, preservation of national cultural heritage, research, inclusion of scientists in contemporary music research, interdisciplinary research.

Since 2008, the JVLAM has participated in the European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM) of the Association of European Music Universities (AEC). Since 2018, with the amendments to the Law on Higher Education, when it finally became possible to establish doctoral study programmes and award professional doctoral degrees in the arts in Latvia, artistic research at the JVLAM has significantly increased thanks to the research activities of the professional doctoral students of the Doctor of Arts programme. The most prominent result in this field of research is the Various Fields, Approaches, Experiences international artistic research conference, which took place in May 2022 at the JVLAM and was attended by 96 participants from 25 countries, including EU Member States, the UK, the USA, Canada, Mexico, India and China, and was divided into four sessions: (1) Artistic research in music; (2) Artistic research in visual arts and design; (3) Artistic research in performing arts (theatre, choreography and contemporary dance); (4) Artistic research in audiovisual arts (cinema, media arts, etc.).

artistic creation is one of the main areas of the JVLAM's activity, in contrast to the specificity of the JVLAM as a music centre of national and international importance. artistic creation is a continuous activity and process in all areas of music. The three concert halls of the JVLAM are part of Riga's concert life, attracting a large number of audiences from all over Latvia and abroad. The artistic groups (choir, symphony orchestra, various chamber ensembles, etc.) and soloists (lecturers and students) regularly give concerts and artistic master classes outside the Academy, both in Latvia and abroad. artistic creation accounts for 20% of academic staff workload. On 29 September 2021, the Senate adopted a decision to reorganise the Concert Department into a new Creative Projects Division. The Creative Projects Division is responsible for public events, concerts at the JVLAM and beyond, as well as artistic creation at the JVLAM. Students in the *Arts* study field actively participate in artistic collectives and concert activities of JVLAM.

The aim of the *Arts* field of study is to ensure the training of top professionals in music and performing arts-related fields at all levels of professional higher education study programmes, as well as the training of musicology researchers in academic master's and doctoral programmes, in line with the cultural and social needs of the country. One professional and one academic master's study programme, as well as one joint professional and one academic doctoral study programme, correspond to the field of study.

The Academic Doctoral Programme in *Musicology* is the only one in Latvia that offers a doctoral degree in musicology with the option to specialise in one of its subfields - historical musicology, systematic musicology or ethnomusicology. Thus, despite the relatively small number of PhD students, this programme is important not only for the JVLAM, but also for the Latvian state, as it ensures the existence of music science in Latvia. Since the JVLAM is the leading music science centre in the country, employing approximately 99% of the academic and scientific staff in the field, it is natural that doctoral studies in musicology are institutionalised at the JVLAM specifically. A similar situation can be observed in the other Baltic countries, i.e. Estonia and Lithuania. Aware of the problems caused by the low number of PhD students in musicology doctoral programmes in all Baltic States, which is also related to the demographic situation in the region, the prestige of the humanities and science as such in society, the labour market, etc., in September 2022, the JVLAM signed an agreement with the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre to establish a joint Doctoral School in order to promote critical mass, mobility and networking among musicology doctoral programmes in the Baltic States with the potential of a Baltic Sea Region network of musicology doctoral students and young scholars.

The joint professional doctoral study programme *in Arts* is developed and implemented in cooperation with the *Art Academy of Latvia* and the *Latvian Academy of Culture*. The interdisciplinary nature of the programme makes it unique internationally, as most professional doctoral programmes in music are run autonomously. The strategic aim of the study programme is to provide professional studies that meet cultural, social and societal needs, are based on artistic creativity and science, and are applicable in artistic practice, resulting in the acquisition of skills in creating works of high artistic quality based on scientific research and the development of practical skills in the implementation of unique artistic ideas. The importance of the study programme is confirmed by the fact that it is the first and so far the only professional doctoral study programme in Latvia. The existence of this programme is particularly important for Latvian creative professionals and students, as it allows them to be equally involved in international artistic research processes and networks.

2.4.2. The relation between scientific research and/or artistic creation and the study process, including the description and assessment of the use of the outcomes in the study process.

In order to obtain a professional degree and/or a corresponding professional qualification, the JVLAM study programmes are designed as integrated studies in which the quality of academic work is ensured by the unity of studies, artistic creation (artistic practice) and research work.

The order, content and percentage (credit points) of each type of activity in relation to the study process shall be determined by the specific study programme and the content of the specific study course. The content of study programmes in professional bachelor study programmes is developed in close contact with the specific requirements for the necessary professional knowledge, skills and competences set out in the standards of the relevant profession (*Instrumental Musician, Vocalist, Conductor, Composer, Choreographer, Sound Director, Musicologist*).

Research activities (excellent, excellent and very well evaluated papers by undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students) in the library of the JVLAM are used by students as reference sources for writing their research papers or as teaching aids for learning the content of a study course. Artistic creativity, which is based on concerts and concert lectures, is organised in close connection with the mastering of repertoire in contact lessons, which results in the performance of repertoire in practice concerts or open concerts, thereby demonstrating artistic maturity. These forms of activity contribute to the education of musicians of high quality, whose acquired professional competences are revealed in special artistic achievements in both Latvian and foreign concert halls.

Studies, scientific research and artistic creation are the main activities of the JVLAM. The Scientific Research Centre (hereinafter - ZPC) operates at the JVLAM to ensure a successful research process. The ZPC provides links between education and science, preservation of national cultural heritage, research, inclusion of scientists in contemporary music research, interdisciplinary research. The ZPC is governed by statutes approved by the Senate, which are available in Latvian at <https://www.jvlam.lv/akademija/dokumenti> under *Councils, Collegiate Bodies*. The ZPC reports directly to the Vice-Rector for Research and Creative Activities. The Academy's Scientific Council, Doctoral Council, Promotion Council and the Department of Musicology play an important role in the research process.

The results of research in the field of music and dance are presented at scientific seminars and

conferences and published in various journals, one of the most important of which is the periodical *Mūzikas akadēmijas raksti* [Music Academy Writings]. The aim of this publication is to involve both experienced lecturers and researchers of the Academy, as well as future researchers from the Bachelor, Master and Doctoral study programmes in the field of *Arts* in the implementation of scientific research.

In implementing scientific research projects, the ZPC and the Department of Musicology cooperate with Latvian and foreign universities and research centres. Joint conferences, lectures, presentations of publications.

The academic staff of the Department of Musicology and the Scientific Research Centre of the JVLAM are represented by national and international authorities. The results of research by the academic staff of the JVLAM (publications, participation in conferences and international research networks, etc.) form an important part of the content of the JVLAM study process in both theoretical and practical study courses, as well as ensure regular evaluation and supplementation of study content and methods, following the latest scientific findings. The use of research results in the study process was significantly influenced by the attraction of guest professors from various European and American music universities, thus ensuring the link between the study process and international research practice and allowing students to prepare for it during their studies. The involvement of musicology students in research projects has been a good contribution to the use of research results in the study process. For students of performing arts, the research of the JVLAM Laboratory of Systematic Musicology and the Laboratory of Music Psychology on the processes and issues of the performing arts has been essential. Since the launch of the *Arts* professional doctoral programme, artistic research has been significantly intensified, fostering a synergy between art and research with a focus on the analysis of the process of artistic creativity.

Academic departments involved in the implementation of all study programmes have been active in artistic activities and have taken advantage of international mobility opportunities offered by the JVLAM for academic, artistic and research activities.

The link between artistic creation and the study process is organised by the departments in cooperation with the Creative Projects Division. The Creative Projects Division is governed by rules approved by the Senate. In accordance with the Regulations, the Creative Projects Division implements the strategy of artistic-creative practice of students and artistic-creative activity of lecturers as defined in the study programmes of the JVLAM by initiating, establishing, implementing and supervising creative projects. The aim of the Creative Projects Division, in accordance with the mission and goals of the JVLAM, as defined in the Constitution of the JVLAM, is to ensure the successful implementation of artistic creation projects and to provide organisational support for the JVLAM's public events: (1) the implementation of artistic creation on the premises of the JVLAM at public events; (2) the implementation of artistic creation outside the premises of the JVLAM, if the event is included in the JVLAM Annual Event Plan; (3) competitions, scientific and applied conferences, seminars and master classes organised by the JVLAM or jointly with cooperation partners. The most important events of the JVLAM (e.g. student symphony orchestra, opera studio, mixed choir concerts, etc.) are included in the JVLAM Annual Events Plan. The draft of the Annual Plan of Activities of the JVLAM is prepared by the Head of the Creative Projects Division, taking into account the calendar plan for the implementation of the study plan approved by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, based on the proposals submitted by the Senate and Constitutional Chairs, Heads of Departments, the Rectorate, heads of collegiate decision-making bodies by 1 July of the calendar year, and approved by the Rector by a decree no later than 1 August.

The link between artistic creation and the study process is close and continuous. The practice of artistic creation forms the basis of the study process, its research and analysis contributes to the

students' research and analytical work skills in theoretical study courses. The academic staff of the JVLAM in performing arts are leading Latvian musicians and choreographers actively involved in the international community. The students' involvement in regular national and international concert life is therefore under the direction of high-profile artists, which is expressed in a variety of artistic creativity activities, such as symphonic and brass band concerts, chamber music concerts, early music and traditional music concerts, vocal music concerts, jazz concerts, choreographic performances, organ concerts, opera performances, competitions, master classes, etc. Through the Creative Projects Department, the students and faculty of the JVLAM are offered the opportunity to attend concerts organised by *Latvijas koncerti*, *Art forte*, *Rīgas Ritmi*, etc., as well as concerts and dress rehearsals of renowned music ensembles from abroad. A special event during the self-assessment period was the concert Concertgebouworkest Meets Riga on 8 November 2018, where JVLAM students performed with the Concertgebouworkest Amsterdam (Netherlands) under the baton of conductor Philippe Herreweghe on the stage of the Latvian National Opera.

2.4.3. Description and assessment of the international cooperation in the field of scientific research and/or artistic creation by specifying any joint projects, researches, etc. Specify those study programmes, which benefit from this cooperation. Specify the future plans for the development of international cooperation in the field of scientific research and/or artistic creation.

Operation of JVLAM is directed to development of international cooperation on a global scale and at first to integration into the European music education system to promote student and staff exchange and maintain high quality standards in higher music education. The operation of the JVLAM is based on short-term activities (guest professor master classes, seminars, lectures), student and faculty mobility, various events (concerts, competitions, festivals, conferences, individual research), implementation of various EU projects, programmes managed by the State Education and Development Agency, embassy projects implemented with the support of the diplomatic missions of European countries, and transnational programmes - Yamaha, USA Fulbright. Student and faculty exchanges are mainly organised under the EU ERASMUS+ and NORDPLUS programmes. The JVLAM has bilateral agreements with around 100 European music universities.

The most important networks and projects in artistic creativity during the self-assessment period were related to the professional Bachelor's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* and the professional Master's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts*. Examples of sub-programmes and/or specialisations from these programmes are listed below.

For example, their academic/instrumental music and jazz music sub-programmes and specialisations. ERASMUS Intensive Programme Brass & Jazz 3 (2013), with about 130 participants from the JVLAM and partner countries - the Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy, Sweden, Luxembourg, Lithuania and Estonia; North STAR Big Band project, with jazz students from music academies in Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden (2022), Woodwind Symposium (regular since 2013), 2018. In 2018, participants from the project partner countries - Czech Republic, Netherlands, Germany and Estonia - performed as soloists with the Liepāja Symphony Orchestra at the Lielais dzintars concert hall. In 2021, despite the limitations of the pandemic, the symposium was held in digital format (partner countries - Germany, Sweden, Italy, the Netherlands); International Riga Brass Symposium (since 2011), NORDPLUS Intensive Project Baltic Nordic Brass Academy (2016), NORDPLUS Intensive Project String Orchestra VIATORE (2014), European Chamber Music Teachers

Association (ECMTA) conference, masterclasses and the 36th International Music HEI Student Chamber Ensemble Festival (2015), JVLAM Symphonic Orchestra concert in Berlin during the Young Euro Classic 2016 festival at the Konzerthaus Berlin (2016), where the best youth orchestras from all over the world participated; Baltic Music Academies Symphony Orchestra Project BAO initiated by the music universities of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, which took place in preparation for the national centenaries in 2017, 2018 and 2019 across Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Germany and St. Petersburg; In 2019, the orchestra presented itself as Accademia Baltica in the concert Beethoven and the Baltics in the Great Hall of the JVLAM (2019), etc.; Jazz Music students regularly collaborate in various artistic creativity projects in the Nordic-Baltic music university network NORDJAZZ; the JVLAM Jazz Department also collaborates with the University of Nebraska at Omaha (USA), whose faculty visited the JVLAM in 2019, while JVLAM students and faculty gave master classes and played in the combined big band in 2022.

For example, their academic/vocal music sub-programmes and specialisations: NORDOPERA Intensive Project Professional Integration of Young Singers (2013);

For example, their composition sub-programmes and specialisations: JVLAM Contemporary Music Festival deciBels (regular since 2015); Big Band Composition Competition for Young Baltic Composers (since 2020), in collaboration with the Latvian Radio Big Band and concert organisation Latvijas Koncerti, etc.

For example, their ethnomusicology students and faculty regularly participate in NORDTRAD network symposia and other activities.

The Academic Master's and Academic Doctorate programmes also benefit from international research cooperation.

The researchers of systematic musicology at the JVLAM have a wide range of collaborators, because only international circulation allows to put forward and realise creative and bold ideas. The interdisciplinary approach encourages you to seek out collaborators in a wide range of fields - healthcare, psychology, neuroscience, mathematics, biology, engineering, programming and, of course, music. Currently, the closest collaboration is with neuroscientists and medical doctors at the University of Heidelberg in Germany, who are closely involved in the Music and Brain research group they founded in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. In the field of music psychology, the LongGold long-term research project on musicality in relation to cognitive and psychosocial abilities in comprehensive and music schools in the UK, Germany, Italy, Taiwan was carried out in collaboration with the University of London (UK) and Hannover University of Music, Theatre and Drama (Germany). The international project Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction has been realized in collaboration with Vilnius University (Lithuania) and Taiwan University from 2019 to 2022. In the field of music neuroscience, the Music and Brain study on brain auditory field functions in clinical and non-clinical contexts was launched in 2015 in collaboration with the University of Heidelberg (Germany), the University of Graz (Austria) and the University of Basel (Switzerland), within the framework of which the JVLAM developed a test instrument for brain measurements in Germany.

In ethnomusicology, the most important international collaborations were related to Latvia's official representation in the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), working in several Study Groups: Multipart Music; Historical Sources; Music and Minorities; etc., as well as symposia and conferences in Austria, Estonia, Italy, Ireland, Portugal, Hungary, China, Singapore, Thailand, etc. Since 2013, there has been regular cooperation with the Institute for Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, where the Research Centre for European Multipart Music (EMM), an international network of ethnomusicologists, is based. As part of this collaboration, JVLAM is participating as a publishing partner with the

publication Notes from Latvia: Multipart Music in the Field (2018) launches an international audiovisual publication series European Voices: Audiovisuals. The second publication in this series on Macedonian Albanian musicians was published in 2019 by the JVLAM in collaboration with the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. In 2018, the JVLAM organised the 34th annual conference of the European Seminar in Ethnomusicology, the largest network of ethnomusicologists in Europe.

In the field of historical musicology, international cooperation has been carried out within the framework of the Central and Eastern European Music History Research Association at the Institute of Musicology at the University of Leipzig, as well as in the networking activities of the International Musicological Society (ICM). It is acknowledged that the field of historical musicology needs to be more actively involved in international processes, which is one of the strategic tasks for the next period. In order to promote international mobility of both experienced researchers and young scientists, as well as to attract visiting researchers to the JVLAM projects, a Euraxess Focal Point was established at the JVLAM in 2018.

Since 2008, the JVLAM has regularly participated in the European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM) of the European Association of Conservatoires, which organises annual conferences and other activities in the field of artistic research. This experience was very useful when working on the content of the professional doctorate in Arts. The JVLAM has had particularly good cooperation in artistic research with the Sibelius Academy (Helsinki, Finland) and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre.

Students of the joint professional doctoral study programme *Arts* were the biggest winners of the international artistic research conference *Artistic Research* organised by the JVLAM, the Latvian Academy of Culture and the Art Academy of Latvia, the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia and the National Library of Latvia on 5-7 May 2022 in the fields of music, visual arts, design, film, theatre, contemporary dance and choreography: *Various Fields, Approaches, Experiences*. The Programme and Organising Committee was chaired by the Director of the Joint Professional Doctoral Programme, Dr. art. Diāna Zandberga. In total, the conference hosted 70 presentations, bringing together in person and online 96 artists from different disciplines - representatives of 25 countries from the EU Member States, the UK, the USA, Canada, Mexico, India and China, including faculty members and PhD students from the three Latvian art universities JVLAM, LKA and LMA, who wish to develop their work by exploring and recognising the broad interdisciplinary context and potential of the Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in the Arts established in 2020.

2.4.4. Specify the way how the higher education institution/ college promotes the involvement of the teaching staff in scientific research and/or artistic creation. Provide the description and assessment of the activities carried out by the academic staff in the field of scientific research and/or artistic creation relevant to the study field by providing examples.

The involvement of the faculty members of the JVLAM in scientific research and/or artistic creation is carried out in accordance with the tasks stipulated by the Law on Higher Education Institutions, which are specified in the JVLAM Salary Regulations. The work is planned, organised, coordinated and managed by the heads of the relevant departments. Lecturers report on their performance at the end of each academic year on a single form approved by the Senate. A sample form is available

on the JVLAM website.

In order to promote research and artistic creation activities and to improve the performance of the JVLAM in both these areas, regular meetings are organised where academic staff inform about their plans for participation in conferences, seminars and projects, planned scientific and other publications, as well as plans and results of artistic creation. Since 2018, the project Development of international cooperation projects in research and innovation at the JVLAM has promoted the involvement of JVLAM academic staff in the development and implementation of multilateral international cooperation research and innovation projects towards the development of music science and related synergistic fields of science by carrying out the following activities: (1) support activities to identify opportunities for international research projects; (2) support for the development of international research project ideas; (3) several international research project proposals developed and submitted; information, communication and publicity activities. This project supports academic staff in various research support activities, such as participation in project matchmaking events, international conferences and other mobility and networking activities. Since 2016, the JVLAM has regularly organised the Scientific and Creative Activity Development Project Competition, the aim of which, according to the Regulations, is to promote the scientific and creative activity of the JVLAM academic staff, and in which funding is awarded for the implementation of artistic, research and interdisciplinary projects, including international projects - the preparation and performance of concert programmes, the creation of compositions and research projects.

The priorities of the scientific work of the JVLAM are defined in *the Development Strategy* and the *Scientific Activity Strategy* of the JVLAM. The main area of scientific research at the JVLAM is musicology with its internationally defined subfields: historical musicology, systematic musicology and ethnomusicology. In historical musicology, research is mainly focused on the history of Latvian music in its local and international context. Systematic musicology involves interdisciplinary research in music psychology, music neuroscience and music pedagogy, with a focus on the processes of teaching and learning music, as well as on music performance. Ethnomusicology research focuses on the study of music, including traditional music, in different cultures, with particular emphasis on Latvia's intangible cultural heritage. Interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral research is particularly encouraged and promoted. During the period under review, the sub-discipline of systematic musicology at the JVLAM developed particularly rapidly, establishing itself among Europe's leading institutes of systematic musicology. In 2019, the Music Psychology Department acquired state-of-the-art technical equipment (EEG measuring equipment, microtonal instrument, analytical data processing software), which now allows it to fully integrate into the leading systematic music science institutes. By attracting young and talented researchers from Latvia and abroad, a branching of research interests, or the research profile of the JVLAM, has developed. The interests of the JVLAM systematic musicology include the phenomenon of musical giftedness, neuropsychological aspects of music listening and the music-making process, cognitive auditory training approaches, and the brain activity of musicians and music lovers in processing acoustic information. One of the latest challenges is an international collaborative project to develop algorithms for the brain's response during interaction. In the near future, this approach will probably lead to new types of auditory training, as well as to individual performance during a musical performance. The most significant achievement in the sub-discipline of Historical Musicology during the period of self-evaluation was participation in the project Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia/ CARD in cooperation with the Latvian Academy of Culture, the Art Academy of Latvia, the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia and the National Library of Latvia (2020-2022). JVLAM implemented two sub-projects: Music in Latvia in the 17th-19th centuries: Creative Processes in Cultural Contexts and Music Culture Latvia in the 1920s-1930s and the Second Half of the 20th Century: Under-researched processes,

issues, problems.

The ethnomusicologists of the JVLAM also continued to work actively both in the local and international context. In Latvia, the contribution of JVLAM researchers to the preparation and implementation of the Law on Intangible Cultural Heritage in cooperation with the Latvian National Centre for Culture is particularly noteworthy. The most internationally significant achievement in the period of self-evaluation is the latest publication of the ICTM Study Group on Multipart Music, a collection of anonymously peer-reviewed scientific articles - the Shaping Sounds and Values book and CD-ROM -- to be published in 2021 under the guidance of JVLAM researchers: Multipart Music as a Means of Social and Cultural Interaction. The book includes articles by nine authors on traditional music of Albania, Austria and Bavaria (Germany), Borneo (Malaysia), Central Africa and Ghana (Africa), Dishu (China), Java (Indonesia), Morocco, Sardinia (Italy), Setu (Estonia) and North Latgale (Latvia).

The Scientific Research Centre of the JVLAM organises the activities of scientific staff by implementing the development plan for scientific and artistic-creative activities approved by the Senate, and the implementation of specific directions of scientific activities. It promotes the involvement of undergraduates, postgraduates and doctoral students, and fosters the unity of study, practice and research. It develops research directions, preservation of national cultural heritage, research, inclusion of scholars in contemporary music research, interdisciplinary research. The activities of the Research Centre shall be governed by Statutes approved by the Rector. The Research Centre provides an annual public report on research activities and results to the JVLAM. The Research Centre also hosts the Music Psychology Laboratory and the JVLAM Traditional Music Digital Archive, which will be part of the international project Towards an alliance for distributed ethnomusicology data in 2021 (Partners: The Department of Music Acoustics (IWK) at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (mdw, Austria); The Department of ethnomusicology (IVE) at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (mdw, Austria); The Information Management and Preservation Lab at the Institute of Software Technology and Interactive Systems (IFS) at the Technical University Vienna (Austria); The Mahidol University College of Music (Thailand); Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (Malaysia); U.P. The Center for Ethnomusicology (Philippines) has started to move towards an international digital archive platform for traditional music.

The statistics of publicly accessible artistic creation events (concerts, festivals, master classes, creative projects, etc.) of the JVLAM since 2013 are as follows: 2013/2014 academic year - 324 events; 2014/2015 academic year - 353 events; 2015/2016 academic year - 282 events; 2016/2017 academic year - 316 events; 2017/2018 academic year - 310 events; 2018/2019 academic year - 302 events; 2019/2020 academic year - 166 events; 2020/2021 academic year - 71 events; 2021/2022 academic year - 134 events. The dramatic decrease in the 2019/2020 and (especially) 2020/2021 academic years is due to the impact of the pandemic, which has significantly and sometimes even completely limited public artistic creation activities, while at the same time promoting the use of various information technologies (ZOOM, LOLA, etc.) to ensure the continuity of artistic creation processes. At the same time, individual artistic creation is an ongoing process for lecturers and students in creative specialities.

2.4.5. Specify how the involvement of the students in scientific research and/ or applied research and/or artistic creation activities is promoted. Provide the assessment and description of the involvement of the students of all-level study programmes in the relevant study field in scientific research and/ or applied research and/or artistic creation activities by giving examples of the opportunities offered to and used by the students.

In the content of the study programmes of the JVLAM, an important role is given to students' scientific and artistic research work. Scientific research is organised, coordinated and implemented by the Scientific Research Centre, the Scientific Council and the Doctoral Council in close cooperation with the heads and lecturers of Musicology and other departments. In accordance with the final requirements of the study programmes, students of the sub-programme *Conducting*, specialisation *Choral Conducting* of the professional bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* have elaborated and defended bachelor theses, students of the sub-programme *Musicology*, specialisation Music History, Theory and Journalism have elaborated and defended bachelor theses. In the renewal of the curriculum of the professional Bachelor of Arts study programmes, a unified approach to the development of research skills has been established for all sub-programmes in the national examination part of the study programme, including the study course Diploma Report. An exception is the *Musicology* sub-programme, where research is important for the qualification to be obtained according to the musicology professional standard, and therefore students in this sub-programme carry out the development and defence of a larger research project as part of the Bachelor's thesis national examination. In the Academic Master's study programme *Music*, all Master's students produce a Master's thesis, while in the 2nd and 3rd semesters of the Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, Master's students produce Master's thesis. Doctoral candidates of the Academic Doctoral Programme in *Musicology* work on their doctoral theses under the supervision of an experienced researcher. A doctoral thesis containing original research results and providing new insights into musicology can be developed within three years of doctoral studies at a higher education institution or after an appropriate amount of independent research. The doctoral thesis may be a dissertation, a compilation of relevant single peer-reviewed publications, or a monograph. The topics of scientific research works are based on the specialisation of the activities of the JVLAM and the objectives of the study programme. It is mainly related to musicology, ethnomusicology and performing arts research.

Students' artistic creativity is realised in the practical part of the professional study programmes during the practice concerts in each semester of all study periods. At the end of the study programme, each student - instrumentalist, vocalist, conductor, choreographer - must prove their artistic and professional skills in the national examination by performing a concert programme in the form of an open concert. Artistic creativity in professional study programmes is implemented according to the specialisation of the programme or sub-programme. For example, students of the *History, Theory and Journalism of Music* programme are provided with artistic creativity related to the profession of musicologist, i.e. opportunities to conduct concerts (during the reporting period - the course *Lecturer Practice*, in the renewed study plan - *Moderation of Music Events*), conduct interviews, create and manage the content of radio programmes, write concert annotations and reviews, etc. (courses *Journalism Practice* (in the renewed study plan - *Radio and Television Practice*), *Editor Practice*, *Publicity Practice*). Students of professional bachelor and master study programmes are actively involved in artistic creativity during their studies, students are given the opportunity to participate in various music events, for example, students of Composition and Sound Direction actively participate in the JVLAM contemporary music festival deciBels, which often brings success to the students. For example, the Latvian Radio Choir's concert A-ronne, which also featured new work by master's student A. Rancāne, was nominated for the *Kilograms Kultūras* award.

Students' artistic creativity is planned, content approved and competence assessed by the relevant departments. At the beginning of the academic year, the head of each department draws up a plan of students' artistic projects, which includes the following forms of artistic activity: student practice

concerts; academic concerts of lecturer classes (students); memorial evenings of composers, lecturers, participation in masterclass concerts, presentation concerts, competitions - intra-institution, international competitions, festivals, and other projects. The students' artistic creativity events are coordinated and organised by *the Creative Projects Unit* of the JVLAM.

In cooperation with the patrons Boris and Ināra Teterev and SIA Latvijas Finieris, the implementation of international music artistic projects by students is supported. Students' participation in creative projects is also financially supported by the JVLAM Student Council. International projects involving students are important. The involvement of Masters and PhD students in the JVLAM Scientific and Creative Activity Development Projects is one of the main priorities of these project competitions. Evaluating the work invested in the implementation of artistic creativity projects, students' involvement in creative projects and the financial support invested in their implementation, summarising the achievements of students in the assessment of artistic competence, it should be concluded that students of the JVLAM are provided with all the opportunities to gain rich practical experience and stage skills to perform the duties of a performing artist already during their studies. To participate in international competitions, students have the opportunity to apply for financial support from the JVLAM.

During the reporting period, students of the professional Bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, sub-programme *Musicology*, specialisation *Music History, Theory and Journalism*, and the academic Master's study programme *Music* were involved in research projects at the JVLAM ZPC, working together with supervisors of Bachelor's and Master's theses. For example, during the reporting period, master's student K. Vaickovska was supervised by, her master's thesis supervisor prof. L. Līcīte while involved in the project "Research on Sacral Musical Heritage" (2018); bachelor students I. Cepurniece and L. Līcīte participated in the project "Research on Latgale Catholic Songs" (2017-2018) under the supervision of Prof. Mārtiņš Boiko; bachelor student L. Švītiņa together with her bachelor thesis supervisor prof. Lolita Fūrmane participated in the JVLAM ZPC national research project "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia" in the sub-project "Music in Latvia in the 17th-19th Centuries: Creative Processes in Cultural Contexts", which she continued during her Master's studies. The information obtained from the research has been presented at scientific conferences. PhD students J. Pousson and L. Burmistrova were supervised by their PhD supervisor prof. Under the supervision of Valdis Bernhoff, PhD student J. Janišauska was involved in the project Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction (2019-2022) at JVLAM, Vilnius University (Lithuania) and National Sun Yat-sen University (Taiwan); PhD student J. Janišauska was involved in music data processing in collaboration with the Music and Brain group at Heidelberg University Clinic (2019-2021).

Since the launch of the *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programme of the Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in Arts in February 2021, PhD students have participated in the following conferences: European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM) online conference 18-20 March 2021, Whova, Zoom and SpatialChat platforms - K. Ādamsons, Ē. Ešenvalds and I. Urbāne; 4th festival conference "Doctors in Performance" at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in Tallinn, 1-3 September 2021 - I. Urbāne with a concert lecture "The Phenomenon of Italian Flute School"; International conference "Cultural Crossroads" at the Latvian Academy of Culture, 2-5 November 2021, online - I. Urbāne with the paper "The Phenomenon of the Italian Flute School" and L. Denijsjuka-Straupe with the paper "Juris Ābols' Chamber Music: Aspects of Artistic Ideas, Style and Interpretation". Doctoral students involved in the sub-programme regularly participate in active concert activities.

Every year, the JVLAM, together with various cooperation partners, organises local and international competitions and offers financial support for various artistic activities: Big Band Composition Competition for young Baltic composers; Sound Art Foundation Competition for young composers;

Jurjānu Andrejs International Competition for Wind Instrumentalists; JVLAM Best Chamber Ensemble Competition; Jāzeps Vītols Children and Youth Choir and Vocal Ensemble Competition "Lai skan!" [Let it Ring!]; Jāzeps Vītols International Competitions for Choir Conductors, Pianists and Vocalists; JVLAM Students' Creative Travel Funding Competition; Riga Blackheads Brotherhood and JVLAM Chamber Music Concert Programme Competition; Scientific and Creative Activity Projects Competition.

The success of students at various levels of the Academy of Performing Arts in Latvia and internationally is a testament to the successful involvement of students in artistic creativity. During their studies, several JVLAM students have already received the *Great Music Award*, which is the highest annual Latvian state award in music. JVLAM students have also received numerous awards in international competitions during the reporting period. For example, the achievements of students from different specialisations at the JVLAM during the reporting period.

In 2014, Latvian young pianist G. Osokins (student 2014-2018) won the International Frederic Chopin Piano Competition in China, which takes place every four years. The intense competition was fought between 40 participants from around the world - USA, Canada, Latvia, Japan, China, Russia and South Korea. In 2015, Osokin became the winner of the 17th edition of one of the world's largest and most important classical music competitions. Diploma of the International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw.

The opus for string quartet Trans(S) by composer E. Skuķe (student 2011-2017) was awarded the best of 392 compositions in the instrumental music category at the 10th International Composition Competition Citta di Udine. The work was awarded the main prize of the competition and was also performed at a concert in Udine.

In 2016, L. Griķe (student 2015-2021), a student of the JVLAM Violin Class, won first prize at the international competition London Grand Prize Virtuoso. The competition attracted musicians from all over the world. L. Griķe received the highest score in the string instrument category alongside instruments such as violin, cello and harp. As well as winning the competition, she has been invited to perform at the awards ceremony at London's Royal Albert Hall.

Pianist D. Liepiņš (student 2014-2018) In 2018 he won 2nd prize at the George Enescu International Piano Competition. He was also in the top six at the Geneva Piano Competition (2018), won the George Leibson Special Prize and 1st prize at the 8th Geneva Piano Competition. Nordic Piano Competition (2017), 3rd prize at the 5th RNCM James Mottram International Piano Competition in Manchester (2016) and 4th prize and prize for exceptional artistry at the Tbilisi International Piano Competition in Georgia (2017). In 2017 he received the Latvian *Music Award* in the category "Young Artist of the Year".

Saxophonist A. Raumanis (student 2017-2022) won the Latvian *Music Award* 2019 in the category "Young Artist of the Year". In 2018 he won the Grand Prix of the European Saxophone Forum and the JVLAM/LMT Annual Prize, and in 2019 he won the VII Stockholm International Music Competition.

In April 2019, the JVLAM Mixed Choir and conductor J. Ozols triumphed in one of the most prestigious choral music competitions in the world Gallus Maribor, taking 1st place, the Grand Prix and the prize for the best interpretation of the obligatory piece - "Zarja" by D. Mochnik.

A. Kildiša (student 2018-2022), winner of the JVLAM and LMT Young Musician of the Year Award 2021 In 2021 she won 1st prize at the Aegis Carminis International Competition for Young Conductors in Slovenia, where she also received special prizes - "Best Performance of a 3rd Round Obligatory Work" and "Most Promising Young Conductor born after 1994". Last year she also won 2nd prize at the Romano Gandolfi 2021 International Choir Competition in Italy. The JVLAM student's list of successes also includes 2nd place in the international choir and ensemble conducting

competition Towards Polyphony, held in 2019 at the Karol Lipinski Academy of Music in Wrocław, Poland - in this competition the student also won the Wrocław Academy of Music Choir Sympathy Award, as well as recognition for the best interpretation of a choral song by Polish composer Stanislaw Manusko.

It should be noted that these are just some of the high artistic achievements of the JVLAM students in the reporting period.

2.4.6. Provide a brief description and assessment of the forms of innovation (for instance, product, process, marketing, and organisational innovation) generally used in the higher education institution, especially in study field subject to the assessment, by giving the respective examples and assessing their impact on the study process.

The ASIMUT system used in the planning of the study process, which is used both in the creation and publication of the timetable of classes and in the booking of rooms for both students and staff, is considered to be a significant innovation in the activities of the JVLAM during the reporting period. (For information on the ASIMUT system, see also section 2.3.4 of the self-assessment report.) Given the high proportion of individual classes for *Art* students, as well as the need to use rehearsal spaces, both lecturers and students have expressed the view that a single and transparent online system allows for the planning of space use and makes tracking availability much more efficient than before the system was introduced. Currently, there are more than 900 individual users (lecturers, students) in ASIMUT. The system is also used in the daily work of the JVLAM structural units - IT Department, Creative Projects Department, Maintenance Department, Study Programmes Directorate, Dispatching Service, piano tuners, etc. A student survey has been carried out to adjust several aspects of the system. The survey resulted in changes to the available booking duration, a reduction in the shortest available booking duration and a number of other changes. Work has been carried out in collaboration with several departments to adapt ASIMUT to the needs of individual lecturers and study specialisations. Students are particularly grateful for the system, which allows them to plan their independent work in a rational way and make good use of their free time.

Innovation at the institution and in the field of study is mainly driven by inter-institutional comparisons and exchanges. During the reporting period, study programmes were compared with those of several other European universities. The comparisons have led to a number of insights which, following discussions with subject-matter experts, have been incorporated into the updated curricula. To provide an opportunity to include in the study process the study content offered by the JVLAM lecturers, but also to encourage students to actively expand their knowledge and skills in accordance with the specialisation to be acquired, also beyond the study courses traditionally included in the study plans of the JVLAM, both professional bachelors' and the professional master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* includes the study course *Masterclass* as a part of the practice, within the framework of which the student independently participates in masterclasses organised by the JVLAM and/or other institutions or in other relevant projects related to performing arts, music, dance (masterclasses, concerts, festivals, competitions, seminars, scientific conferences, etc.c.) in Latvia and abroad to deepen, develop, and expand the knowledge, skills, and competences of the main courses of the chosen sub-programme/specialisation, by obtaining credit points for this. The student learns about what various masterclasses and relevant artistic or educational projects have to offer nationally and internationally, the opportunities they provide, and their importance in the development of professional qualifications. The student's practical skills are built in the context of professional activity, improving the techniques, approaches, and theoretical

principles included in the course content. The student carries out a self-analysis of the results achieved and receives feedback from the instructor and colleagues.

Also, the practice part of the professional bachelor study programme includes a new study course *Creative Project*, within the framework of which the student organises, develops, implements or participates in a practical project in the performing arts or in their field of specialisation, which is related to study activities at the JVLAM. Creative project practice is credited in the form of solo projects, ensemble projects, orchestral projects, interdisciplinary projects, and other projects related to the specialisation competences. Creative project practice is counted both in projects implemented by the JVLAM and with the support of other institutions; both in projects organised by students and in projects organised by other persons/institutions related to the specialisation competences.

JVLAM is a member of the international network of art universities "Act in Art" <https://actinart.org>. This kind of cooperation provides students and JVLAM lecturers with support (masterclasses, camps, methodological materials) in the development of creative entrepreneurship within the framework of music student education.

In February 2021, the professional doctorate programme *Arts* was launched, providing the first opportunity in Latvia to obtain a professional doctorate in arts. Given the national situations, the joint lectures are held remotely. From the beginning of the implementation of the study program in February 2021 until May 2022, in connection with the pandemic situation, the lectures of professional doctoral groups were held remotely. From June 2022, according to the situation in the country, the study process takes place in person.

Based on the results of the doctoral student questionnaire after a successful first semester, it is clear that the professional doctorate programme is fulfilling its functions. This is confirmed by the high lecture attendance rate of 75%-100%, as well as the high response and interest of PhD students in theoretical seminars and other examinations.

During the reporting period, due to the emergency situation in the country caused by Covid-19, as in other educational institutions, the study process at the JVLAM had to be adapted to the current epidemiological conditions, ensuring full or partial implementation of the study process remotely. The study process was supported by various online tools (ZOOM, Google Meet, etc.). The possibilities offered by the e-learning Moodle environment for an interactive study process are used. In order to enable students to pass the examinations, various innovative technologies and methods not previously used in the face-to-face study process were used, for example, the Department of Concertmasters provided young people studying performing arts courses with accompaniment of compositions in MIDI and WAV phonogram formats, synchronous (online) and asynchronous (analysis of performance recordings in the form of written and video comments) online methods were used, low-latency sound and video transmission technologies (equipment and system support) were introduced to enable collective music-making activities in different rooms and buildings, as well as other technological and methodological innovations according to the specifics of the study courses.

The Academic Doctoral Programme in *Musicology* responded to the constraints of the pandemic with organisational innovations, bringing online guest lecturers from the USA, Austria, Germany, Sweden, Portugal and Lithuania, thus not only improving and diversifying the study content, but also creating new collaborations.

Online solutions have been used not only to ensure the delivery of study courses, but also, for example, in attracting new students, organising informative online forums for prospective students, offering remote consultations, which is particularly convenient for applicants living outside Riga.

Some of the online solutions have proven successful (e.g. online lectures in theoretical courses). It is planned to use of successful experience gained in the use of technology in the implementation and organisation of the future study process.

2.5. Cooperation and Internationalisation

2.5.1. Provide the assessment as to how the cooperation with different institutions from Latvia (higher education institutions/ colleges, employers, employers' organisations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutes, etc.) within the study field contributes to the achievement of the aims and learning outcomes of the study field. Specify the criteria by which the cooperation partners for the study field and the relevant study programmes are selected and how the cooperation is organised by describing the cooperation with employers. In addition, specify the mechanism for the attraction of the cooperation partners.

In order to ensure the quality of the study programmes and to facilitate the training of high-quality music and choreography specialists, the JVLAM pays great attention to promoting cooperation with Latvian universities, employers, professional non-governmental organisations, as well as with cultural and cultural education institutions. Cooperation with institutions is mainly organised by the JVLAM management and departmental representatives. Cooperation partners are selected both on the initiative of JVLAM representatives, assessing the potential contribution of the specific cooperation to the implementation of the study field and programme objectives, and on the initiative of other institutions. Given that several of the qualifications awarded in the study programmes of the JVLAM in Latvia are awarded only at the JVLAM, relevant sectoral organisations are often interested in cooperation opportunities. Partners are recruited by approaching representatives of the selected organisations with a planned offer of cooperation. Personal acquaintances are also an advantage in establishing cooperation with various Latvian organisations, given that many professional organisations in the field employ both JVLAM graduates and faculty members.

Cooperation at all levels and in all its forms is multifaceted, purposeful, useful and productive, and has always contributed to and promoted the quality implementation of the objectives set out in the JVLAM Constitution. This is the assessment of the JVLAM's activities received in feedback from both students and alumni. During the reporting period, cooperation has continued to develop, expanding the range of partners and types of cooperation.

The JVLAM has close and regular cooperation with the Art Academy of Latvia (hereinafter - the LMA) and the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - the LKA). The three arts and culture universities form the Association of Art Universities; joint work on cultural policy documents, such as amendments to the Law on Higher Education Institutions, and the development and implementation of the joint professional doctoral programme in *Arts*. JVLAM also cooperates with other Latvian higher education institutions, including the University of Latvia (hereinafter - LU), Riga Technical University (hereinafter - RTU), Daugavpils University (hereinafter - DU).

Cooperation takes various forms: organising and participating in conferences, teaching courses, recruiting lecturers for courses, recruiting professors for the dissertation council, etc. For example:

- students at partner universities study individual parts of the study programme, as well as free

elective study courses (RTU - students of the Sound Recording sub-programme, LU - master and doctoral students, LKA - students of all levels study free elective study courses);

- lecturers listen to lectures by high-level professionals to develop their professional skills;
- joint artistic and creative projects;
- joint research projects (conferences, publications, pre-defence and defence of doctoral theses, recruitment of lecturers for doctoral courses).

During the reporting period, a joint professional doctoral study programme in *Arts* was licensed and launched, which is implemented jointly with the LMA and LKA. The JVLAM implements the *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programme in this joint study programme.

During the reporting period, the JVLAM actively cooperated with the Latvian National Centre for Culture (LNKC) in drafting the Law on Intangible Cultural Heritage; nominating representatives to the LNKC councils; providing expertise and support for cultural education and regular updating of the list of intangible cultural heritage, as well as regular participation in the Song and Dance Festival process; In cooperation with a music publishing house, several books and sheet music editions were published, such as Zandberga, Diāna. 2020. Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, Piano Department (1919-2019). Riga: Musica Baltica. Ahmedaja, Ardian (Ed.). 2021 Shaping Sounds and Values: Multipart Music as a Means of Social and Cultural Interaction. CD-ROM with 27 audiovisual examples included. A publication of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music. Riga: Musica Baltica, etc. In collaboration with the Perception and Cognitive Systems Laboratory of the Faculty of Computer Science of the University of Latvia, the 15th International Symposium on Cognitive Science, Logic and Communication Syntax and Semantics of Music and Dance: Formal and Experimental Approaches (26 – 28.11.2021).

As part of the cooperation, the JVLAM has given HEI students the opportunity to become visitors of the Library. In the reporting period, two subscribed databases - Grove Music and Letonika, as well as SCOPUS and Science Direct databases were available to Latvian universities within the Academic Network. In cooperation with the Cultural Information Systems Centre (hereinafter - KISC), library users are provided with the opportunity to try out various databases available within the IP address range of the JVLAM. The JVLAM Library has provided support to Jāzeps Mediņš Riga Music High School and Emīls Dārziņš Music High School, allowing both teachers and students to use the library's collection. On average, during one academic year, library staff members each acquire theoretical knowledge at least once in continuing education courses organised by the Latvian Academic Library Association (LATABA), KISC and the National Library of Latvia (LNB).

Targeted cooperation with employers is ensured by the concluded cooperation agreements, the subject of which is the implementation of pedagogical and artistic-creative practice, concert practice and professional mastery development of lecturers.

JVLAM has concluded internship and cooperation agreements and arrangements:

- with 146 educational institutions;
- with the Riga Latvian Society;
- with SIA JVLAM operas studija Figaro;
- with the Latvian National Opera;
- with the Department of Culture of the Riga City Council for the organisation of concert practice at St. Peter's cathedral;
- with the Riga Professional Wind Orchestra;

- with the Latvian National Centre for Culture;
- with the State Agency for Cultural Information Systems;
- with the National Library of Latvia (cooperation in the creation and development of Letonika);
- with VBS Latvijas Radio;
- with SIA KM SOUND (for sound training practice).

Since 2018, the JVLAM has been cooperating with the PIKC "National Arts Secondary School" Riga Cathedral Choir School in the field of education of students, jointly organising and providing collective music practice in a jointly formed jazz orchestra - "Big Band", which consists of both school students and JVLAM students, which is not possible for each school separately due to the small number of students. From the academic year 2022/2023, Jāzeps Mediņš Riga Secondary School of Music also joined the cooperation.

JVLAM cooperated with State Limited Liability Company "Valsts Akadēmiskais koris "Latvija"" in providing rehearsals and national examinations of two concert examinations (hereinafter - Concert Examinations) for the JVLAM choir conducting students at a time when the JVLAM, due to the epidemiological restrictions set by the state, did not allow group lessons, public concerts, and yet the JVLAM had to enable national examination of the professional bachelor's study programme Conducting, sub-programme Choral Conducting and of the professional master's study programme Music and Performing Arts, sub-programme Music, specialisation Conducting, profile Choral Conducting as a concert examination involving a choir.

JVLAM cooperates with VSIA "Liepāja Symphony Orchestra" in the organisation of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music orchestra conducting speciality conductors/graduates concert - state examination (including rehearsals), as well as in the provision of sound engineering practice for sound engineering students.

The JVLAM has close cooperation with professional non-governmental organisations that are members of international organisations - the Piano Teachers Association, the String Instrument Teachers Association, the Clarinet Society, the Singing Teachers Association, the Latvian Choir Association, etc. As a result of the active activities and mutual cooperation of the associations, several international competitions have been held - Jāzeps Vītols International Choir Competition, Jāzeps Vītols International Piano Competition, seminars, methodological readings, masterclasses, etc.

Cooperation with municipalities of the JVLAM is mainly manifested in the provision of concerts by artistic units, individual performing artists and students in regions such as Cēsis, Limbaži, Ventspils, Liepāja, Madona, Gulbene, Valmiera, Daugavpils, Kuldīga, Rēzekne, etc.

Cooperation with various commercial companies is also implemented, which enables support in the study process, including offering students scholarships for the purchase of instruments or technical equipment (for example, in the 2021/2022 academic year 9 JVLAM students received a scholarship from JSC "Latvijas Finieris", 1 student received the "Yamaha Music Europe GmbH" scholarship for the purchase of an instrument).

Quality cooperation with employers is facilitated by the involvement of leading staff of professional cultural institutions, performing artists, conductors and other creative professionals in the activities of the JVLAM - both in academic positions and as guest lecturers. Close cooperation has been established with the Latvian National Opera and Ballet (hereinafter - LNO) - the chief conductor of the LNO, associate professor M. Ozoliņš; artistic director, composer, guest lecturer A. Maskats, etc.; with the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra (hereinafter - LNSO) - the musicians of the orchestra

- assistant professor S. Šteinbergs, associate professor T. Zīberte-Iļaba, associate professor E. Saksons, assistant professor S. Brīnums, Lecturer J. Semjonovs, assistant professor G. Kuzma and many others; with the Radio Choir - Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, Professor S. Kļava; with the Academic Choir "Latvija" - Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, Associate Professor M. Sirmāis, etc.

The cooperation between the JVLAM and employers is manifested in the implementation of mutual artistic and creative interest study courses. The management of the JVLAM, heads of departments, lecturers, and also several students are colleagues who play different roles - at the same time they are teaching staff, students, and musicians of cultural institutions - ensembles, opera singers, conductors, choreographers, sound engineers, musicologists, etc.

Representatives of employers are involved in JVLAM entrance examination committees, implementation of study courses, organisation of internship workplaces, updating of study programme content, national examination committees, evaluation of JVLAM activities, and on JVLAM collegial bodies - the Symphony Orchestra Council. The cooperation is very productive, aimed at improving the training of competent specialists and promoting the creative activity of the JVLAM.

2.5.2. Provide the assessment as to how the cooperation with different institutions from abroad (higher education institutions/ colleges, employers, employers' organisations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutes, etc.) within the study field contributes to the achievement of the aims and learning outcomes of the study field. Specify the criteria by which the cooperation partners suitable for the study field and the relevant study programmes are selected and how the cooperation is organised by describing the cooperation with employers. In addition, specify the mechanism for the attraction of the cooperation partners.

In order to promote international visibility, strengthen the reputation of the institution, prepare students to be active participants in an interconnected world, i.e. to facilitate student mobility, attract foreign students and lecturers, JVLAM uses various forms of internationalisation, i.e. international cooperation. The implementation of cooperation and internationalisation goals at the JVLAM is mainly the responsibility of the External Relations Division, in cooperation with the Rector's Office, heads of departments and respective lecturers.

International cooperation of the JVLAM is based on short-term activities (master classes, seminars, lectures, intensive courses), regular student and lecturer exchange via Erasmus+ and NordPlus, different events (competitions, conferences, festivals, concerts, individual research), participation in international youth orchestras and choirs, implementation of different EU projects, membership in international professional networks, different projects that are implemented with the support of foreign diplomatic representation, as well as participation in transnational programmes - Fulbright, Yamaha.

The JVLAM is active in several international organisations:

- AEC (Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen);
- ANMA (Association of the Nordic Music Academies);
- EPTA (European Piano Teachers Association);
- ESTA (European String Teachers Association);

- EVTA (European Voice Teachers Association);
- ECMTA (European Chamber Music Teachers Association);
- EAS (European Association for Music in Schools);
- EOA (European Opera Academy).

The membership of the Association of European Conservatories (hereinafter - AEC) is very useful for the JVLAM finding cooperation partners appropriate to the field of study and study programmes <https://aec-music.eu/about-aec/aec-vision-and-mission/>, which represents its member universities in Europe and worldwide. The AEC's member universities are specialised music universities, which provide higher professional music education at three levels. In addition, the AEC also includes universities with a broad profile if they have Music/Arts faculties. The JVLAM has bilateral cooperation agreements with more than 100 partners in almost all European countries, so there is no need to look for new partners - rather to critically assess existing agreements and to decide whether it is worthwhile to novate these. Under the EC Directive, bilateral contracts between universities must be digitised by the end of this year. At the same time, an agreement is not the decisive factor in institution cooperation - there is an unspoken arrangement that, if a student wants to apply for Erasmus at a institution with which there is no agreement, an agreement will be signed if the student's application is successful and the student is admitted.

Exchanges of students and staff can take place with all partner universities. The exception is student internships, which are only implemented by a handful of universities. As Erasmus guidelines state that traineeships can be carried out in any national/non-national/private organisation related to the student's field of specialisation, the possibilities are wide and only require the student's initiative. The European Opera Academy, with its 16 universities and various modules ranging from 3 to 6 months, offers good opportunities for student placements (including postgraduate ones).

The External Relations Division does not deal directly with employers, either Latvian or foreign. At the same time, almost all musicians working in our professional orchestras benefit from Erasmus study opportunities during their studies, and e.g. *Sinfonietta Riga* is very supportive of its young musicians' development at universities abroad. At the Opera, the percentage is lower because, if a student starts working there already during his studies, they are afraid of losing their place if they leave for 5-10 months.

The task of the JVLAM is, of course, to prepare its graduates for the Latvian labour market. At the same time, there are cases where a student or graduate is offered a permanent job in their country of residence during an Erasmus+ traineeship.

One of the aims of the *Arts* programme is to train highly professional musicians with a broad outlook, not only in their specialisation. This is not possible without regular contacts with other European music universities, without attending international master classes/competitions, which provide knowledge of the current level of the speciality, requirements, repertoire. Of course, not all students take advantage of Erasmus study opportunities. This is why they are offered regular Erasmus+ guest master classes at the JVLAM, as well as larger-scale international events such as Woodwind and Metal Symposia, Crossing Keyboards, and various jazz music projects involving students from partner universities. The initiative of the departments is a key factor in the choice of Visiting Professors: some are more active, others less so, some listen to suggestions and proposals, others are not very interested. This is also reflected in the workshops on offer.

Arts students have ample opportunities to participate in the Erasmus programme.

2.5.3. Specify the system or mechanisms, which are used to attract the students and the teaching staff from abroad. Provide the assessment of the incoming and outgoing mobility of the teaching staff in the reporting period, the mobility dynamics, and the issues which the higher education institution/ college faces with regard to the mobility of the teaching staff.

Four of the five study programmes corresponding to the field of study *Arts* at the JVLAM have the right to be implemented only in Latvian, while one - the professional doctoral study programme, also in English. This means that there is only one way for international students to study permanently on a degree programme. In particular, Section 56(3) of the *Law on Higher Education Institutions* stipulates that a study programme conducted in the state language may be conducted in other official languages of the European Union, including English, for no more than one fifth of the study programme's credit points. This means that out of a professional bachelor's degree programme of 160 CPs, one fifth, or 32 CPs, or less than two semesters, can be studied in English. At the same time, it is time for the foreign student to learn the Latvian language to the necessary extent and to be able to continue their studies in Latvian. There have been several such cases during the reporting period. However, it must be admitted that such an approach requires extra effort for both the foreign student and the JVLAM. Therefore, the JVLAM has submitted documents for the evaluation of the *Arts* study field in order to obtain the right to implement all study programmes of the *Arts* study field in English.

Therefore, the recruitment of foreign students and teaching staff is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Erasmus University Charter, the agreements mutually concluded between the universities, the individual study plans and the course work programmes. Incoming student mobility increased during the reporting period. While in the academic years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, inbound student mobility was 11 and 14 students respectively, it reached 25 students in the academic year 2021-2022. Student outgoing mobility can be divided into study mobility and practice mobility. Outgoing mobility has been stable over the reporting period, ranging from 25 to 41 students. Outgoing mobility has increased significantly, from 8 and 6 cases in the academic years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 to 24 cases in the academic year 2021-2022. The highest activity in student inbound and outbound mobility is among instrumentalists and vocalists. In the relevant study programmes of the *Arts* field, student mobility can be assessed positively in the reporting period as two out of three types of mobility have increased.

The influence of foreign students and teaching staff on the quality and improvement of studies at the JVLAM is significant in terms of better quality of practical foreign language learning, more varied methods of study content acquisition, and understanding the organisation and requirements of studies in other countries, and the development of intercultural relations.

Short-term mobility of teaching staff is the responsibility of the JVLAM External Relations Division. The dynamics of staff mobility are stable. During the reporting period, inbound teaching mobility of staff ranged from 54 to 72 cases per year. The only exception was the 2020-2021 academic year, when the Covid pandemic resulted in only 28 mobilities, most of them online. Outgoing mobility of teaching staff can be divided into teaching mobility and learning mobility. During the reporting period, teaching mobility ranged from 20 to 43 units per year, while learning mobility ranged from 28 to 63 units per year. The only exception to this was the 2020-2021 academic year, when only 19 faculty learning mobilities took place due to Covid.

Mobility is implemented in close cooperation with departments. This is very actively pursued by most of the departments involved in the implementation of the *Arts* field of study - both inbound

and outbound mobility. There are no substantial problems with faculty mobility, apart from the fact that not all needs can be met, as some visiting professors are not happy with the Erasmus terms - they are not willing to work without an honorarium, even if they keep their salary for the respective days.

The JVLAM would benefit if the departments paid more attention to long-term cooperation instead of trying to invite new guest professors. A positive example of this is the multi-year project Crossing Keyboards, which is implemented by the Piano Department in cooperation with the Baltic and Nordic music universities with the support of the NORDPLUS programme. It involves teachers and students from the piano departments of Helsinki, Stockholm, Reykjavik, Tallinn, Vilnius and Riga - usually 2 teachers and 4-5 students. The Jazz Department of the JVLAM has the same regular cooperation with the Viljandi Academy of Culture at the level of faculty and students.

The INTERNATIONAL section of the website mentions that study programmes are conducted in Latvian and provides a list of study courses in English that JVLAM teachers have developed especially for exchange students. The compulsory Master studies course Style and Interpretation is now also offered in English for both Erasmus and full-time international students. New digital courses in English are being developed within NORDPLUS: In 2021-2022, for the first time, the experimental digital course Contemporary Music Analysis was offered to composers, musicologists and symphony conductors by two faculty members of the JVLAM and two faculty members of the Lithuanian Academy of Music; Helsinki Metropolia offers a course for jazz music students Songwriting; the Lithuanian Academy of Music prepared a digital course Spatial Audio for Music Composition and Studio Production and plans to offer Ear training (2 semesters, 6 ECTS) in the autumn semester. The Royal Danish Academy of Music is also involved in this project - a Bachelor course in classical Analysis is being developed, which Baiba Jaunslaviete is also working on. Indriķis Veitners is working with Jere Laukkanen from Helsinki Metropolia on a Jazz History digital course. Digital courses such as these, which are developed in collaboration between faculty members of several Music Academies, will become increasingly popular in the new Erasmus period until 2027, as the virtual component is a mandatory requirement in the Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs). Therefore, more interest from the departments, especially the Department of Music History and Theory, is needed.

JVLAM implements the project No 8.2.2.0/18/I/001 financed by the European Social Fund. From December 2018 to August 2022, 6 foreign lecturers were involved with the JVLAM.

2.6. Implementation of the Recommendations Received During the Previous Assessment Procedures

2.6.1. Assessment of the fulfilment of the plan regarding the implementation of the recommendations provided by the experts during the previous accreditation of the study field, as well as the assessment of the impact of the given recommendations on the study quality or the improvement of the study process within the study field and the relevant study programmes.

The previous accreditation of the *Arts* field of study took place in September and November 2011. digital evaluated by international experts working within the framework of the European Social Fund project "Evaluation of Higher Education Study Programmes and Proposals for Quality

Improvement" implemented by the Council for Higher Education. Accreditation experts assessed each study programme across four categories:

1. Quality;
2. Resources;
3. Sustainability;
4. Co-operation.

In their opinion, the experts highly praised the study programmes in the JVLAM study field *Arts* in all four categories and did not make any recommendations.

However, the expert group that assessed the JVLAM study field *Arts* also evaluated this study field at the *Latvian Academy of Culture* (LKA) and the *Latvian Academy of Arts* (LMA) and made conclusions and gave recommendations for the field of *Arts* in Latvia as a whole. JVLAM evaluated the provided recommendations and concluded that several recommendations can also be applied to JVLAM.

The expert group recommended establishing closer cooperation between JVLAM, LKA and LMA in order to promote interdisciplinary cooperation and facilitate access to available resources. During the reporting period, JVLAM, LKA and LMA created, licensed and started implementing the joint professional doctoral study program *Arts*, which has been submitted for evaluation as part of the study direction.

The expert group saw the need for an internationalization strategy in the art education sector. *JVLAM Development Strategy 2016-2023* defined the goal: "Ensuring JVLAM sustainable operation and development by more purposefully using the opportunities of internationalization processes" with seven tasks. In addition, English is also added as the language of implementation to the evaluation of study fields for all study programs corresponding to the study field *Arts*, in order to obtain the right to implement all programs in English, in this way internationalizing JVLAM.

2.6.2. Implementation of the recommendations given by the experts during the evaluation of the changes to the study programmes in the respective study field or licensed study programmes over the reporting period or recommendations received during the procedure for the inclusion of the study programme on the accreditation form of the study field (if applicable).

During the reporting period, since the previous accreditation of the *Arts* field of study, the following licensing and relevant change procedures have taken place in the field of study:

- 1) Changes to the Professional Master's Degree Programmes *in Music and Choreography*, 2016;
- 2) Licensing of the Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in *Arts*, 2020;
- 3) Changes to the Professional Bachelor 's Degree Programme in *Music and Performing Arts*, 2022.

A detailed report on the implementation of the recommendations is attached in the Annex.

In 2016, the change procedure merged the Professional Master's study programme *Music* and the Professional Master's study programme *Choreography* into one study programme called *Music and Performing Arts*. The expert's opinion contains 4 conceptual recommendations, as well as 3 detailed objections and proposals. The recommendations are related to the evaluation of the title of the study programme, the evaluation and improvement of the titles, content, descriptions and

implementation of individual study courses, as well as the implementation of a similarly structured study programme at the bachelor level. The recommendations of the expert received during the change procedure have been fully implemented. The implementation of the recommendations has positively influenced the quality of studies both in the professional Master's study programme by facilitating the evaluation and updating of the study programme content - which was carried out both immediately after the recommendations were received and also in the following reporting period - and in the study field of *Arts* in general by making similar changes at the Bachelor's study level in accordance with the expert's recommendation.

The most significant changes, which have been facilitated by the expert's recommendation, are the structural and content changes approved for 2022 at the level of Bachelor of *Arts* professional studies. (Expert recommendation: "In the future, we may consider developing the *Music and Performing Arts* programme as both a Bachelor's and Master's programme, if the institution deems it appropriate. But it should be done in a reasoned and consistent way.") As a result of the changes, the seven separate professional bachelor's degree programmes *Instrumental Music*, *Conducting*, *Vocal Music*, *Composition*, *Music History and Theory*, *Choreography*, *Music and Performing Arts*, previously implemented at this level, have been merged into one professional bachelor's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* with sub-programmes: *Academic Music*, *Early Music*, *Jazz Music*, *Conducting*, *Choreography*, *Composition*, *Sound Recording* and *Musicology*. The changes have been made to facilitate the alignment of sub-programmes for better quality processes, more efficient use of budget, reduction of fragmentation of study programmes and further development of an interdisciplinary approach (for a more detailed description of the benefits, see the description of the Professional Bachelor's Degree Programme in *Music and Performing Arts*).

The procedure for changes to the Professional Bachelor's degree programmes has resulted in 3 short-term and 5 long-term recommendations. Taking into account that the change procedure was carried out in mid-2022 and the decision of the *Study Quality Commission* on the approval of the changes was received in August 2022, in order to implement the planned changes thoughtfully and efficiently, including taking into account the recommendations received, only two of the eight sub-programmes of the renewed study programme (*Jazz Music* and *Sound Recording*) will be launched in the academic year 2022/2023, while the implementation of the remaining sub-programmes is expected to start in the academic year 2023/2024. The representatives of the JVLAM consider the recommendations of the expert received during the evaluation procedure as useful and aimed at improving the quality of studies in the field of study. An implementation plan has been drawn up for the recommendations received, with activities, deliverables and deadlines (attached). Various deadlines for implementation of the recommendations have been indicated, most of them - after the development of the self-evaluation report of the study field and submission for approval to the JVLAM Senate on 16 November 2022. Therefore, it is not possible to fully assess the impact of the recommendations on the quality of studies in this report. However, work on the implementation of the recommendations initiated during the evaluation procedure of the study field *Arts* will continue; JVLAM will be happy to provide information on the current situation during the procedure in the future.

During the preparation of the additional information requested by the AIC, progress has been made with respect to the recommendations that are in the process of implementation. For example, an audit of the course descriptions of the professional bachelor's study program *Music and Performing Arts* has been carried out, the next step is to clarify the course descriptions based on the conclusions and recommendations made as a result of the audit. Progress has also been made with regard to the recommendation to restore the *Sound Recording* professional standard - the professional standard restoration group has developed a draft of the renewed sound director's standard and sent it to the specialist of the *State Education Content Center* for review, and the

director of the study program has mapped the study courses of the study program against the professional standard.

During the reporting period, i.e. in 2020, one study programme was licensed - the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in *Arts*, one of the three sub-programmes of which is *Music and Performing Arts*, implemented by the NCLMA. The experts made two short-term and three long-term recommendations during the evaluation process. Both short-term recommendations have been fully implemented, two of the long-term recommendations have been fully implemented, while as regards one long-term recommendation (Experts recommend a long-term review of the content of the programme in order to avoid placing **Choreography** and its genre **Contemporary Dance** in separate sub-programmes, resulting in a fragmented programme) - the possibility of implementing this recommendation is currently being evaluated. Please see annex for more details.

Overall, the implementation of the recommendations was significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The organisation and maintenance of the study process in pandemic conditions required a lot of human resources, especially taking into account the specificity of the content of the JVLAM, particularly in areas such as performing arts and collective music making. Therefore, a large part of the human resources that would normally be devoted to development issues, including the implementation of expert recommendations, were diverted to adapt to the various constraints and the series of changes due to the pandemic.

Annexes

I - Information on the Higher Education Institution/ College		
Information on the implementation of the study field in the branches of the higher education institution/ college (if applicable)		
List of the governing regulatory enactments and regulations of the higher education institution/ college	1.JVLMA Internal Regulations_15.02.2023.docx	1_Maksla_Saraksts ar galvenajiem JVLMA iekšējiem normatīvajiem aktiem_15.02.2023.docx
The management structure of the higher education institution/ college	ENG_JVLMA_struktura_31.08.pdf	1.JVLMA Parvaldības struktura.pdf
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.1. Management of the Study Field		
Plan for the development of the study field (if applicable)	2.1.Development Plan of Study Field.docx	2.1.Studiju virziena attīstības plans.docx
The management structure of the study field	2.1.Structure of management of study field Arts.pdf	2.1.Studiju virziena parvaldības struktura.pdf
A document certifying that the higher education institution or college will provide students with opportunities to continue their education in another study programme or another higher education institution/ college (agreement with another accredited higher education institution or college) if the implementation of the study programme is terminated.	Ligumi_ENG.zip	Ligumi_LV.zip
A document certifying that the higher education institution or college guarantees compensation for losses to students if the study programme is not accredited or the study programme license is revoked due to actions (actions or omissions) of the higher education institution or college and the student does not wish to continue studies in another study programme.	2.1.Warranty for compensation of losses.docx	2.1.Zaudejumu kompensācijas garantija.zip
Standard sample of study agreement	Studiju_Ligumi_ENG.zip	Studiju_Ligumi_LV.zip
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.2. Efficiency of the Internal Quality Assurance System		
Analysis of the results of surveys of students, graduates and employers	2.2.Analysis of survey results.docx	2.2.Studejoso, absolventu un darba devēju aptauju rezultātu analīze.docx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Field		
Basic information on the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study field	2.3.Arts_list of academic staff.xlsx	2.3.Makslas_macibspeku saraksts.xlsx
Biographies of the teaching staff members (Curriculum Vitae in Europass format)	2.3.CV of academic staff.zip	2.3.Macibspeku CV.zip
A statement signed by the rector, director, head of the study programme or field that the knowledge of the state language of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programmes within the study field complies with the regulations on the state language knowledge and state language proficiency test for professional and official duties.	2.3.Knowledge of the state language of academic staff.docx	Apliecinājums studiju virziena Mākslas novērtēšanai par mācībspēku valsts valodas zināšanām.edoc
A statement of the higher education institution/ college on the respective foreign language skills of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme at least at B2 level according to the European Language Proficiency Assessment levels (level distribution is available on the website www.europass.lv, if the study programme or part thereof is implemented)	2.3.Knowledge of English language of academic staff.docx	Apliecinājums studiju virziena Mākslas novērtēšanai par par mācībspēku angļu valodas zināšanām.edoc
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.4. Scientific Research and Artistic Creation		
Summary of quantitative data on scientific and/ or applied research and / or artistic creation activities corresponding to the study field in the reporting period.	2.4.Quantitative data on artistic creativity.docx	2.4.Kvantitatīvie dati par maksimāliem jaunradi.docx
List of the publications, patents, and artistic creations of the teaching staff over the reporting period.	2.4.List of publications, works of artistic creativity.docx	2.4.Publikāciju, maksimāliem jaunrades darbu saraksts.docx
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.5. Cooperation and Internationalisation		
List of cooperation agreements, including the agreements for providing internship	2.5.List of cooperation agreements.docx	2.5.Sadarbības līgumu saraksts.docx
Statistical data on the teaching staff and the students from abroad	2.5.Foreign Students and Academic Staff.xlsx	2.5.Arvalstu studentu un akadēmiskā personāla skaits.xlsx
Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of students (by specifying the study programmes)	2.5.Mobility of students.doc	2.5.Studentu ienākuma, izejuma studiju un prakses mobilitāte.doc
Statistical data on the incoming and outgoing mobility of the teaching staff	2.5.Mobility of academic staff.doc	2.5.Macibspeku mobilitāte.doc
II - Description of the Study Field - 2.6. Implementation of the Recommendations Received During the Previous Assessment Procedures		
Report on the implementation of the recommendations received both in the previous accreditation and in the licensing and/ or change assessment procedures and/ or the procedures for the inclusion of the study programme on the accreditation form of the study field.	2.6.Recommendations.docx	2.6.Rekomendāciju izpildes pārskats.docx
An application for the evaluation of the study field signed with a secure electronic signature	JVLMA Application_study field Arts.docx	JVLMA Iesniegums_studiju virziena Makslas.edoc
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme		
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard		
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme		
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)		
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules		

Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)		
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		

Other annexes

Name of document	Document
AIP Iemums_Par papildu prasību saskaņošanu_28112022.edoc	AIP Iemums_Par papildu prasību saskaņošanu_28112022.edoc
Procesu apraksti.7z	Procesu apraksti.7z
Process descriptions.7z	Process descriptions.7z
Mākslas uzņemšanas noteikumi_2023_2024.docx	Mākslas uzņemšanas noteikumi_2023_2024.docx
JVLMA_aptauju veikšanas sistēma_19.08.2022..xlsx	JVLMA_aptauju veikšanas sistēma_19.08.2022..xlsx
JVLMA_Survey system_19.08.2022..xlsx	JVLMA_Survey system_19.08.2022..xlsx
Studiju programmu īstenošanai nepieciešamo papildresursu normatīvi	4.32_2020_08_26_Studiju_programmu_īstenošanas_papildresursi_ar_groz_red.pdf
JVLMA Darba kārtības noteikumi	4.1_2019_06_19_Darba_kartibas_noteikumi_2019_saskan_ar_arodb_red.docx
JVLMA Darba samaksas nolikums	4.2_2021_02_24_Darba_samaksas_nolikums_red.pdf
Rīkojums par akadēmiskā personāla augstākās izglītības profesionālo pilnveidi	4.4_2018_12_21_rikojums-par-akad-personala-augst-izglit-profesionalo-pilnveidi.pdf
Nolikums par JVLMA personāla mobilitāti Erasmus+ mūžizglītības programmas ietvaros	4.6_2018_10_24_Nolikums_par_JVLMA_akad_un_visp_personala_mobilitati_Erasmus_programmaa.doc
Kārtība, kādā akadēmiskajam personālam piešķir akadēmisko atvaļinājumu zinātniskiem pētījumiem vai zinātniskā/radošā darba veikšanai JVLMA	4.9_2016_06_21_akad-atvalin-pieskirsanas-kartiba.pdf
Kārtība, kādā tiek plānoti un organizēti komandējumi un kvalifikācijas celšanas pasākumi, un to dokumentācijas noformēšana	4.8_2015_komandjumu.krtba.doc
Iekšējie normatīvie akti REGISTR_01.12.2022.docx	Iekšējie normatīvie akti REGISTR_01.12.2022.docx
Jaunas studiju programmas izstrādes process	9P_Jaunas_studiju_programmas_izstrades_process_v0.1_11072022.docx
NEW_STUDY_PROGRAM_DEVELOPMENT_PROCESS	9P_NEW_STUDY_PROGRAM_DEVELOPMENT_PROCESS_v0.1_eng.docx
Studiju programmas kvalitātes novērtēšanas un pilnveides process	15P_Studiju_programmas_kvalitates_novertesanas_un_pilnveides_process_v0.1_03082022.docx
PROCESS_OF_STUDY_PROGRAM_QUALITY_ASSESSMENT_AND_IMPROVEMENT	15P_PROCESS_OF_STUDY_PROGRAM_QUALITY_ASSESSMENT_AND_IMPROVEMENT_v0.1_eng.docx
Studējošā rokasgrāmata	uzsakot-studijas-jvlma-2022.07.09..pdf
Joint report_Arts_2011.PDF	Joint report_Arts_2011.PDF
Admission Regulations_Arts_2023_2024.docx	Admission Regulations_Arts_2023_2024.docx
JVLMA_Development Strategy_2016-2020_summary.docx	JVLMA_Development Strategy_2016-2020_summary.docx
JVLMA_Procesu un merījumu sistēma_19082022.xlsx	JVLMA_Procesu un merījumu sistēma_19082022.xlsx
IT_novertesanas_sistemas_izskati	IT_novertesanas_sistemas_izskati.docx
Datubāzu statistika.zip	Datubāzu statistika.zip
1.12.1.Par akadēmiskā godīguma pamatprincipu ieviešanas kārtībām un akadēmisko darbu uzglabāšanu	26.08.2020_Nr.34_Rikojums_kartibas_apstiprinasana.docx
1.12.2.Kārtība, kādā JVLMA iesniedzama informācija par akadēmiskā godīguma iespējamo pārkāpumu un kārtība kādā tiek veikta akadēmiskā godīguma izvērtēšana	26.08.2020_Kartiba_zinot_par_akademiska_godiguma_parkapumu.docx
1.12.2.1.Ziņojums par studējošā akadēmiskā godīguma pārkāpumu	26.08.2020_Pielikums_1_kartibai_Zinojums_students.doc
1.12.2.2.Ziņojums par darbinieka akadēmiskā godīguma pārkāpumu	26.08.2020_Pielikums_2_kartibai_Zinojums_darbinieks.doc
1.12.3.Kārtība, kādā tiek organizēta akadēmisko darbu pārbaude datorizētajā plaģiāta kontroles sistēmā	26.08.2020_Kartiba_plag_parbaude.docx
1.12.4.Kārtība, kādā tiek organizēta akadēmisko darbu uzglabāšana Jāzepa Vītola Latvijas Mūzikas akadēmijā	26.08.2020_Kartiba_uzglabasana.docx
9.3.Nolikums par no valsts budžeta līdzekļiem finansēto studiju vietu sadalījuma kārtību JVLMA studiju programmās studējošajiem	9.3_2019_04_24_Nolikums_par_valsts_finanseto_studiju_vietu_sadales_kartibu_red.pdf
JVLMA Bibliotēkas krājuma komplektēšanas kārtība	Bibliotekas_krajuma_veidosanas_kartiba.pdf
18.pielikums_Sadarbibas_ligums.pdf	18.pielikums_Sadarbibas_ligums.pdf
Annex 18_Sadarbibas_ligums.docx	Annex 18_Sadarbibas_ligums.docx
Info after experts visit_SVN_JVLMA_Arts (from JVLMA).docx	Info after experts visit_SVN_JVLMA_Arts (from JVLMA).docx
PKP_Skanu rezisors__07062023.docx (only in Latvian)	PKP_Skanu rezisors__07062023.docx
3_2_1_B1_Kartejums_skanu_rez_PS_16062023.docx (only in Latvian)	3_2_1_B1_Kartejums_skanu_rez_PS_16062023.docx

Music and Performing Art (42212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	<i>Music and Performing Art</i>
Education classification code	<i>42212</i>
Type of the study programme	<i>Professional bachelor study programme</i>
Name of the study programme director	<i>Toms, Elīna</i>
Surname of the study programme director	<i>Ostrovskis, Šmaukstele</i>
E-mail of the study programme director	<i>toms.ostrovskis@jvlma.lv</i>
Title of the study programme director	<i>MMus, Mg.geogr.</i>
Phone of the study programme director	<i>67227184, 66102825</i>
Goal of the study programme	<i>To ensure the training of top level professional musicians, music researchers and performing arts specialists, who have acquired practically applicable professional knowledge, skills and competences rooted in the theoretical foundations of the relevant sciences, appropriate to the chosen professional standard, are able to compete in the professional environment in Latvia and abroad, are motivated for professional development and further education in a unified European educational area, who, in fulfilling their mission, respect the principles of humanity, democracy, scientificity, professionalism, individualization, creativity and modernity, respect the interests of the Latvian nation, integrate into the international cultural circle, and preserve and develop the national musical cultural heritage.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- to develop integrated studies that allow students to obtain a 6th level professional qualification, a Professional Bachelor's degree in music or choreography appropriate to their chosen specialisation and prepare them for practical work;</i> <i>- to include content in the plan of the study programme to enable the student to acquire the right to teach professional subjects appropriate to his/her chosen specialisation, thus increasing his/her competitiveness in the labour market and ensuring the future renewal of the field;</i> <i>- to provide a learning environment that fosters an interest in music and performing arts, as well as culture, its preservation and development in the broadest sense, and develops the creative aspects of the personality;</i> <i>- to use teaching methods and forms of work organisation appropriate to Professional Bachelor's studies;</i> <i>- to provide an opportunity to acquire and develop basic knowledge and skills in scientific research, to prepare for further studies at Master's level in Latvia or abroad.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p><i>1) To pursue their creative ideas in an artistic and meaningful way and to develop their potential in music, performing arts (including dance), sound and research aspects.</i></p> <p><i>2) To demonstrate technical skills by performing, providing music for, analysing or dancing various repertoire at a professional level individually and in a group.</i></p> <p><i>3) To demonstrate an understanding of key musical or dance styles and traditions.</i></p> <p><i>4) To be able to understand the character and emotion of the music or dance performed and communicate it appropriately to the audience.</i></p> <p><i>5) To verbalize and analyze various issues related to the repertoire performed in the national language and in a foreign language, using professional music or dance terminology accurately.</i></p> <p><i>6) To discuss in detail, in the national language and in a foreign language, developments and trends in one's chosen field of specialisation.</i></p> <p><i>7) To analyze one's own specialisation and its role in society.</i></p> <p><i>8) To apply pedagogical competences in one's chosen field of specialisation.</i></p> <p><i>9) To be aware and use audio, video and other technologies related to music and dance.</i></p> <p><i>10) To make decisions in changing circumstances, solve problems and implement simple innovations in one's area of specialisation.</i></p>
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Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<p><i>Sub-programme Composition: Diploma Thesis, Instrumentation, Composition;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Sound Recording: Diploma Thesis, Diploma Examination in Sound Recording;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Musicology: Bachelor's thesis;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Keyboard instrument play - piano: Diploma Thesis, Piano play, Chamber Ensemble, Piano accompaniment;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Keyboard instrument play - accordion: Diploma Thesis, Accordion play, Chamber Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Keyboard instrument play - organ: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in Organ play, Organ Accompaniment and Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme String instrument play - guitar: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in Guitar play, Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme String instrument play - kokle play: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in kokle play, Kokle Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme String instrument play - violin / viola / cello: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in instrument play, String Quartet, Chamber Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme String instrument play - double bass: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in double bass play, Chamber Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme String instrument play - harp: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in harp play, Chamber Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Wind instruments play: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination for Wind Instruments, Wind Chamber Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Percussion instruments play: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in percussion instrument play, Percussion Chamber Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Vocal Music: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in Academic singing, Opera singing;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Early Music: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in Early Music singing / Instrument play, Baroque Opera Performance;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Jazz Music: Diploma Thesis, Practical Examination;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Conducting - symphony orchestra conducting: Diploma thesis, Concert Examination in Symphony Orchestra Conducting, Opera Staging, Working with Orchestra;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Conducting - brass band conducting: Diploma Thesis, Concert Examination in Conducting a Wind Orchestra, Working with Orchestra;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Conducting - choral conducting: Diploma Thesis, Practical Examination - Concert Examination, Practical Examination - Working with Choir;</i></p> <p><i>Sub-programme Choreography: Diploma Thesis, Preparation and Defence of a Choreographic Production.</i></p>
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Study programme forms

Full time studies - 4 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>4</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>160</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education and entrance examination</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Bachelor's Degree in Music</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>Sound Engineer; Instrumental Musician; Vocalist; Conductor; Composer; Musicologist</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 4 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>4</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>160</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education and entrance examination</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Bachelor's Degree in Choreography</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>Choreographer</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 4 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>4</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>160</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education, entrance examination, and English language proficiency, at least level B2</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Bachelor's Degree in Music</i>

Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>Sound Engineer; Instrumental Musician; Vocalist; Conductor; Composer; Musicologist</i>
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Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 4 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>4</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>160</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Secondary education, entrance examination, and English language proficiency, at least level B2</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Bachelor's Degree in Choreography</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	<i>Choreographer</i>

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

The previous accreditation letter No 2021/64 of the field of study *Arts* was issued on 26.10.2021. This accreditation page includes 7 Professional Bachelor study programmes (*Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Conducting, Choreography, Composition, Music History and Theory, Music and Performing Arts*). On 3 August 2022, the AIC Study Quality Commission (hereinafter - SQC) Decision No 2022/14-I on changes in the field of study and programme approved structural and substantive changes in the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, including 8 sub-programmes in this programme: *Academic Music, Ancient Music, Jazz, Conducting, Choreography, Composition, Sound Recording and Musicology*, with several specialisations and profiles (see study plan of the programme in the annex).

This change effectively means merging previously separate study programmes into a single Professional Bachelor degree programme with an altered programme structure and updated content. Changes to the structure of the study programme have been made for a number of reasons, including to make the sub-programmes more compatible with each other, with equal parts of the study programme and more similar study loads for students of different specialisations at the same level of study. The changes will reduce the fragmentation of Professional Bachelor study programmes and the insufficient number of students in some Professional Bachelor study programmes of the field of study *Arts*, as well as provide an opportunity to reallocate the number of allocated state budget places within the programme between sub-programmes according to the demand.

As a result of this change, the aim, tasks and outcomes of the study programme have also been revised, in order to be relevant for students of all sub-programmes combined in the Professional Bachelor's study programme.

Following the approval of the changes to the SQC, the implementation of the updated study plan for the *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programmes of the Professional Bachelor degree programme *Sound Recording and Jazz Music* has started in the academic year 2022/2023. The remaining six sub-programmes will start in the academic year 2023/2024, when all existing students of the other bachelor programmes will be transferred to the corresponding sub-programmes of the study programme *Music and Performing Arts*. Following the transfer of students, the remaining Professional Bachelor of *Arts* programmes will be closed and are therefore not submitted for evaluation under this procedure.

The changes in the content of the updated study plan of the study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, compared to the plans of the Professional Bachelor study programmes implemented in the reporting period, can be estimated at around 15-20% in different specialisations. After the transfer of students, this programme will in fact cover all bachelor study programmes implemented in the field of study *Arts* during the reporting period. In order to provide a more comprehensive and qualitative description of the level of bachelor studies in this field of

study, its related characteristics and achievements during the reporting period, as well as future perspectives, this self-assessment report includes information on all specialisations included in the new programme structure, although they were implemented in separate study programmes during the reporting period, in the description of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*.

The Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* code - 42212; credit points - 160 (240 ECTS); mode and form of implementation - full-time studies, in person; place of implementation - Riga; degree to be awarded (according to the sub-programme) - Professional Bachelor degree in Music and Professional Bachelor degree in Choreography, 6th level professional qualification to be awarded (according to the sub-programme) - *Instrumental Musician, Vocalist, Conductor, Choreographer, Composer, Musicologist or Sound Engineer*; language of the study programme implementation - Latvian.

The only programme parameter that is planned to be changed within the framework of the evaluation procedure is the language of implementation of the programme. In the future, it is planned to add English as the language of implementation.

The implementation of the study programme in English would be an important step in the development of the JVLAM and Latvian higher music education, expanding opportunities for competitiveness and international cooperation. Comparing the study programmes offered by the JVLAM with other European and Baltic universities, it was found that study programmes at other music universities, including those in neighbouring Lithuania and Estonia, are often conducted in both local and English languages. Apart from the JVLAM, only one other higher education institution in Latvia offers a Professional Bachelor's degree in music - Daugavpils University (hereinafter - DU), which is a regional higher education institution. In other aspects, such as the diversity of study content and specialisations, the range of professional qualifications offered, the provision of teaching staff, the number of students, etc., DU is not seen as a direct competitor of the JVLAM in terms of the offer of higher education in the field of music. However, both Latvian and English have been approved as the language of implementation for the DU-licensed Professional Bachelor study programme *Music*. This means that DU is currently the only university in Latvia that can offer foreign applicants a Professional Bachelor degree in music, while studying in English. In order to increase the competitiveness of Latvian music education in the international market, it is important to add the possibility to implement a study programme in English to the JVLAM's Professional Bachelor study programme.

The implementation of study programmes in English is considered to be an important step in ensuring the sustainable operation and development of the JVLAM, in order to be able to make better use of the opportunities of internationalization processes. Foreign students from the EU and other countries have shown interest in study opportunities at the JVLAM. The launch of an English language study programme could increase the number of students studying at the JVLAM, including those studying for personal funding. As demographic indicators in Latvia deteriorate, i.e. the population declines, the number of potential students in Latvian universities is expected to decrease in the coming years. As a result, the competition for study places could decrease and students with lower results could be admitted, lowering the level of artistic quality of students at the JVLAM. Attracting students from other countries could contribute to maintaining or increasing stable student numbers, as well as to increasing competition between students and the quality of studies.

Targeted actions in line with the JVLAM strategy, as well as the successful experience gained so far in providing study courses for exchange students, would enable the implementation of the study programme in English. The JVLAM also cooperates extensively with foreign partners, which regularly

supplements the study process with masterclasses, guest lectures and various joint projects by foreign guest lecturers and artists.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The Professional Bachelor's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* with its sub-programmes *Academic Music*, *Ancient Music*, *Jazz Music*, *Conducting*, *Choreography*, *Composition*, *Sound Recording* and *Musicology* and their specialisations is fully in line with the study field *Arts*. Study programme code 42212 corresponds to the *Regulations on the Classification of Latvian Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 322, approved on 13 June 2017) according to the thematic group of Humanities and Arts Education, the thematic field of Arts Education, the education programmes of Music and Performing Arts.

The title of the study programme is *Music and Performing Arts*, the aim of the study programme is "To ensure the training of professional musicians, music researchers and performing arts specialists of the highest level who have acquired practically applicable professional knowledge, skills and competences rooted in the theoretical foundations of the relevant sciences, appropriate to the chosen professional standard, are able to compete in the professional environment in Latvia and abroad, are motivated for professional development and further education in a common European educational area, who, in the performance of their mission, observe the principles of humanity, democracy, scientificism, professionalism, individualization, creativity and modernity, respect the interests of the Latvian nation, integrate into the international cultural circle, preserve and develop the national musical cultural heritage" and the tasks, admission conditions, as well as the content of the programme, which ensure the achievement of the knowledge, skills and competences results formulated in the study programme, correspond to the degrees of Professional Bachelor degree in Music and Professional Bachelor degree in Choreography, as well as to the requirements for the awarding of the 6th level professional qualifications *Instrumental Musician*, *Vocalist*, *Conductor*, *Choreographer*, *Composer*, *Musicologist* or *Sound Engineer*, which are awarded according to the chosen specialisations.

The goals, tasks and study outcomes of the respective sub-programmes follow the goals, tasks and study outcomes of the overall study programme, putting emphasis on the knowledge, skills and competences of the respective sub-programme and/or specialization in accordance with the specific requirements of each professional field. The study outcomes of sub-programmes *Academic Music*, *Early Music* and *Jazz Music* are related to the professional aspects of the field of performing arts (music) and aimed at the instrument musicians and singers, the study outcomes of the sub-programme *Conducting* are aimed at the professional activities of conductors, the study outcomes of the sub-programme *Composition* - at the professional activities of composers, the study outcomes of the sub-programme *Sound Recording* - at the professional activities of sound engineers, the study outcomes of the sub-programme *Musicology* - at the professional activities of musicologists, and in the study outcomes of the sub-programme *Choreography* address the professional aspects of the field of dance and are aimed at the activities of choreographers.

Admission to the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* takes place in accordance with Section 46 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions and the JVLAM *Admission Rules for Arts Study Programmes*. Admission to the Professional Bachelor study programme requires general secondary or professional secondary education, as well as centralised secondary school examinations in the subjects *Latvian language, Mathematics and Foreign language*. Persons who completed their secondary education before 2004, persons who completed their secondary education abroad or persons with special needs are not required to take centralised examinations. The admission procedure for persons who have not passed the centralised examinations is determined by the Admission Rules.

In order to establish the adequacy of professional preparation for the commencement of studies in the Professional Bachelor study programme of the JVLAM, all applicants are required to take additional requirements tests in accordance with the requirements agreed by the Council for Higher Education (decision of Council is attached as supplement No. 3.1.2.b (Latvian only)). Additional requirements are based on the specific knowledge and skills required for each sub-programme and/or specialisation. In all sub-programmes, except *Choreography*, an examination in music theory and analysis is organised, with the content of the specific tasks adapted to the level of knowledge required for entry to the relevant sub-programme. Each sub-programme also organises one or more tests to assess the skills required for the specialisation, according to the specific sub-programme/specialisation:

Academic music (instrumental and vocal);

- playing an instrument and a colloquium or singing and a colloquium.

Ancient music (instrumental and vocal);

- playing an ancient music instrument and colloquium or singing ancient music and colloquium.

Jazz music (instrumental and vocal);

- playing a jazz instrument and colloquium or jazz singing and colloquium.

Conducting (choral, symphonic and brass band conducting);

- conducting and colloquium.
- piano (for choir and symphony orchestra conductors) or wind/percussion (for brass band conductors).

Composition;

- composition and colloquium.

Sound Recording;

- specialisation colloquium.
- piano playing.

Musicology;

- specialisation colloquium.

Choreography (choreography and ballet choreography);

- creative competition *Dance composition* – creating an independent composition appropriate to the musical material.
- Classical dance - a training session to test classical dance skills at the level of vocational

secondary education.

These admission requirements allow for an assessment of whether applicants have the necessary theoretical knowledge and artistic skills to start their studies, as well as for a comparison of applicants' performance, with the highest-performing applicants being offered state budget funded study places. When aggregating test results, the specialty test is prioritised and given the highest weighting in the ranking of test results.

For the study programme in English, in addition to the admission requirements, it is planned to include a requirement for proof of English language knowledge at least at B2 level.

The study programme is implemented as a full-time "in-person" study programme. According to the requirements of *the Regulations on the State Standard of the Second Level Professional Higher Education* (Cabinet Regulations No.512, approved on 26 August 2014), the scope of the Professional Bachelor study programme is 160 credit points (240 ECTS), duration - 4 years. Taking into account the specificity of the educational programme group of Music and Performing Arts, the high proportion of individual lessons in cooperation with course lecturers, the need to practice, cooperate with fellow students and artistic collectives, as well as the organisation of internships, the implementation of the study programme in a part-time or distance learning format would make it difficult to achieve qualitative results of the study programme.

The duration of the study programme of 4 years is optimal for the student to achieve the study outcomes according to the knowledge, skills and competences included in the 6th level of the Latvian Qualifications Framework (LQF) and the requirements of the relevant professional standards, including the ability to artistically and meaningfully implement their creative ideas and develop their potential in music and performing arts; to demonstrate technical skills in performing, soundtracking, composing, analysing or dancing various repertoire at a professional level individually and in a group; be able to demonstrate an understanding of key musical or dance styles and traditions; be able to analyze various issues related to the repertoire performed and discuss trends and developments in their chosen field of specialisation, etc. (for a full list of the outcomes to be achieved by the study programme, see the programme parameters).

During the 4 years of study, students acquire theoretical knowledge and artistic skills in group and individual study courses, and develop artistic and labour market skills and competences in the practice part. At the end of the study programme, students obtain a Professional Bachelor's degree and a 6th level professional qualification corresponding to their chosen specialisation by successfully passing state examinations.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The development of the Professional Bachelor study programme in *Music and Performing Arts* has been based on the social and economic justifications of the need for the programme in the Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia", which define the goals and priorities of the national cultural policy and contribute to the achievement of the goals set in the long-term and medium-term policy planning documents of the country. The overarching objective of the Cultural Policy Guidelines is defined as follows: "Latvia is a country with a rich and nurtured cultural heritage, a vital and diverse cultural life, creative people, competitive creative industries and an increasing quality of life for everyone." In order to achieve the overarching policy goals described in

the Guidelines, several priorities have been identified, of which (2) Creativity in Lifelong Learning and Labour Market Oriented Cultural Education, and (3) Competitive Cultural and Creative Industries are directly relevant to JVLAM study programmes. The establishment of the Professional Bachelor study programme is a result of the cultural policy guidelines that the cultural education system should significantly promote the link between research, scientific innovation and creative-artistic activity, facilitating the inclusion of practice in all stages of higher education, with the aim of ensuring the regional competitiveness of the Latvian higher education system of art. It also takes into account the argument that in order to ensure further education and the transfer of research skills in the fields of culture and creative industries, it is essential to develop and exploit the potential of art universities and teachers in the cultural education sector. In addition, one of the responsibilities of the JVLAM (3.1.2) in the tasks of the Guidelines (Annex 5) is to ensure targeted updating and modernisation of the content and equipment of study programmes, the quality and sustainability of study programmes, taking into account the requirements of the labour market.

In addition to the national socio-economic rationale for the programme, the social rationale of the demand for music and performing arts studies in society has been taken into account: analysing the processes of the cultural education system as well as the university admission processes, it was found that despite the demographic and economic crises of the last decades, the demand for music and performing arts education has remained consistently high. The economic rationale has also been analyzed: one of the most important rationales is the training of specialists to work in the national and European community cultural industry; the demand for specialists such as orchestral musicians, orchestral and choral conductors, concert masters, soloists in various instruments and vocal arts, choreographers and dance specialists, musicologists and music journalists, sound directors and others trained under the programme has been identified in cooperation with employers. Graduates of all specialisations are in demand in the labour market both in Latvia and abroad, thus justifying the existence of the programme. Another important socio-economic justification is the preparation of the necessary specialists for the network of music and art schools and secondary schools in Latvia, and in this area there has been constant informative cooperation with employers, both in direct communication and in contact with the Latvian National Centre for Culture, establishing that there is an acute demand for graduates who have obtained professional qualifications and degrees, as well as teaching rights at various levels of education, in the Professional Bachelor degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* at the JVLAM.

The JVLAM systematically works on obtaining information on graduate employment, and a graduate employment register was created during the reporting period. Data for the graduate register is collected through a voluntary graduate survey. It should be noted that the number of respondents to the survey tends to decrease, so the possibility of using the survey results as an objective source for graduate employment analysis is limited. The Senate of the JVLAM has determined that from December 2021 the Head of the Study Programme shall develop and maintain a system of regular surveys related to the study process, including the content, frequency, form and obligation to use the data obtained, preparing reports on issues concerning the study process and the quality of its implementation and organisation. The most effective solutions for analysing graduate data, including employment, are being reviewed and evaluated. As part of the improvement of the quality management system, a process measurement system will be gradually introduced.

As a result of written and oral surveys, the JVLAM concludes that most of the graduates work in their profession - they are musicians of instrument play, musicians of professional orchestras, dancers, choreographers, some of the graduates work in pedagogical work according to their specialty as musicians or choreographers, some are employed in other workplaces in cultural and educational institutions. A small number of graduates work abroad in their specialisation. Employers' feedback on the professional performance of the JVLAM graduates in their field is

positive.

The National Education Information System (NEIS) has developed a Higher Education Graduates Monitoring Tool, which aims to provide information on employment, income and employment/unemployment rates of higher education graduates 10 years after graduation (available in Latvian: <https://www.viis.gov.lv/monitoringa-riki>). The tool currently provides data on Latvian graduates from 2017 to 2019 and can be used to analyze quantitative data on graduate employment. Having assessed the available data, it can be concluded that the employment rate of JVLAM graduates (at all study levels) is high (on average - 85.87%).

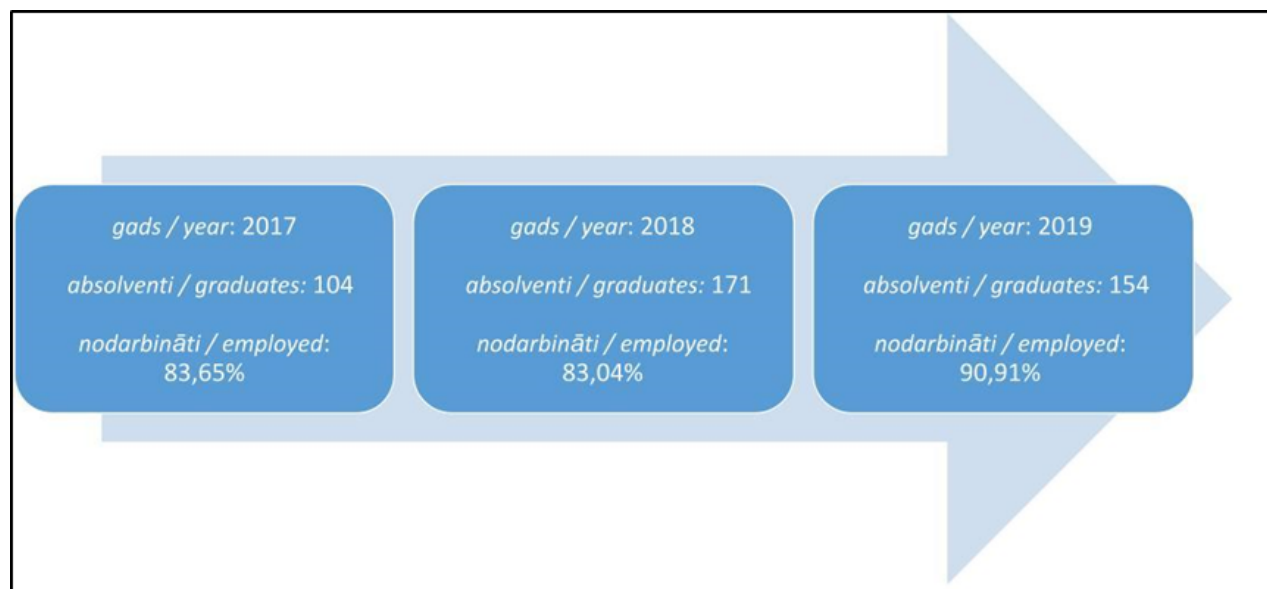


Figure 3.1.3.1 Employment of 2017-2019 JVLAM graduates (Data source: NEIS)

According to the information on employment of graduates of Latvian higher education institutions available in the latest (2021) publications of the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), according to the data of the fiscal year 2019, the JVLAM with 89% employment of graduates in higher qualification occupations ranks 3rd among the State Universities in Latvia, behind only the Latvian National Defence Academy and Riga Stradins University (publication in Latvian available: <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/11040/download>).

It should be noted that when monitoring data on graduates of Latvian universities by thematic fields of education, graduates of the JVLAM Art Direction were included in the Humanities and Arts group.

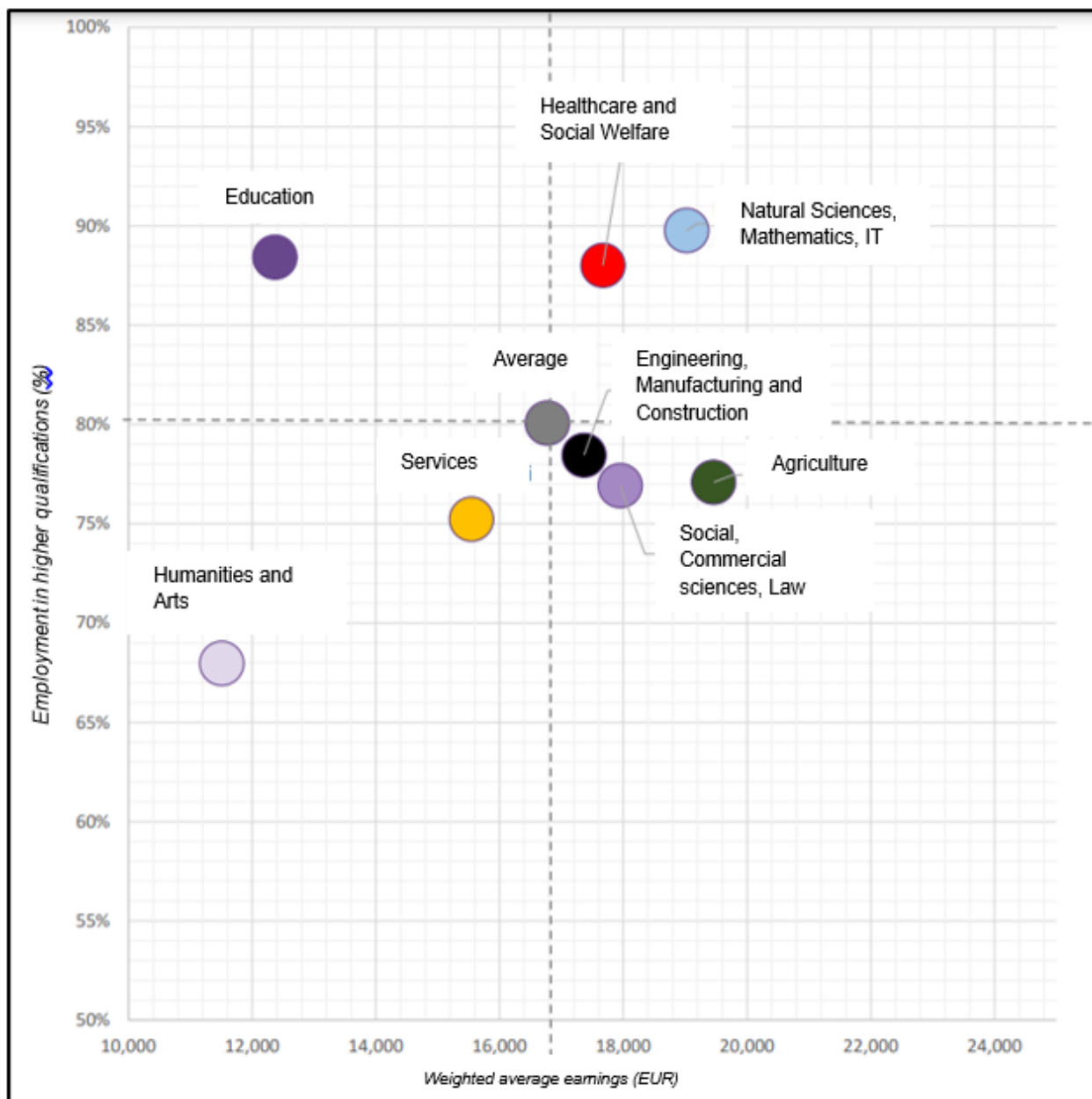


Figure 3.1.3.2. Positioning of thematic groups by graduate employment in higher qualification and weighted average earnings, data of the fiscal year 2019 (figure from the publication on the employment pathways of higher education graduates (available in Latvian: <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/11040/download>, Figure 35, p. 31), vertical axis shows employment in higher qualifications (%), horizontal axis shows weighted average earnings (EUR), Humanities and Arts group is shown in the bottom left corner of the graph in light purple)

When analysing the employment of graduates in higher qualifications and the weighted average earnings of graduates from thematic groups of education, it can be concluded that, in general, the Humanities and Arts group has the distinctly lowest results in both parameters compared to graduates from other sectors. However, among this group of graduates, it is the JVLAM that stands out with the most positive results, including among Latvian arts and culture universities (see Figure 3.1.3.3 with the labels JVLAM, LMāA and LKuA).

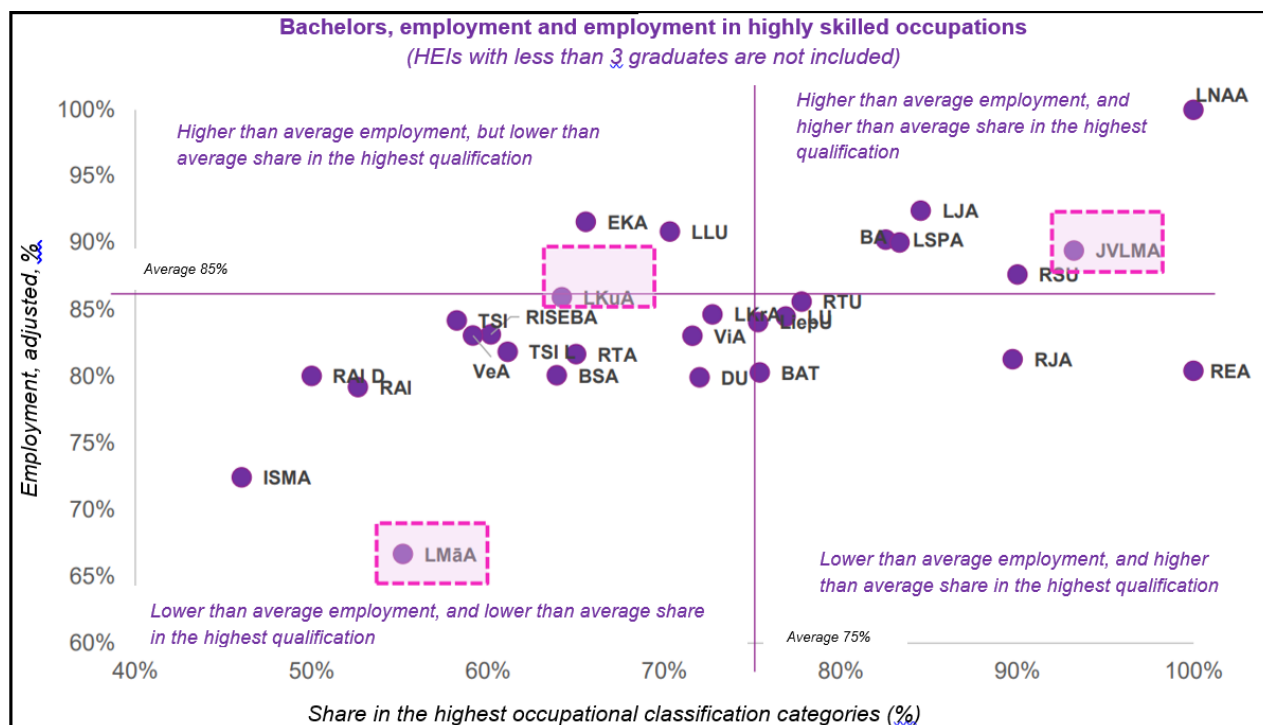


Figure 3.1.3.3. Employment of graduates of Bachelor degree programmes and employment in higher qualifications (figure from 15.12.2020. MoE publication Studies in the Humanities (available in Latvian: <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/11025/download>, p. 12), vertical axis shows employment, adjusted (%), horizontal axis shows share in the highest occupational classification categories (%))

It can be seen that JVLAM bachelor graduates have one of the best employment rates in the country, as well as the best employment rates among Latvian universities of arts and culture (in the figure, JVLAM, LMāA and LKūA). In terms of graduate income, the JVLAM also performs significantly better than other Latvian universities of arts and culture (highlighted in the figures).

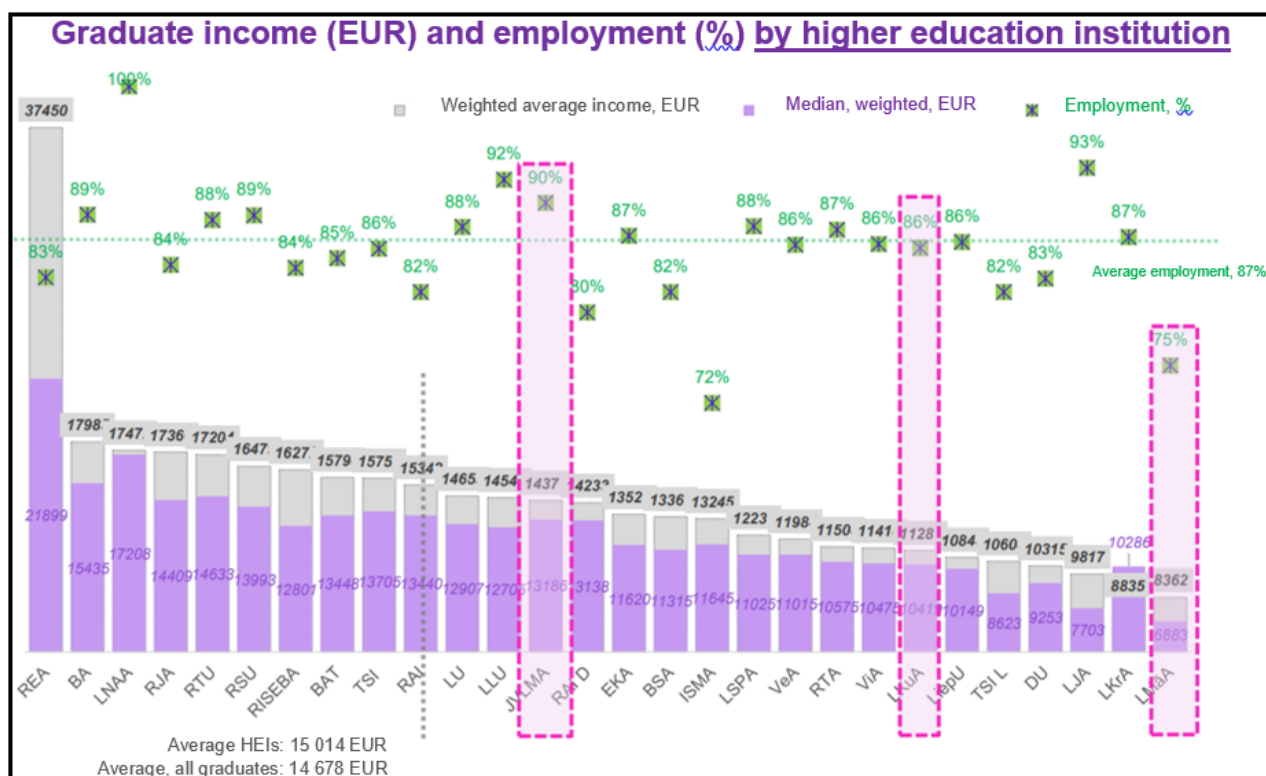


Figure 3.1.3.4. Graduate income (EUR) and employment (%) by higher education institution (figure

The JVLAM cooperates with employers and professional organisations in the field of graduate employment. The need for cooperation is dictated by the common goals and tasks of cultural and educational institutions. The range of cooperation issues is broad and multifaceted, including issues of graduate employability. For more information on specific graduate jobs, see description of the criterion 3.1.3 of the Professional Master study programme *Music and Performing Arts*.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

In order to characterise the number of students and its trends in the studies of the field of study Professional Bachelor of Arts in the reporting period, the data on students enrolled in the joint study programmes *Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Conducting, Choreography, Composition, Music History and Theory, Music and Performing Arts* of the study programme *Music and Performing Arts* were collected for the analysis.

Analysing the composition and number of students in the study programme in historical perspective, it can be concluded that the number of state budget study places is stable. The number of students in different sub-programmes and specialisations can vary, especially in orchestral instrument specialisations - wind/percussion, strings. Given that all specialisations of musicians can be studied in the study programme, there is always a competition for the state budget study places in one of the specialisations - several applicants per one study place. For those applicants who have fulfilled the admission requirements and successfully passed the entrance examinations, but are not admitted to study places at the expense of the state budget, the JVLAM offers studies for a tuition fee. During the reporting period, the share of fee-paying students at the Professional Bachelor of Arts level ranged from 8 to 18%.

The provision of studies for tuition fees is seen as a factor contributing to the overall quality of studies in the programme, creating a continuous, healthy competition for studies at the state budget expense. At the end of the academic year, the JVLAM conducts a ranking of students' competence evaluations, which may result in a change of funding source, thus motivating students to achieve consistently high performance in their academic work and contributing to the production of high-quality young professionals.

The number of students enrolled in the study programme has remained stable during the reporting period - on average 92 students per year are enrolled in Bachelor of Arts studies (see Figure 3.1.4.1). One of the lowest enrolment rates in the reporting period was for 2022, with 81 students enrolled. This could be due to the number of state budget places available and the rapidly deteriorating economic situation in the region in 2022. Although a high number of applicants took part in the admission competition, students who did not pass the competition for state budget-funded study places, but were offered to study for a fee, still chose to study in other study programmes at state budget places (including several applicants who chose to study at state budget places in the study programmes of the JVLAM field of study *Education and Pedagogy*). It should be noted that all the state budget-funded places were filled in the 2022 enrollment, which shows that the interest in studies at the Bachelor level of the JVLAM field of study *Art* has remained

consistently high.

NUMBER OF ENROLLED STUDENTS

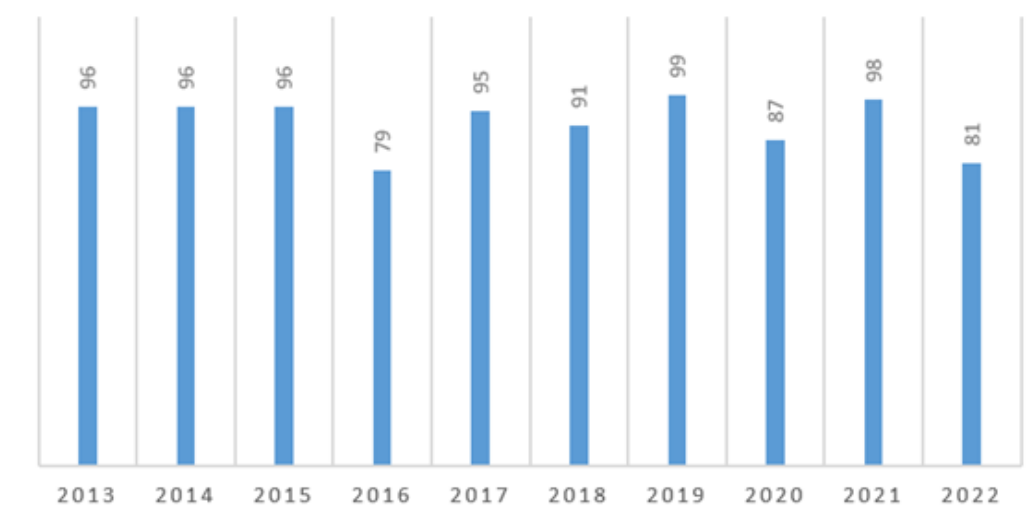


Figure 3.1.4.1. Number of students enrolled in Professional Bachelor degree programmes of Arts field of study 2013-2022

The total number of students enrolled in the programme during the reporting period averaged 323 students per year, with the number of students in the programme remaining relatively stable, especially in the state-budget funded study places. It can be observed that the number of students with personal funding has decreased in the second half of the reporting period (see Figure 3.1.4.2), which is in line with the general trends in the country - according to the Central Statistical Office (hereinafter - CSO) data, the total number of fee-paying university students in Latvia decreased by 18% between 2013 and 2021 (for more information see the description of criterion 3.1.4 of the Professional Master degree programme in *Music and Performing Arts*).

NUMBER OF STUDENTS BY FUNDING SOURCE

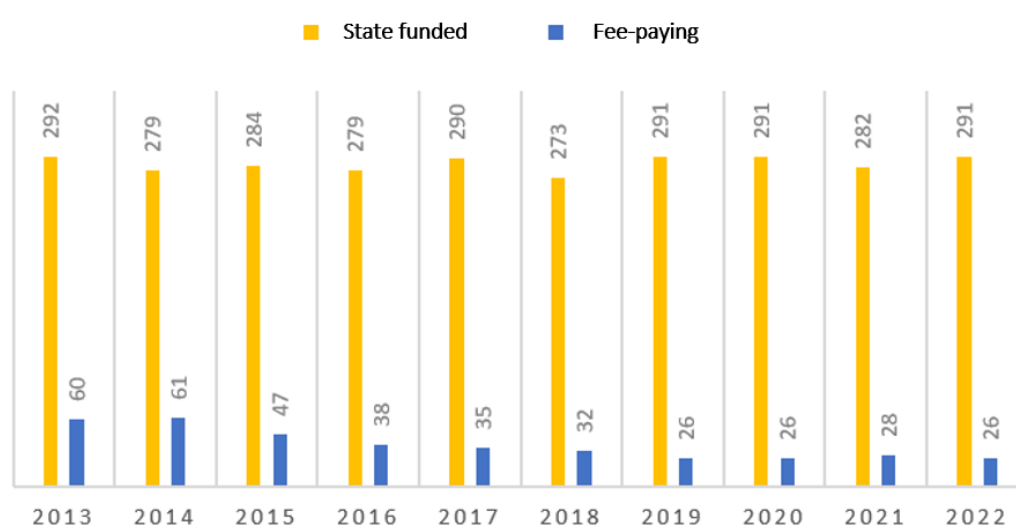


Figure 3.1.4.2. Distribution of students enrolled in Professional Bachelor degree programmes in Arts field of study by source of funding 2013-2022

Student drop-out during the reporting period ranged from 15 to 26 students - an average of 20 students per year, representing around 6% of the total student population (see Figure 3.1.4.3). Part

of student drop-out occurs when students leave their studies of their own volition. In *Music and Performing Arts* this decision is made for such reasons as migration to foreign higher education institutions (in the reporting period students left their studies at JVLAM to continue their studies in the Netherlands, Great Britain, Germany, Russia and other countries) due to more favourable labour market opportunities already during their studies, as well as professional prospects in artistic and creative collectives. This type of drop-out statistically occurs during all semesters of study. A small percentage of drop-outs are students who change their field of study priorities during the course of their studies (usually students choose to change their studies within cultural fields, e.g. cultural project management, music management, etc.). Significant part of the drop-out is accounted for by students who have rotated out of state funded budget places due to their performance, as well as students who have not returned from a break in their studies due to health or other reasons. Such drop-outs occur throughout the semesters of study. During the reporting period, the national epidemiological restrictions imposed in the academic year 2021/2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic meant that students not vaccinated against Covid-19 could not continue with their full-time studies, which was also a reason for the drop-out of some students.

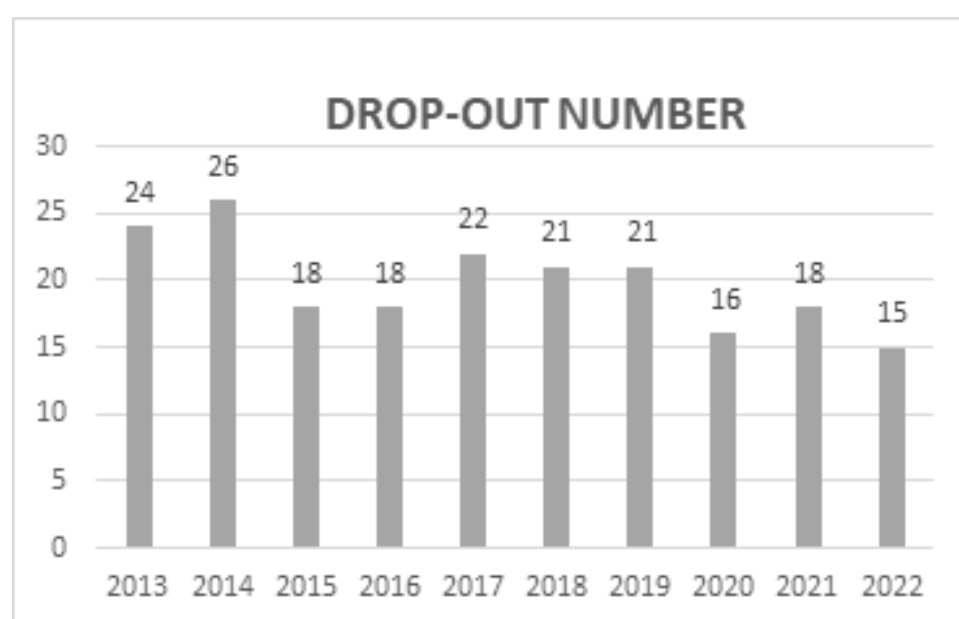


Figure 3.1.4.3. Drop-out rate for Professional Bachelor of Arts students 2013-2022

The number of graduates from the programme during the reporting period was on average 70 students per year, with the number of graduates ranging from 57 to 86 students per year (see Figure 3.1.4.4). The fluctuations in the number of graduates are due to the fact that students tend to take breaks during their studies (e.g. for health reasons, pregnancy or other justifiable circumstances). The number of study leaves tends to vary from year to year, and resumption of studies depends on the evolution of circumstances, which is why the number of graduates during the reporting period is more volatile than the other student statistics analyzed.

NUMBER OF GRADUATES

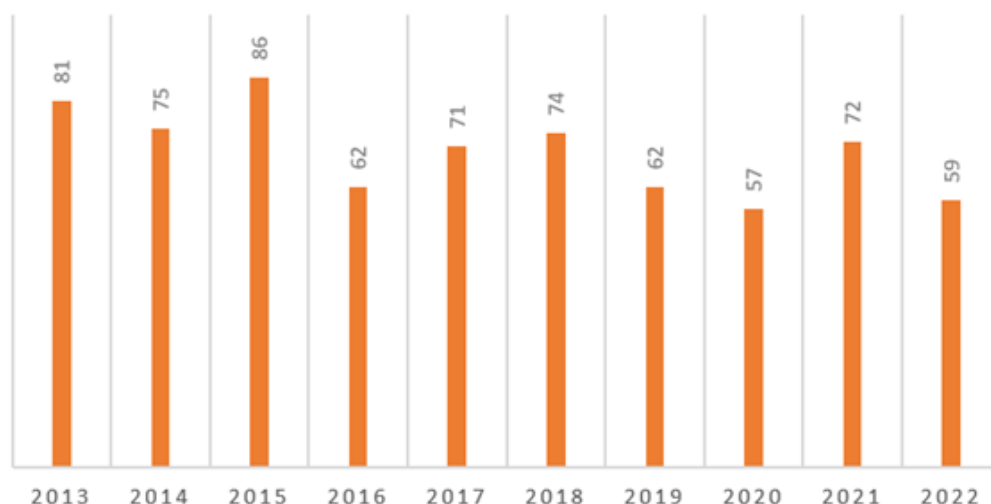


Figure 3.1.4.4. Number of graduates from Professional Bachelor degree programmes in Arts 2013 - 2022

Overall, student statistics have remained stable over the reporting period. It should be noted that between 2013 and 2021, the total number of university students in Latvia decreased by 14% (see Figure 3.1.4.5), which is largely due to the demographic situation in Latvia, with the country's population declining.

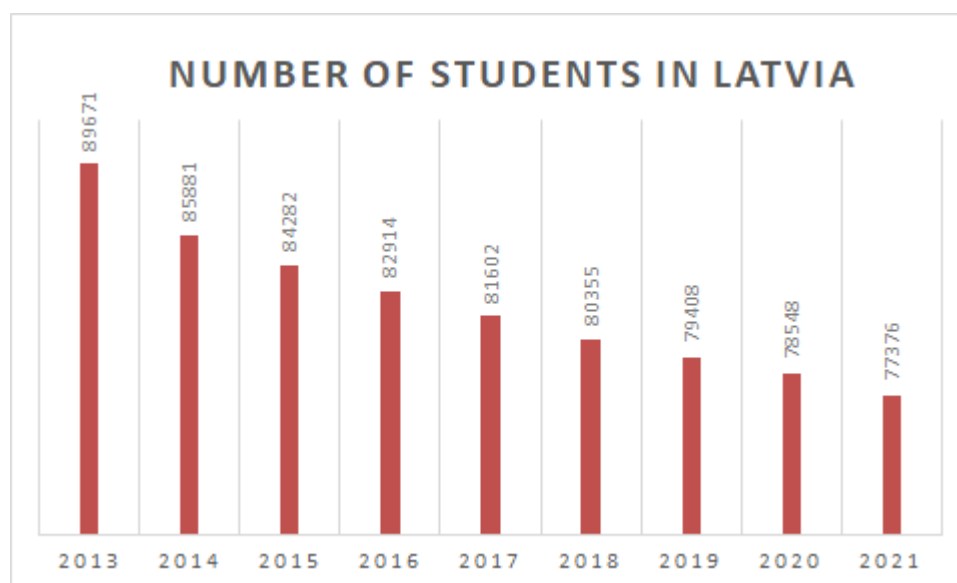


Figure 3.1.4.5. Number of students in higher education institutions in Latvia 2013 - 2021 (data source: CSP (Latvian only),

<https://stat.gov.lv/lv/statistikas-temas/izglitiba-kultura-zinatne/augstaka-izglitiba/8097-studenti?theMeCode=IG>)

Therefore, the relatively stable number of students enrolled in the study programme is a very positive indicator. During the reporting period, various student attraction activities were carried out, both in cooperation with music high schools and by carrying out such activities at the Academy. In the reporting period, student attraction activities "in person" have been replaced by remote activities through online information forums, remote Open Days and open lectures, as well as online tutorials, due to the epidemiological constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic. In the academic year 2021/2022, an audio podcast series "Come to Study" was recorded in collaboration with Sound

Direction students, where JVLAM staff talk to JVLAM students about their study experiences and opportunities at the Academy. As epidemiological constraints have decreased, both approaches have been combined to attract students, with both “in-person” and remote outreach activities.

By launching the study programme in English, it is planned to attract students from abroad, thus increasing the total number of students and competition in the study programme, as well as increasing the funding available for the study programme by attracting fee-paying students. This is an important step for the sustainable operation and development of the JVLAM, making better use of the opportunities of internationalization processes. Taking into account the experience of the JVLAM with the number of incoming exchange students, the interest shown by foreign students in full-time studies, as well as the wide number of specialisations represented in the study programme, by adding English as a language of implementation to the study programme, the JVLAM could attract approximately 25 foreign students per year at the bachelor study level. Work with foreign students has been tested through activities within the framework of exchange programmes - about 20 foreign students study at the JVLAM every year.

Attracting foreign students would be facilitated by activities already implemented and/or initiated at the JVLAM during the reporting period:

- JVLAM’s membership in various international organizations and professional bodies;
- Promotion of the JVLAM through participation in artistic and creative international projects: information sheets, press releases, communication of JVLAM representatives;
- Preparatory courses for students from the EU education area and other foreign countries have been developed in the e-learning environment;
- Improved accessibility of study courses in foreign languages, based on information obtained during foreign visits within the framework of faculty exchange programmes, updated study content and teaching methodology;
- Cooperation between the JVLAM Self-Government Board and the heads of the departments has been activated, with regular meetings between representatives of local and foreign students and lecturers during the study process;
- The University ensures open, active communication in foreign languages between academic staff and students;
- Using the information gained from the mobility of lecturers, seminars on education systems, methodologies and practices in different countries were organized to prepare lecturers to work effectively with international students using tailor-made methodologies;
- Admissions advertisements in foreign languages on websites targeting international and foreign students.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The study programme has been developed in accordance with the requirements of *the Regulations on the State Standard of the Second Level Professional Higher Education* (Cabinet Regulations No.512, approved on 26 August 2014) and the decisions of the JVLAM Senate. The structure and content of the study programme meet the requirements for the education of music and choreography specialists and, in accordance with the aim of the study programme, contribute to the preparation of professional musicians, music researchers and performing arts specialists of the highest level who are adequately prepared and competitive in the professional environment and meet the cultural and social needs of the country. The quality of the implementation of the study process, teaching and learning of the study content is regularly monitored and analyzed by the responsible units.

In 2022, significant changes have been made to the structure and content of the study programme. The process of reviewing and updating the study programme was organized through regular work of external experts (7 experts involved within the project - representatives of employers and professional organizations) and internal experts (heads of sections, departments and classes - in total more than 40 representatives of the academic and general staff of the JVLAM) in working groups. Representatives of various stakeholder groups - the head of the field of study, directors of the study programmes, heads of departments, lecturers, students and employers' representatives - participated in the development process. As a result, changes were made to the structure of the Professional Bachelor study programmes, the study plan was updated and the content of the study courses was approved by the JVLAM Senate and on 3 August 2022 by the AIC Study Quality Commission.

The most important benefits of the changes in the content of the study programme are:

- (1) the possibility to update the content of existing bachelor programmes to meet the needs of the sector;
- (2) possibility to take into account the results of the study on the compliance of the study programmes of the JVLAM with the requirements of the labour market, recommendations provided in the expert opinions of *MusiQuE*, as well as recommendations of the students and graduates of Professional Bachelor study programmes of the JVLAM for the improvement of the study programme;
- (3) the possibility to take into account the best practices of European music universities;
- (4) the possibility to compare bachelor level study sub-programmes with equivalent programmes in higher education institutions of European Union countries, thus contributing to the integration of

the JVLAM programme into the modern European higher education system;

(5) the possibility to implement a balanced curriculum with more resources dedicated to specialisation courses in particular.

The content of the study programme is arranged in 5 parts of the study plan so that students can apply theoretical knowledge in practical work - both artistic and pedagogical practice. This approach allows the student to be properly prepared for the labour market. The internship is organized in cooperation with concert organizations, professional orchestras, choirs, dance groups, educational institutions and other organizations. Parts of the study plan (according to the national standard for education):

Part A (compulsory) study courses:

1) general education study courses of 20 credit points - study courses in the humanities and social sciences, including study courses that develop basic social, communicative and organizational skills, as well as study courses in business, civil and environmental protection, foreign languages for specialisation (for the study programme in English - Latvian for foreign students);

2) theoretical core courses and information technology courses in the professional field of 38 credits, providing the opportunity to specialize in different areas of music and choreography according to the specialisation to be acquired.

Part B (restricted elective) study courses:

professional specialisation courses in the sector (area of professional activity) of 61 credit, including courses in methodology and pedagogical practice for acquiring the right to teach.

Part C (free elective) study courses:

study courses of 6 credits provide the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in study courses related to the chosen specialisation, or to acquire knowledge in another field, at the student's choice. You can choose from the free elective study courses offered by the JVLAM or study at another higher education institution.

Internship study courses:

The internship part of 23 credits provides an opportunity to test the theoretical knowledge acquired in study and research work in practical work, promotes the development of professional skills, and promotes the unity of theory and practice.

State Examination part:

state examinations of 12 credits, which include the application of theoretical knowledge and insights as well as research skills in the elaboration and defense of the bachelor's thesis (2 credits), as well as examinations in practical activities relevant to the chosen specialisation or profile (e.g. preparation and performance of a programme in a public concert / preparation and defense of a performance project, etc.).

The study plan is designed so that the acquisition and development of knowledge, skills and competences in the study courses included in the study plan is sequential and is directed towards the achievement of the study programme outcomes. Taking into account the wide range of specialisations of the study programme, many JVLAM departments and classes are involved in the implementation, content development and updating of the study programme, which are responsible for the provision of appropriate study courses.

Changes in the structure and content of Professional Bachelor study programmes, in cooperation

with the leading specialists of all units (departments and classes) of the Performing Arts Section and the Musicology, Composition and Technology Section of the Professional Bachelor study programmes, in discussions with representatives of students and graduates of the Professional Bachelor study programmes, as well as based on the project "Ensuring Good Governance at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music" (SAM 8.2.3) within the framework of the evaluation of art study programmes (using the services of foreign experts of the international evaluation agency *MusiQuE*) during the academic year 2021/2022, an analysis of the results of study programmes as well as the results of study courses in relation to the most current trends in the labour market in Europe has been carried out.

Having identified the need to strengthen the interdisciplinary aspects of the Professional Bachelor's study programme, as well as to create mechanisms by which the JVLAM could support students in their professional practice and evaluate their performance in professional projects directly related to their studies in the chosen specialisation, several new study courses common to all sub-programmes, specialisations and profiles of the Professional Bachelor's programme have been created and included in the updated study plan of the study programme *Music and Performing Arts*. For example, the internship part includes new study courses: *Creative project*, within the framework of which the student organizes, develops, implements or participates in an internship project in the field of performing arts, which is related to the study work at JVLAM; *Masterclasses*, within the framework of which the student independently participates in masterclasses organized by JVLAM and/or other institutions or other relevant projects related to performing arts, music, dance (masterclasses, concerts, festivals, competitions, seminars, scientific conferences, etc.) in Latvia and abroad to deepen, develop, and expand the knowledge, skills, and competences of the main courses of the chosen sub-programme/specialisation.

In order to achieve the common goals and results of all sub-programmes, common theoretical courses of study are implemented, which are provided by the departments of the respective competences (e.g. courses related to music history and theory are provided by the Department of Musicology, courses related to humanities and social sciences by the Department of General Studies, courses related to language learning by the Foreign Languages Class, etc.). Study courses designed to achieve specialisation-specific learning outcomes are developed and implemented by the departments of the respective specialisations. The transfer of study courses to the competence of specialisation departments makes it possible to effectively ensure the interrelation of the information, expected outcomes, objectives and other parameters included in specialisation study courses between different study courses, as well as with the overall objectives and expected outcomes of the study programme.

In the academic year 2021/2022, a review of the study programme plan and content, taking into account the need for students in several sub-programmes to acquire similar knowledge, has led to the development of a number of new theoretical core courses in professional activity in Part A of the study programme, which are common to students in several sub-programmes. For example, in the course *History of the Western Music of the 20th and 21st Centuries*, future instrumentalists, vocalists, jazz musicians, choral conductors, sound engineers and ethnomusicologists acquire a basic knowledge of the most characteristic processes and concepts in the history of academic genres in the 20th and early 21st centuries in order to build a solid foundation of knowledge and skills of professional analysis of information for further studies in music history and theory and specialty; the course *Analysis of the 20th and 21st century music* is designed to enable students of musicology, composition, symphonic and brass band conducting to develop comprehensive skills in 20th and 21st century music (composition) analysis, as well as to learn the regularities of composition in their interaction with the specifics of musical genres and styles.

Regular updating of the content of study courses in line with the latest developments in the field

and the labour market is largely facilitated by the fact that the lecturers of many study courses are leading specialists in their field, whose professional daily work requires constant improvement of study content and teaching methods and keeping up with the latest global trends in their field. Thanks to the up-to-date study content and highly qualified teaching staff, students acquire knowledge and develop skills necessary for the labour market, which is also confirmed by the high employment rate of the JVLAM graduates.

Taking into consideration the fact that the purpose of this Professional Bachelor's study programme is to ensure the preparation of professional musicians, music researchers and performing arts specialists for the cultural and social demands of the state, the content of the study programme has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the respective professional fields and labour market. The involvement of the Latvian leading music researchers and academicians in the processes of programme development and implementation guarantees the inclusion and constant revision of the latest scientific findings within the study content of the theory courses.

It should be noted that the changes in the content of the study courses during the reporting period were also influenced by the need to revise the methods used in the study courses, adapting them to the distance learning process caused by the epidemiological constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic. Given the specific nature of the study programme and the importance of "in-person" classes for the success of the study process, this is considered a major challenge.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The tasks and requirements for contact hours and independent work hours in the study courses of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* are varied and differ in different study courses and specialisations. The methods of implementation of the study process, methods of competence assessment, types and requirements are specified in the description of each study course. The study content is acquired by organizing students' work in contact hours with lecturers, as well as by assigning tasks for students' independent work. Contact hours are organized through sessions of flows and groups and individual sessions. According to the study course

description, lecturers structure flow and group classes in the form of lectures, seminars, colloquia, and individual classes in the form of practical work.

The JVLAM implements the study process in accordance with the good practice of student-centered education - it uses various approaches to programme learning, including individualizing the content of study courses and methods of course learning according to the specifics of study courses, adapting learning paths, regularly evaluating and improving teaching methods and methods, as well as prioritizing students' autonomy. The methods of course implementation are chosen in such a way as to facilitate the development of transferable skills in the study process. The units involved in the implementation of the study process take into account the principles of student-centered education in both individual and group classes - taking into account the different needs of students, an individual approach is applied to each student according to the existing possibilities, depending on the individual's skills, abilities and preferences.

Student-centered work at the university is also related to the choice of lecturers organized for students at the very beginning of the study process, respecting students' wishes for the highest quality of education. Before applying for studies at the JVLAM, Open Days are organized for the prospective students at the Academy, during which it is possible to attend classes, as well as Consultation Days, where they can participate in a general consultation about the content of the entrance examinations, and receive individual consultations with JVLAM lecturers to make sure that their chosen studies are suitable for their aspirations and preparation level. After successfully passing the entrance examinations, students who have passed the competition register for their studies and choose a specialisation lecturer, which is very important for students of several specialisations, because it is the cooperation with the lecturer of one's specialisation that largely influences the successful achievement of study results during studies.

The study process is as much about collaborative work in class as it is about independent work. The number of students in specialisation groups is planned as far as possible to allow for maximum individualization in the lectures. Students' autonomy is promoted through a mutually respectful student-staff relationship, with guidance and support from the teaching staff. Individual study courses always take into account each student's previous experience and knowledge, allowing for a variety of teaching methods. Students receive regular feedback, which, if necessary, provides guidance on the learning process.

For working students, their workload is taken into account as far as possible, and individual lessons and consultations are arranged at times that are convenient for them. In group classes, the principles of student-centered learning guide the application of content to specific students, creating the most appropriate learning pathways. In general, all units operate based on the principle that only a deep, individualized immersion in the student's interests, preliminary knowledge, creative aspirations and actual abilities can support the development of the creative personality of the future professional.

Attention is paid to the establishment of links between students of different specialisations in the study process, for example, students of composition collaborating with students of performing arts and students of sound recording in the performance of compositions in concerts and exams. The study process is also organized to ensure, as far as possible, links with professional collectives through joint cooperation projects aimed at establishing early contacts with each other, creating awareness of the future musicians and performing artists as they enter the labour market. For example, in the academic year 2021/2022, composition students had the opportunity to collaborate with the Latvian Radio Choir during the *DeciBels* festival, with the LNSO in the *LeNeSO*ns programme for children, and with the Riga Orchestra in a joint composition competition for brass band. The Department of Composition pays attention to the fact that the results of the students'

work in the study courses do not remain only on paper as theoretical achievements, but gain practical application. For example, the piano excerpts from the score playing course are specially adapted for practical use by concertmasters in symphony and brass band conducting courses, while the student instrumentations are often included by Professor Andris Vecumnieks in the LNSO's concerts for children.

A good example of student-centered education, as well as the promotion of cooperation between students of different specialisations, is the *Piano* study course provided by the Department of General Piano for students of all sub-programmes. The repertoire of the study course is composed in creative collaboration between the lecturer and the student, individually for each student, assessing their technical playing abilities, and adapting them to the repertoire relevant to the specialisation. The opportunity is given to become more familiar with and master the piano parts of the repertoire of the specialty, which promotes a more complete understanding of the repertoire and gives the opportunity to work more qualitatively in one's specialty, both as a performing artist and as a teacher. A successful experience during the reporting period was the organisation of a joint project with the Vocal Department, where 36 general piano students were given the opportunity to experience the role of a concertmaster, which contributes to a better understanding of the specifics of the concertmaster's work. The Department of General Piano considers it an achievement for any student to perform publicly on the piano, if it is not his/her specialty instrument, and therefore organizes such performance opportunities for students both within and outside the JVLAM every year.

Cooperation between students of different specialisations of the JVLAM is facilitated by the various extracurricular events organized by the JVLAM in cooperation with the Creative Projects Division, such as the annual chamber music concert - competition organized together with the Pēteris Vasks Foundation. In addition, the music and performing arts events organized by the JVLAM not only promote cooperation between students of different specialisations and representatives of professional organizations, but also provide opportunities for international experience and cooperation with professionals from other countries, such as the International Wood Wind Instrument Symposium, the *DeciBels* Contemporary Music Festival, and many other music and performing arts-related events at the JVLAM.

By adding English as a language of implementation to the study programme, it is planned to use the methods of study course delivery that have been used and approved in the study process so far, and which allow for successful achievement of the study outcomes. The lecturers' experience in working with students, based on the principles of student-centered education, adapting the content of studies to the topical issues of the field and the individual needs of students, will enable them to successfully provide studies also to foreign students. This is also confirmed by the previous experience of working with incoming exchange students - the experience of *Erasmus* exchange students at JVLAM has been so successful that exchange students have repeatedly expressed their interest in continuing their studies at JVLAM at later stages of their studies.

During the reporting period, we faced an unprecedented challenge: due to the epidemiological constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic, "in-person" studies periodically had to be transferred to a fully remote study process. Given the specific nature of the study programme and the importance of "in-person" classes for the success of the study process, this is considered a major challenge. Overall, the distance learning of theoretical courses has been successful. Students have asked to continue to study some of the theoretical courses remotely.

The main challenges have been in collective music-making activities, such as orchestral practice, where playing together and building a sense of ensemble and group is an essential component, which is not possible remotely. Similarly, online training for orchestral and choral conducting is a

very complex process, which can only be implemented as an exception and in the short term. In other courses, distance learning has also created challenges specific to different specialisations. For example, in the practical study courses of the Organ class, the main challenge for the organists was the performance of the great forms of the Romantic era - given the historical instruments at the JVLAM's disposal, without the help of an assistant, it is impossible to perform the frequent changes of registers in large Romantic compositions with technical quality alone.

Synchronisation and quality of sound and image was considered by many departments to be a major challenge for remote delivery of courses. There has been active cooperation with the responsible departments of the JVLAM, and significant improvements have been made in classrooms to ensure better internet connectivity and speed. Solutions were also sought in cooperation with other organisations, for example, Ēriks Kiršfelds, docent at the Department of String Instruments, realizing that it was impossible to provide sound equipment for each student individually, approached Latvian Radio with a request for microphones. Latvian Radio was very supportive in helping JVLAM students to ensure better quality of remote lessons.

The solutions applied by the teaching staff in the conditions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic testify to the high creativity and problem-solving skills of the JVLAM lecturers, as well as the ability to adapt the study content and methods to achieve the aim and results of the study programme not only to the current industry and labour market requirements, but also to the circumstances caused by the emergency situation, ensuring continuity of the study programme implementation in difficult and unforeseen circumstances.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The main principle of high-quality acquisition of the professional study programme content is the unity of study and practice. The organisation of internship work is determined by the *Regulations on the Organisation of Internship Work in the Art Study Programmes of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* (attached as an appendix).

The division of the study placement into individual placement units (study courses) is designed taking into account the needs of each specialisation (and profile). The amount of internship in credits, as well as their distribution by semesters according to each specialisation, is specified in the study plan. The content of the internship, as well as the criteria and forms of assessment of competences, are specified in the course descriptions of the internship studies, which are attached as an annex to the self-assessment report, as well as in the internship work programmes developed in accordance with the course descriptions.

All students of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* are expected to supplement their knowledge and develop their skills in the study courses *Creative Project* and *Masterclasses* (such internships have not been included in the JVLAM Professional Bachelor study plans so far; they will be introduced in the study plan updated in 2022, taking into account the

experience of foreign music universities and the needs of the labour market), as well as in the internship study courses relevant to the specific specialisation. The content of the internship is determined by the course description and the internship work programme (for individual lessons - individually developed for each semester, for collective music lessons - a semester-long internship work programme for a music unit). The internships included in the study programme are aimed at achieving study results, both for the implementation of artistic and creative ideas, for the development and improvement of technical skills, and for the acquisition of teaching competence in the chosen field of specialisation.

The following main types of internships are carried out within the study programme, according to the sub-programme and specialisation:

- professional specialisation internship, including artistic and creative internship (see the study plan for the names of the internships corresponding to the specialisations);
- pedagogical internship.

The heads of the departments in charge of the implementation of the study course are responsible for the organisation and proceedings of internship work. The respective heads of departments and / or the tutors of the study course assist the students in finding and selecting the internship opportunities. Opportunities to participate in masterclasses and internships abroad are also provided to the students – this process is governed by the Foreign Affairs Department of the JVLAM. Due to the importance of internship and collective music making in the field of study, the academic year at the JVLAM is organized into weeks of study, internship and examinations. Internship weeks are used to give students the opportunity to participate in various artistic activities (orchestra, choir, masterclasses, etc.). Internship activities may take place within and outside the JVLAM – at other culture and education institutions, with which the JVLMA has signed agreements on the implementation of internships. Artistic and creative internship is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the course description. The relevant department draws up an internship work plan as part of the departmental work plan. Artistic internships at the JVLAM are organized in cooperation with the Creative Projects Division of the JVLAM, which registers the planned practice events in the Concert Register Book, provides advertising of the internship events, receives and distributes the programme of the internship event from the Head of the Department and ensures the organisation of the event. Programmes and other promotional materials are stored at the Concert Department of the JVLAM and, in accordance with the requirements of the JVLAM Case Nomenclature, are deposited in the archives of the University; Internship events outside the JVLAM are organized in cooperation with various cultural or educational institutions. The creative internship is organized by the head of the department in collaboration with the person in charge of the institution. The information and promotional materials of the internship are handed over by the head of the department to the Creative Project Department, which keeps records of the internship. The results of the creative internship work are discussed and evaluated in the meetings of the relevant department. The responsible lecturer shall record the results of the student's internship work (assessment) in the student's Progress Sheet.

Traditionally, JVLAM students are given the opportunity to acquire the right to teach alongside their professional qualification during their studies, thus helping to fill the shortage of teachers in the country, as well as increasing employment opportunities for students and graduates. In order to offer students the opportunity to acquire the right to become a teacher, the updated AI part of the study plan offers all students the opportunity to take joint courses in *Pedagogy* and *Educational Psychology*, provided by the Department of Music Education. Part BII of the study plan includes courses in subject methodology and pedagogical practice according to specialisation, provided by the department of the respective specialisation. The only sub-programme that, as a result of the

update of the study content, has abandoned the pedagogical internship and the pedagogical qualification is *Sound Recording*. The decision is based on the fact that music technology teachers are not in demand, it is a very small niche of interest education that is implemented in some schools, so it was decided to leave this opportunity for students who enter the profile of a sound recording teacher in the corresponding study programme of the JVLAM study direction *Education and Pedagogy*.

Heads of departments and teaching staff agree that internships are the main driving force for performing artists, motivating students to study their course and practice to improve their practical performance, which is an important task of professional studies. Internships are therefore an essential and integral part of the studies. In many cases, internships take the form of practice concerts, competitions and projects with ensembles. Each internship concert stimulates an inner motivation to prepare a given programme in the quality of a public performance. Moreover, concert practice outside the academy always gives more motivation to prepare, because the audience is a very important part of the performance, so lecturers try to organize student concerts in schools, churches, nursing homes, etc. Examples of the role of internships in achieving learning outcomes in some specialisations are given in a sample:

In the Department of Jazz Music, internship has been an essential and integral part of studies from the very beginning. Students' participation in masterclasses, *jam* sessions and concerts enhances their professional abilities, challenges them and brings them closer to their goal of becoming a professional jazz musician. An important aspect is the personal example - all the lecturers in the Department of Jazz Music are active performers, sought-after professionals in their field, who often involve students in their projects. High-quality professional and pedagogical internship motivates students to learn better and strive for better results.

In the Department of Choreography, students develop professional practice skills and experience in applying knowledge and skills in working with collectives. Already during their studies, the students undergo their professional and pedagogical internship, actively working and performing at the Riga Ballet School, ballet studios, as well as directors of Latvian stage dance groups, *répétiteurs* in children's school and adult dance groups, as well as very successfully participate in creative dance competitions organized by the Latvian National Culture Centre and the Latvian National Centre for Education, winning prizes and awards for choreographing new works, creating new dance performances, which in general is a significant contribution to the strengthening, preservation and future development of Latvia's intangible culture.

The orchestra class is directly linked to the acquisition and development of orchestral practice for students. As the students have different levels of technical and artistic training, including different previous experience in the daily work of an orchestra, it is important that each student improves and completes his/her internship experience as a result of the orchestral activity, which is invaluable for future development and vital for a successful entry into the labour market.

The professional organ practice of organ students is one of the most important driving forces in the education of an organist. Each practice concert for organ students means developing a different registration on different instruments in the same pieces, getting to know different styles of instruments, as well as stimulating an inner motivation to prepare a given programme in the quality of a public performance.

Professional internship in the Composition specialisation is very closely linked to theory - it is a compulsory requirement in any examination that the result of the study work is assessed not in the form of sheet music, but in the form of a concert or recording, as a result of which students also learn and develop their communication and organizational skills.

As part of the journalistic internship at the Department of Musicology, students can publish their reviews of concerts on the JVLAM website in the *Vox Musicae* section. Radio and television internship allows students to learn the basics of radio journalism and television journalism skills - during the reporting period the JVLAM established cooperation with the Latvian Television's Cultural Broadcasting Editorial Office, which provided students with the opportunity to participate in live broadcasts of cultural events (for example, the *Grand Annual Award*). After this internship, some of the students start working with the internship placement, e.g. Latvijas Radio 3 *Klasika*.

During the reporting period, students of all specialisations have been actively engaged in artistic and creative activities, which have been crowned with laurels and other awards in various competitions, as well as with public recognition.

With the launch of the study programme in English, it is also planned to provide study internship opportunities for foreign students. Taking into account that professional specialisation practice, including artistic and creative practice, does not require specific language skills, the implementation of study practice for foreigners would be carried out in the same way as for students of the JVLAM - both at the JVLAM and in cooperation with various cultural institutions. The heads of the specialisation departments and lecturers would also provide support to foreign students in organising internships. Given that the incoming *Erasmus* international students have so far also successfully participated in mastering of the internship part of the courses, no obstacles are perceived to the successful achievement of the learning outcomes of these courses by the international students. The provision of teaching internship for foreign students would also be organized with the support of the JVLAM staff. The close cooperation with various educational institutions and the active involvement of the JVLAM teaching staff in vocational and interest education also outside the Academy will enable foreign students to have complete teaching internship opportunities in English.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

The study programme is concluded with a state examination - the final result of the student's competence assessment, obtained on the basis of the state examination assessment of the mastering of the study course content in the diploma examinations (DE). DE is an examination of theoretical knowledge as well as practical skills and competences that meet the requirements set out in the study programme and are necessary for the successful performance of the tasks of the chosen specialisation profession.

The knowledge and skills of the students in accordance with the criteria set out in the course description are evaluated on a 10-point scale by the DE committee nominated by the State

Examination Commission, which, in addition to the JVLAM teaching staff, also includes leading specialists of Latvian and/or foreign cultural institutions in the relevant field. The competence assessment grades of the students in the reporting period are high, in the Professional Bachelor study programme in the reporting period most often DE students were graded with 7 (good) to 9 (excellent) points, as evidenced by the records of the DE commission in the State Examination Protocols. In many specialisations, there is a tendency for the DEs related to the specialisation subjects and artistic skills to score higher than in the theoretical exams. For example, Bachelor of *Composition* students in the reporting period received an average grade of 8.7 points in DE *Composition*, 8.4 points in DE *Instrumentation*, and 8.1 points in *History and Theory of Music*; *Choreography* students received an average grade of 8.5 points in the *Development and Defense of a Diploma Thesis/Performance* in the reporting period, and 6.8 points in the *Colloquium in the specialty, History and Theory of Music*; Bachelor of *Ethnomusicology* students in the reporting period received an average grade of 8.8 points in the *Collective Music Performance Concert Examination*, 7.6 points in the *Development and Defense of the Bachelor Thesis*, and 7.3 points in the *Colloquium in Ethnomusicology*.

The results of the final examinations of the students in the reporting period are generally of a high professional artistic level, the DE concert programmes and concert performances are varied, the level of complexity of the content corresponds to the 6th level of the Latvian Qualification Framework (LQF). The participation of professional organizations and staff from foreign universities in the final examination commissions shows that the high assessments of students' competence are objective and indicate the high competitiveness of graduates in the labour market.

The programme and content of the students' artistic examinations are up-to-date and relevant to each sub-programme, specialisation and profile of the study programme, generally covering a wide spectrum of genres and periods, according to the students' interests, as well as the current trends in the field and the labour market. DE is implemented both at the JVLAM and at other cultural and educational institutions. For example, in the academic year 2021/2022, DE for bachelor students also took place at the Great Guild, Small Guild, VEF Culture Palace, the Church of St. Magdalen, the Great Hall of the University of Latvia, in addition, the cultural space M/Darbnīca, as well as outside Riga, e.g. in Liepāja concert hall "Lielais dzintars", Ādaži Municipality Culture Centre, and *Valdovo Rūmai* Palace in Vilnius, Lithuania.

The teaching staff tries to provide students with the opportunity to gradually become involved in the Latvian music life, and thus in the labour market, already during their studies. For example, *Composition* students' diploma examination programmes often include not only works created at the Academy and during their studies, but also works that have already been performed in other concerts and have become known to a wider audience. In addition, the compositions are performed by Latvian professional artists and ensembles, as well as by foreign performing artists. Some examples of artistic ensembles that performed student works during the reporting period: Latvian Radio Choir, Academic Choir *Latvija*, *Sinfonia Concertante*, NBS Staff Orchestra, Budapest Academy of Music Chamber Ensemble *Trio encuentro*, etc. This shows that JVLAM graduates have already become well-known in the prospective labour market, as well as gained practical experience in working with record producers.

The diploma examination programmes of students of other specialisations also involve not only JVLAM students, but also various artistic collectives, including high-level professional collectives. For example, in the academic year 2021/2022, students of the Professional Bachelor's programme *Symphony Orchestra Conducting* have conducted the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Liepāja Symphony Orchestra, and students of Choral Conducting have conducted the JVLAM Mixed Choir and the Youth Choir "Kamēr..." in their concert examinations. *Choreography* students have created a wide variety of concert performances and performances during their diploma

studies, e.g., in the academic year 2021/2022, DE has been performed as a concert performance of Latvian stage folk dance, a contemporary jazz dance performance, a contemporary ballet performance, etc. Bachelor of Choreography students have performed with Latvian National Opera and Ballet artists, *Riga City Jazz Dance* dancers, various dance groups, including LU Folk Dance Ensemble (TDA) "Dancis", TDA "Dzintariņš", TDA "Sprigulītis" and many others.

Both the high assessments of students' competence by the State Examination Commissions and the involvement of various professional artists and collectives in the diploma examinations of the JVLAM bachelor students testify to the relevance of the final examination topics in the industry and the labour market, as well as to the successfully achieved results of the study programme.

During the reporting period, an oral examination - a colloquium in the specialisation, history and theory of music - was organized at the end of the study programme to test the theoretical knowledge of Professional Bachelor studies. Taking into account the requirement of the State Standard for Higher Education on the development and defense of a bachelor thesis or diploma thesis (diploma project), the updated study plan includes the study course *Diploma Thesis* for all sub-programmes instead of the previous colloquium to test theoretical knowledge. It is designed to develop and defend a diploma thesis in the chosen specialisation based on the theoretical knowledge and skills acquired throughout the study stage, as well as to prepare the student for the State Examination, to test the student's knowledge, skills and competences against the requirements of 6th level of LQF and the requirements of the 6th level of professional qualification corresponding to the chosen specialisation. An exception is the *Musicology* sub-programme, where research is important for the qualification to be obtained according to the musicology professional standard, and therefore students in this sub-programme carry out the development and defense of a larger research project as part of the *Bachelor Thesis* state examination. The AIC expert opinion received during the 2022 evaluation procedure of the changes indicated that the replacement of the colloquium by a diploma thesis was positively perceived by both teaching staff and the students, highlighting the opportunity for in-depth research on a specific topic and the opportunity to develop research skills.

It is expected that, similarly to other diploma examination programmes, the topics of the diploma theses will be chosen by the students together with the lecturers according to their specialisation and professional interests. Previously, the JVLAM Professional Bachelor's study programmes included a diploma thesis as one of the final examinations for *Choral Conducting* students. To give you an insight into the diversity of topics, here are the topics of the 2021/2022 academic year students' diploma theses: "*Byzantine chant traditions in the a cappella choral works of Andrejs Selickis - Radi mani, ak Dievs; Душа грустит о небесах; Светилен Вознесения Господня*", "*Fugue in J. S. Bach's B Minor Masses in Kyrie and Gloria: their common form and problems of performance*", "*The use of folklore elements in Laura Jēkabsons choral music: the most striking characteristics, their interpretation*", "*Christs Auznieks' choral work "Silence falls": the most striking stylistic features*". Three of these theses were rated 9 (excellent) and one 10 (outstanding).

More extensive research is carried out by future musicologists, both during the reporting period and under the updated study plan within the framework of the *Bachelor's Thesis* state examination. Overall, the final theses of the students in the reporting period covered a wide range of topics in musicology and ethnomusicology, including personality studies, music history and journalism, and various ethnomusicology-related topics. The average grade for bachelor theses in the reporting period was 7.9. For an insight into the topics of the final theses, here is a list of outstanding undergraduate theses of the reporting period: "*The bolsa stylistics of the Aulean period*", "*Lent Sermon "Ryugtōs sōpes" and its music in contemporary Latgalian Catholic choir practice: three examples*", "*Multilingual pieces in Latvian composers' choral music: aesthetic guidelines and their manifestations in the simultaneous use of different languages*", "*Varis Auziņš and Ģirts Laube - two*

personalities in the transfer of Latvian folk music instrument building skills"; "What is Classics? The creation and format of Latvian Radio 3"; "Latvian Musicians' Society (1922-1938): profile and benefits of the concert lecture "Musicians' Day".

Taking into account the specificity of professional studies in the *Music and Performing Arts* group of educational programmes, it should be noted that the successful achievement of study results is evidenced not only by the grades and relevance of final theses in the field, but also by the achievements of students' artistic creativity already during their studies. During the reporting period, the students of the JVLAM have achieved remarkable success both in Latvia and internationally. During their studies, several JVLAM students have already received the *Great Music Award*, which is the highest annual Latvian state award in music. JVLAM students have also received numerous awards in international competitions during the reporting period. For more information and examples of student achievements, see description of the criterion 2.4.5 of the Characteristics of the field of study.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The available resources of the JVLAM are used for the implementation of the study programme, as described in Criteria 2.3.1 -2.3.3 of the description of the study field in the self-assessment report. The provision meets the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

It is not possible to allocate specific resources for the implementation of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, as the study programme includes all specialisations of the study field *Arts* and also unites more than half of the JVLAM students. Similarly to other programmes implemented by the JVLAM, the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* uses the available infrastructure of the JVLAM - classrooms equipped with musical instruments, audio and video playback facilities, information resources, sports complex, student and lecturer lounge, canteen, cloakroom, etc.

The technical and material base is regularly upgraded and renewed. During the reporting period, the demand for high-quality and modern technology-compatible material and technical base for the quality implementation of study courses increased significantly during the distance learning sessions, which was improved as far as possible.

The resources available at the JVLAM Library are sufficient to implement the study programme both in Latvian, and in English language. Access is provided for foreign students during their study process to numerous subscribed databases, musical scores and printed publications (1853 English titles, 2184 items), ensuring the availability of information required for successful studies.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The financial year of the University corresponds to the calendar year, therefore the budget processes and its development take place in autumn, when the JVLAM unit plans and budgets activities for the following financial year. The main source of income for the study process is the funding of state budget places. In addition to the state budget, the study programme is also supported by project funding from the European Structural Funds and mobility programmes.

It is planned to implement the study programme as funded by the state budget, however, it is planned to offer studies for a fee to those applicants that have not passed the competition for studies in the state budget group. For these applicants individual cost estimates will be prepared that fully covers the costs of the studies. On average 8-9% of students have studied for a fee in the recent years on the bachelor's level in the JVLAM direction Arts (statistical data on the distribution of students according to the financing of their studies is available in section 3.1.4 of the report). By adding English language as a second language of implementation of this study programme, it is intended to attract foreign students who will study for a fee, covering the costs of their studies according to prepared individual cost estimates.

The optimal financing of the study programme is calculated, based on the historical average total number of students in the programme, i.e. 280 full time students per year. The calculation accounts for individual costs of each student (individual contact lessons, costs of accompanists, administrative costs, etc.), as well as the costs of student groups. The programme was developed with the aim to make financially viable studies in select specializations (rare musical instruments, highly specialized performance styles, etc.) even with one student per specialization, however, since in the field of performing arts the number of individual lessons available to each student are of paramount importance, the grouping of 280 full-time students and the subsequent reduction of costs permit flexible allocation of funding in collaboration with the specialized departments and the student union per each consecutive academic year, with the aim of improving the quality of studies, following the examples of foreign HEIs and the principles of student-centred learning.

280 students are planned per programme in all semesters (years) in total and in Latvian / English language groups, that is – for example, on September 1 of the academic year 2024/2025 there would be 280 students in total. The optimum financing for the study programme is calculated for the average of 280 state budget study places per year for studies in Latvian, with part of the study

content implemented in English language. In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, Paragraph 56 (3): “(3) The study programmes of higher education institutions and colleges shall be implemented in the official language. In a study programme which is implemented in the official language, not more than one-fifth of the credit point amount of the study programme may be implemented in other official languages of the European Union [..].” Since the contribution from internationally recognized academic staff members is very important in respective study programme, the calculations take into account the additional costs that may potentially be created by the management of individual and group study courses in English language (i.e. the students that study in English in frames of the Law of the Higher Education Institutions). The calculations also take into account various additional resources (books, periodicals, etc.) that are required to implement such study courses, as well as the equipment and material resources that may be required to ensure successful mobility of students in frames of Erasmus+ programme.

The financial calculations of the study programme are made by multiplying the base funding by the coefficient of the subject field of education specified in the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 994 (12.12.2006) "Procedure for Financing Universities and Colleges from State Budget Funds".

Base funding	Subject field coefficient	Funding per student
EUR 1630.11	3.9	EUR 6357.43

Due to the high proportion of individual contact hours in the study programme, the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations have redistributed the recommended proportions of funding for academic work, general staff costs and maintenance costs by increasing the proportion of funding for academic work to 60% (EUR 3814.46), for general staff costs to 25% (EUR 1589.36) instead of the recommended 34% and for programme maintenance costs by maintaining the recommended proportion at 15% (EUR 953.61).

Within the framework of the study programme in the different specialisations, the cost per student is calculated with the weighted average rate of payment for academic posts, annually from the point of view of costs, but also from the point of view of the quality of studies, by assessing the proportion of lecturer posts providing study courses against the proportion recommended by experts in the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations:

Academic post:	Average number of posts per programme:	Recommended post ratio (Cabinet of Ministers):	Ratio of the JVLAM:	Monthly salary rate:	Costs (EUR):
Professor	15	15%	13%	1800.00	27000
Professor Emeritus	9		8%	1800.00	16200
Associate Professor	20	15%	17%	1440.00	28800
Docent	42	30%	36%	1155.00	48510
Lecturer	25	25%	21%	925.00	23125
Assistant	6	15%	5%	735.00	4410

Weighted average rate:

1265.00

The costs of study plans for different specialisations within a study programme vary due to the different additional resources required (the costs of maintaining the ensembles providing study internship - symphonic orchestras, big bands, choirs, as well as the services of concert masters, the specifics of technology and methodological materials). The costs of the study specialisations are calculated separately for each specialisation, with support staff being funded at the rate of the costs for academic work and material-specific funding at the rate of maintenance costs. The cost of academic staff for the study programme takes into account the occupancy rate of the groups according to the expected number of students for each specialisation. As the proportion of individual contact hours is high and was initially taken into account in the cost calculations of the study programme, the cost-effectiveness of the study programme remains high even if the number of students drops to 30% of the current number of students.

The funding allocated to maintenance costs is proportionally distributed, taking into account the wide range of equipment (instrumentarium, dance floors, music consoles, concert hall equipment, make-up, etc.) and facilities (sound direction consoles, acoustic equipment, lighting equipment, etc.) that are specific to the field of study. The maintenance costs in proportion to the grant per student are as follows:

Payment for services:	30%
Materials, energy, water and equipment:	27%
Purchase of books and magazines:	13%
Cost of acquiring and upgrading equipment:	26%
Sports and health:	1%
Business trip and official travel expenses:	3%

Taking into account good international practices in the respective field of studies, the JVLAM has calculated the costs of study programmes according to the respective base funding and the coefficient of the respective field in such a way that the study process is viable with one student in the respective specialization or subprogramme. This is related to the high number of unique specializations and profiles (rare orchestra instruments, specific early music instruments, etc.), the education for which in Latvia is only provided by the JVLAM. The optimization of study costs with the current available funding was one of the main factors taken into account whilst revising the study programme structure and study plan in 2022. As a result of this process, the compatibility of subprogrammes was improved, enabling the introduction of several group courses for students of different subprogrammes, thereby reducing the fragmentation of the professional bachelor's programmes and addressing the insufficient number of students per a number of professional bachelor's study programmes of the direction Arts. Additionally, the revised programmes make possible the redistribution of the state budget funding within the study programme and amongst the subprogrammes.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The qualifications of the lecturers involved in the implementation of the study programme and each sub-programme meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme, the requirements of the regulatory enactments and the implementation of the strategic goals and objectives of the JVLAM, as well as ensure the achievement of the objectives and study results of the study programme and the corresponding study courses. In each sub-programme, specialisation and profile of the study programme, highly qualified lecturers with relevant education and professional experience have been selected as teaching staff. The study programme ensures that the aims and objectives are met at a high professional level. This is proved by the achievements of the JVLAM lecturers and students in international projects, as well as the demand for specialists in the labour market - in concert agencies, orchestras, cultural and educational institutions.

In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, the academic staff of the JVLAM carries out scientific research, artistic creative work and participates in the education of students. Academic staff are elected to academic positions in accordance with the laws and regulations, based on common criteria, the most important of which are international success in professional artistic activity in music and performing arts. The methodological, scientific and artistic work of the lecturers, as well as their involvement in creative activities, is related to the study courses they teach, as well as the interdisciplinary transfer of knowledge and experience, and corresponds to their artistic and pedagogical interests.

The level of Latvian language skills of the academic staff of the study programme complies with the conditions required for the implementation of the study programme. Latvian language is the primary language for the majority of the academic staff members. Foreign tutors are invited on regular basis by the JVLAM to teach selected study courses and/or their sections, thereby providing a part of the study content in English, in accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions. Whilst preparing to add the English language to the list of programme implementation languages, the English language skills of the involved academic staff members were evaluated, reaching the conclusion that in all departments a sufficient number of academic staff members have English language skills of the required level (B2 and higher), permitting the implementation of the programme in English. Taking into account that the implementation of the programme in English language could begin in 2024/2025 at the soonest, the JVLAM plans to appoint academic staff members with sufficient language skills to the study courses in English language, to provide systematic language training to the tutors with currently insufficient language skills, as well as to attract new academic staff members for the purpose of teaching the study courses in English language, simultaneously facilitating the internationalization processes of the JVLAM.

As described in the previous chapters of the self-assessment report, departments have been established to carry out study, scientific, creative, artistic, methodological and practice work, representing a specific sub-programme/specialisation or profile and bringing together academic staff, external teaching staff and students involved in the implementation of study courses within the competence of the department. To manage the implementation of study courses with

professionally distinct specialisations or profiles, subunits - classes - have been created in some departments. Each department and class is headed by staff of the JVLAM with relevant academic and/or professional experience who can develop the content of study courses appropriate to the objectives and level of the Academy, ensure quality implementation of the content and control the development of study courses within its competence. Heads of departments and classes, together with heads of divisions (directors of study programmes), assess the content appropriate to the specialisation and bring together the most appropriate teaching staff to deliver it.

In order to provide the opportunity to acquire practical skills and knowledge relevant to the specialisation, guest lecturers - highly professional specialists who work in the specialisation relevant to the implementation of the study programme - are also invited to work in the departments in implementation of the study programme. The JVLAM uses various opportunities to attract internationally renowned specialists. Attracting guest lecturers on the basis of artistic and professional performance fosters favourable competition, promotes diversity in study methods, and ensures innovation in study content. The structure of the staff of the JVLAM is based on the tasks of the JVLAM and may vary by specialisation. Operating in a freely competitive market for education and academic services, the JVLAM promotes a flexible and attractive recruitment policy. In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, taking into account the need to acquire practical skills and knowledge, the profile subjects of the professional study programme also use the work of experienced practitioners who have not obtained a scientific degree, but have sufficient practical work experience relevant to the subject being taught.

The active involvement of the JVLAM teaching staff in both Latvian and international music and performing arts life ensures the integration of current events in the field into the study process. Information on the involvement of teaching staff in artistic creativity at both national and international level during the reporting period is summarized in the annexes to the self-assessment report. The creative activity and artistic activities of the lecturers make a significant contribution to the study process, especially considering that the lecturers often involve their students in these activities as well, creating opportunities for students to actively participate in various musical events both within and outside the JVLAM during their studies.

Taking into account the wide number of specialisations represented in the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* and the diversity of knowledge and skills required by the students, approximately 200 members of teaching staff are involved in the implementation of the study programme, including both staff elected to academic positions at the JVLAM and guest lecturers (see information in the annex to the self-assessment report). At the time of submitting the self-assessment report, it is planned to involve 102 teaching staff members that are elected to JVLAM academic positions, and 36 teaching staff members with a PhD in the implementation of the study programme. To give an insight into how teaching qualifications contribute to learning outcomes, only a few examples of the link between specific learning outcomes and teaching qualifications are provided.

The expected result - to demonstrate technical skills in performing a variety of repertoire at a professional level: All of the teachers are active musicians themselves, both solo and in various kinds of musical ensembles, constantly improving their knowledge in various courses and masterclasses, giving masterclasses in Latvia and abroad, organizing or participating in various projects related to music and education, which allows them to be even better informed about the latest trends in their field and to be excellent role models for their students. For example, the heads of the instrumental departments are themselves outstanding and active musicians - Head of the Department of Piano, Professor Juris Kalnciems (pianist, President of the European Piano Teachers Association in Latvia), Head of the Department of String Instruments, Associate Professor Terēze Ziberte-Ijaba (violinist of the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra), Head of the Department of

Wind Instruments, Professor Ilona Meija (flautist, Chair of the Board of the Latvian Flautists Association), etc.

Expected outcome - to verbalize and analyze various issues related to the performed repertoire in the national and foreign language, (...) to discuss development trends and current events in their chosen field of specialisation: among the JVLAM lecturers there are outstanding examples who are themselves regular concert musicians, music researchers and sought-after teachers both in Latvia and abroad, thus able to develop students' artistic skills, analytical skills and interest in current events in the field. For example, the Head of the Jazz Music Department, Professor Indriķis Veitners, is an intensive researcher of jazz history, regularly participates in scientific conferences, is a member of the State Research Programme (SRP), regularly publishes in music journals, participates in international jazz school conferences (IASJ, AEC), has been a guest lecturer at the Viljandi Academy of Music (Estonia) for several years, and regularly performs in concerts with other musicians and ensembles. It also gives students the opportunity to develop the skills they need through practical experience, by taking part in various projects both in Latvia and abroad. For example, in the summer of 2022, students and faculty of the Department of Jazz Music visited the USA, performing concerts and attending masterclasses with faculty members of the Department of Jazz Music at the UNO (University of Nebraska Omaha).

Expected outcome - can understand the character and emotion of the music or dance performed and communicate it appropriately to the audience: The JVLAM teaching staff themselves have been and / or still are brilliant stage artists who pass on their experience and example to both colleagues and students, for example, Professor Zita Errsa, Head of the Choreography Department, has been a soloist at the LNOB Ballet for a long time; she has danced leading roles in many ballets - both the swaggering and romantic-lyrical classics, as well as a wide variety of original choreographic works, for which she has received audience acclaim and many important awards.

Expected outcome - to demonstrate an understanding of key musical or dance styles and traditions: the qualifications of the teaching staff enable students to gain a broad insight into the diversity of music and dance styles and traditions, given the close involvement of the JVLAM docents in music and dance events and the preservation of traditions. As an example, Professor Aira Birziņa of the JVLAM Choir Conducting Department has been the chief conductor of the Latvian Song Festivals (XXIII, XXIV, XXV, XXVI), an expert of the Latvian Choir Industry Council, and is currently working on the preparation of the XXVII Latvian Song Festival. The Song and Dance Festival is a unique Latvian cultural tradition and a part of Latvian national identity, in the organisation and organisation of which many JVLAM teaching staff members play an important role.

The examples provided are representative of only a very small part of the teaching staff of the JVLAM involved in the implementation of the study programme. The high qualifications of the other docents also contribute significantly to the achievement of the study programme results. The docents of the JVLAM are highly valued professionals, which is also evidenced by the fact that several of them have received the highest state award - the Order of the Three Stars, which is awarded for special merits in the service of Latvia. During the reporting period (since 2013) the Order of the Three Stars has been awarded to emeritus members of the Department of String Instruments. Professor Emeritus Ligita Zemberga, docent of the Department of Composition Arturs Maskats, Professor of the Department of Piano Sergejs Osokins, Professor of the Department of Choral Conducting Aira Birziņa, docent of the Department of String Instruments Sergejs Brīnums, Professor of the Department of Jazz Music Indriķis Veitners, Associate Professor of Ancient Music Māris Kupčs, Professor of the Composition Department Selga Mence, docent of the Department of Jazz Music Tālis Gžibovskis, docent of the Department of Music Pedagogy Irēna Nelsons, docent of the Vocal Department Krišjānis Norvelis. Several active members of the JVLAM teaching staff have also received the Order of the Three Stars, the highest state award, before the reporting period.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The composition of the teaching staff in the study programme is based on an analysis of the academic staff policies of the top-ranked music and performing arts higher education institutions, taking into account the social and economic specificities of Latvia and the Baltic region. The mission of the JVLAM is fulfilled by a highly qualified academic staff consisting of a core of professors and associate professors, as well as qualified teaching staff (docents) and a reserve for academic renewal - guest lecturers.

The composition of the teaching staff of the study programme is based on the JVLAM's tasks and thus varies from one specialisation to another. In order to ensure that the content of the programme can be continuously adapted to the latest labour market requirements, a flexible recruitment policy has been promoted at the JVLAM during the reporting period. In addition to the work of elected professors, associate professors and docents, guest lecturers from various fields - both Latvian and foreign specialists - have been attracted to teach specialized study courses, creating favourable conditions for competition and promoting diversity of study methods, as well as offering innovations in study content. To ensure the cost-effectiveness of the programme and to motivate the elected teaching staff for main work at the university, a decision has been taken to consolidate the workload in 2021 by reducing the number of guest lecturers and focusing more on broadening the professional competences of the elected teaching staff.

In assessing the changes in the composition of the teaching staff during the reporting period, mention should be made of the structural changes to the Professional Bachelor's degree programme in 2022, when seven previously separate study programmes were effectively merged into one study programme. Previously, the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* had one sub-programme *Sound Recording*, which meant that the programme was mostly implemented by docents related to this specialisation. Along with the addition of the other Professional Bachelor study programmes, all other teaching staff of the Professional Bachelor study programmes and specialisations of the field of study in *Arts* have been merged into this programme, making significant changes to the previous teaching staff of the programme.

As the study programme provides education in a wide range of narrow specialisations (e.g., playing certain instruments, individual voice groups in vocal education, specific areas of dance, etc.), great attention has been paid to improving the qualifications and professional skills of the existing teaching staff - all academic staff have been provided with ample opportunities to learn about best practices in foreign universities within the *Erasmus* Lifelong Learning Programme. Each academic year, the study programme lecturers carry out their professional development both in master classes (on average 40 master classes per year per team) and in various further education courses organized by the JVLAM, including courses to improve their knowledge of English, which is particularly important when English is added to the study programme as the language of implementation. In order to further promote the scientific and creative activity of study programme lecturers, as well as the maintenance of practical skills at an internationally recognized level, in the reporting period various scientific and creative activity projects (concerts, masterclasses, research, recordings, etc.), whose leaders and implementers are JVLAM academic staff members, have been granted funding in a competitive procedure.

In order to ensure the optimal composition of the teaching staff in the programme, each year during the reporting period the management of the study programme, in cooperation with the

administration of the JVLAM, heads of departments, programme students, and heads of artistic collectives of the university providing creative practice, analyzed the quality of the work of docents, evaluating the achievements of educational activities, as well as artistic and research activities, drawing up the necessary number of academic posts and submitting it to the Senate of the University for approval. For the directors of study programmes, an evaluation of the previous cooperation of the docents elected by the Senate and the Council with the JVLAM concluded that both new docents are elected to academic posts, as well as docents who have already proven themselves as guest teaching staff with a highly professional and creative approach to their work at the JVLAM. The assessment of the demand for docents in various specialties shows that the programme has successfully balanced tradition and innovation, maintaining the status of emeritus professors with respected professionals (e.g., cello specialist Ellionora Testeļeca, flute specialist Imants Sneibis), at the same time attracting to the study programme young artists who have recently received international recognition and higher education diplomas from the world's leading music and performing arts universities (e.g., docent of piano Andrejs Osokins, violinist Marta Spārniņa, LNSO concertmaster Georgijs Sarkisjans, composer Kristis Auznieks, music researcher, journalist Edgars Raginskis, etc.).

Within the framework of the study programme, to ensure the diversity of study content, hourly lecturers and temporary lecturers from other artistic institutions (including LNSO, LNOB, Latvian Radio, etc.) have been invited. The directors of the study programme have also taken advantage of opportunities to attract internationally renowned specialists in specialisations such as Violin, Piano, Ancient Music, Jazz, Guitar, Sound Recording, Ethnomusicology, Musicology, etc. During the reporting period, the content of study courses related to the humanities and entrepreneurship were significantly updated on several occasions, involving professors and docents from leading Latvian universities (e.g. RSU, LU, LKA, etc.). The review of the content of the bachelor degree programme in the course of the changes of the study programme has crystallized the need for new courses of study, naturally thinking about specialists to teach these courses.

During the reporting period, the study programme has been open to international cooperation on a global scale and has been closely integrated into the European music education system in order to promote student and teacher exchange and ensure high quality in music and performing arts education. Due to short-term forms of academic work (masterclasses, creative workshops, intensive projects, etc.) being very important in international practice for the specific nature of music and performing arts study programmes, the content of the study courses implemented by the programme's docents has been actively supplemented and enriched over the last decade with various short-term activities (guest professors' master classes, seminars, lectures), short-term student and lecturer exchanges, various intensive events (concerts, competitions, festivals, conferences, individual research). Lecturers have also been recruited through the US *Fulbright* programme (for example, a 3-month intensive classical improvisation course taught by prof. John Mortensen). The exchange of students and lecturers has mainly taken place within the ERASMUS+ and NORDPLUS programmes - JVLAM has concluded bilateral agreements with more than 100 European music universities.

Overall, the changes in the composition of the teaching staff during the reporting period have had a positive impact on the quality of studies. Staff elected to academic posts have actively taken advantage of various opportunities to upgrade their qualifications, resulting in the possibility of being elected to a higher academic post. In order to ensure successful changes in the composition of docents in connection with the change of generations of teachers, the departments have regularly involved new teaching staff members in the implementation of the study process - as guest docents and/or assistants, who gradually acquire the skills, specifics and repertoire necessary for their work. Both shorter and longer-term cooperation with guest docents from other Latvian and

foreign higher education institutions has been implemented, which contributes to the diversity of the study process, achievement of study results and improvement of graduates' competitiveness in the labour market.

Heads of departments cite unsatisfactory remuneration as the main obstacle to attracting new, competitive teaching staff from both Latvia and abroad, and in some cases to continuing existing cooperation. The heads of the departments, on the other hand, expressed their positive opinion about the opportunities in the updated plan of the Professional Bachelor study programme to use different study methods more flexibly, including the involvement of professionals in the study process, for example, through intensive projects, practical courses outside the Academy, cooperation projects with other institutions, etc., which is possible in the updated study plan, for example, within the study courses *Masterclass* and *Creative Project*.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

Taking into account that the study programme has several sub-programmes, specialisations and

profiles, the number of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme is large, but it should be taken into account that the study programme involves core docents - mainly docents elected to academic posts at the JVLAM who teach several study courses - as well as guest docents who are specialists in their field and provide implementation of individual narrow specialisation study courses. At the time of submission of the self-assessment report, the teaching staff-student ratio in the Professional Bachelor degree programme is 0.63 teaching staff members per student.

Taking into account the specific nature of the study programme and the teaching staff required for its implementation, departments and their sub-units, which represent a specific sub-programme/specialisation or profile and bring together academic staff, guest docents and students involved in the implementation of study courses within the competence of the department, play an important role in ensuring a successful study process and cooperation between teaching staff. Departments are headed by heads of departments, who cooperate with heads of divisions (directors of the study programmes) and the vice-rector for academic work in ensuring the study process. The main task of the departments is to develop the content of the study courses relevant to the objectives and scope of the Academy, to ensure quality implementation of the content and to control the development of the study courses within its competence. The implementation of the study process of the Professional Bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* is mainly carried out by the departments joined within the Performing Arts Section and the Musicology, Composition and Technology Section.

The cooperation of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme can be evaluated at several levels - cooperation within the department, interdepartmental cooperation and cooperation outside the provision of study courses. At all these levels, the cooperation of the JVLAM teaching staff members can be assessed as successful.

To ensure the cooperation of the teaching staff of the departments, the heads of the departments organize regular departmental meetings, during which the work plans of the departments, the content of the study programme, topical issues of the study courses, ensuring the interconnection and continuity of the content, opportunities for cooperation, the results achieved by the students, etc. are discussed. During departmental meetings, possible cooperation and analysis of topical issues with other JVLAM docents within various study courses are discussed.

Issues related to the study programme are discussed not only at departmental meetings, but also at other formal and informal meetings. Docents collaborate both in creative activities and in updating the content of the study programme, taking into account the need to ensure the interconnection of study courses. There are departments where, as a result of intra-departmental cooperation, students have the opportunity to study one course of study with several docents, gaining in-depth knowledge and skills according to each docent's specialisation, which can be seen as an example of positive practice in student-centered education and diversity in professional education. The cooperation among docents within many departments is rated as professional, open and productive. Docents attend masterclasses of foreign artists together, there is regular communication with colleagues, discussing the study process and results, sharing ideas, exchanging course content to complement and compare the musical material students are learning. Regular joint public departmental concerts, preparation of students for festival and competition selections, etc. also contribute to the cooperation between teaching staff.

Interdepartmental cooperation between the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme is an important aspect, which is also rated positive. Interdepartmental cooperation between the staff of the JVLAM takes place both formally, for example, regular meetings of the heads of department, participation in collegial bodies (e.g. Senate, Constitutional

Assembly), implementation of study courses, joint artistic projects, as well as informally.

In the academic year 2021/2022, more than 40 representatives of the academic and general staff of the JVLAM were involved in the development of the updated plan of the Professional Bachelor study programme, sharing their experience, opinions and recommendations for updating the structure and content of the study programme in various working groups. As a result, the updated plan of the study programme of the Professional Bachelor degree has been developed, which enables more efficient implementation of similar study processes in different departments by reviewing and aligning lesson plans, student workload, study plans and assessment criteria at the same level of study.

In the study process, there is regular cooperation between different departments, both in the implementation of study courses and in artistic activities. It should be noted that interdepartmental cooperation is manifested not only in the cooperation of teaching staff, but also in the cooperation of students facilitated by docents in the study process. In a number of courses of study, the intended results would not be achievable without cooperation between different departments, for example, students of instrumental music specialisations are involved in the implementation of the Orchestral Conducting Department's courses of study and vice versa (symphonic orchestra conducting students *conduct* the obligatory orchestral accompaniments for piano specialisation students, while pianists, string and brass players participate in the functional expression of the concert soloist for the orchestral conducting students); In the Organ class, the *Organ Accompaniment and Ensemble* course has involved collaboration with students from other departments, and the optional *Organ Accompaniment Singing* course has involved collaboration with students from the Vocal Department; in the Harp and Guitar class, the most sustained collaboration is between the conducting, ensemble conducting and arranging courses and their docents, as the final results of the courses add up to a single grade. Thus, the journey is always a collaboration of three docents (three departments) and students in the preparation of a quality performance of a given examination programme. Docents from different departments and classes also work together on the final examination assessment committees. Moreover, it should be noted that several JVLAM teaching staff members are actively involved in the work of more than one department, for example, Professor Andris Vecumnieks, elected to the Department of Composition, is Head of the Department of Orchestral Conducting, while Associate Professor Rolands Kronlaks, elected to the Department of Composition, is Head of the Department of Music Technology.

There are also many examples of successful interdepartmental cooperation outside the direct course delivery process. For example, the docents of the Department of String Instruments regularly collaborate with almost all the departments of the JVLAM, especially with the Chamber Ensembles and Music Technology Departments for holding joint concerts, masterclasses, etc. The Department of Jazz highlights cooperation with teaching staff members of other departments within various projects, for example, with the Ethnomusicology Class and the Ancient Music Department within the DeciBels Festival; the Vocal Department mentions as a successful example several cooperation projects with the Department of General Piano, for example, students of different departments together making video recordings of the concert "Love", in which pieces by different composers are performed in which the word "love" is heard in different languages and in different cases. The students of the Vocal Department are very enthusiastic to participate in this collaborative project, because it is a different kind of experience, when an interpretation is created in collaboration between students.

The teaching staff members of the JVLAM are very diverse in their artistic experience and views, as well as in the specifics of their knowledge, but they work together in a very successful collegial way to achieve the common goal of the study programme. Cooperation between teaching staff takes place not only in departmental meetings, evaluating the study process, making joint plans,

discussing methodological and creative issues, but also in concerts - examinations, evaluating students' performance and exchanging ideas, as well as outside the Academy - in concert halls, radio studios, expert commissions and elsewhere, because JVLAM teaching staff are members of various associations, creative personalities, experts who are invited to participate in various juries evaluating musical life events and elsewhere.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3_1_2_PBSP_diploma_samples_.zip	3_1_2_PBSP_diplomu_paraugi_.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3_1_4_PBSP_Students_statistics_.pdf	3_1_4_PBSP_Studenti_statistika_.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3_2_1_a_PBSP_Compliance_state_stand_MK512_.pdf	3_2_1_a_PBSP_Atbalstiba_valsts_izgl_stand_MK512_.pdf
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)	3_2_1_b_PBSP_Mapping_profession_standards_.zip	3_2_1_b_PBSP_Kartejums_profesiju_standarti_.zip
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3_2_1_c_PBSP_Mapping_LO_.xlsx	3_2_1_c_PBSP_Kartejums_studiju_rezultati_.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3_2_1_d_PBSP_Music and Performing Arts_Curriculum_.xlsx	3_2_1_d_PBSP_Muzika un skatuves maksia_PLANS_.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3_2_1_e_PBSP_Descriptions_Study_courses_.zip	3_2_1_e_PBSP_Studiju kursu apraksti_.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	3_2_4_Organisation_of_internship.pdf	3_2_4_Prakses_organizācijas_apraksts.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		

Musicology (51212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Musicology
Education classification code	51212
Type of the study programme	Doctoral study programme
Name of the study programme director	Anda
Surname of the study programme director	Beitāne
E-mail of the study programme director	anda.beitane@jvlma.lv
Title of the study programme director	Ph. D.
Phone of the study programme director	26493523
Goal of the study programme	<i>The aim of the study programme is to obtain a doctor of science (Ph. D.) degree in the Humanities and Arts, in the field of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, sub-discipline Historical Musicology, Systematic Musicology or Ethnomusicology and the preparation of internationally competitive specialists of the highest qualification for academic work at the JVLAM and other universities, as well as for scientific and organisational work in public and private scientific and cultural institutions.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<i>1. to develop to the maximum extent the individual scientific research abilities of each doctoral student; 2. to provide in-depth theoretical knowledge in the field of specialisation of musicology chosen by the doctoral students; 3. to develop the academic work skills of doctoral students by working with university students and senior students of secondary music schools; 4. to provide doctoral students with an opportunity to give PhD students the opportunity to enter the international research community during their studies; 5. to provide doctoral students with the necessary methodological and organisational support to ensure that their studies culminate in the defense of their doctoral thesis.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p>1) Able to independently carry out original scientific research based on the latest scientific knowledge and methodology in the Humanities and Arts, in the field of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, sub-discipline Historical Musicology, Systematic Musicology or Ethnomusicology, as well as in a cross-disciplinary manner.</p> <p>2) Able to navigate the international theoretical discourse in the science of Humanities and Arts, has mastered and is able to apply the latest research methods, understands the principles of scientificity and discourse.</p> <p>3) Able to address complex and innovative research topics in a variety of contexts, respecting research ethics.</p> <p>4) Able to integrate into international research processes and projects, analyse and evaluate the results of different research projects and studies.</p> <p>5) Able to work with academic text, analyse different types of text and use them in research, understands academic writing styles and principles.</p> <p>6) Able to analyse and discuss theoretical and methodological approaches in the chosen field of specialisation and across disciplines.</p> <p>7) Able to defend a doctoral thesis and, after defending the thesis, obtain a Doctor of Science (Ph. D.) Degree in Humanities and Arts in Music, Visual Arts and Architecture.</p> <p>8) Able to carry out academic and research work in scientific and higher education institutions.</p> <p>9) Able to validate research results in practice and present them at scientific conferences, academic seminars, etc.</p>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Pre-defense of Doctoral Thesis

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
Duration in full years	3
Duration in month	0
Language	latvian
Amount (CP)	120
Admission requirements (in English)	Academic or professional master's degree in natural sciences, medical and health sciences, social sciences or humanities and arts and entrance examination for all applicants
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
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Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050
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Full time studies - 3 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	3
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	120
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Academic or professional master's degree in natural sciences, medical and health sciences, social sciences or humanities and arts and entrance examination for all applicants (for implementation in English language additionally: English language proficiency, at least level B2)</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Doctor of Science (PhD) in Humanities</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

The previous accreditation sheet No. 2021/64 of the study field *Arts* was issued on 26.10.2021. This accreditation sheet includes the doctoral study programme *Musicology*, programme code 51212; volume in credit points - 144; mode and form of implementation - full-time studies; place of implementation - Riga; degree to be awarded - Doctor of Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities, language of implementation of the study programme - Latvian.

Study plan of the Academic Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* has not been changed since the previous accreditation of the field of studies, therefore, it has been updated and clarified in terms of content. Moreover, based on the comparison with the scope of doctoral study programmes accredited by other universities in recent years, scope of the JVLAM academic doctoral study programme *Musicology* has been also reduced from 144 CP to 120 CP. Duration of the study programme was 3 years and will continue to be 3 years. Changes of such volume are possible because previously the second or spring semester of each academic year for academic doctoral programmes was counted as 28 CP instead of 20 CP (as for all bachelor and master programmes). Now, however, academic doctoral study programmes have the same volume of semesters, or 20 CP. The scope of the study programme was thus reduced by 8 CP at the expense of the independent work part of the course “Doctoral Thesis and Literature Studies” in the 2nd, 4th and 6th semesters, respectively.

Changes in content are based on contemporary scientific findings, assessing the contemporary specific characters of musicology within the context of interdisciplinary research, as well as through a comparison with other doctoral study programmes in musicology - at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, Boston University, University of Manchester (UK), Emory College of Arts and Sciences (USA), etc. The changes mainly concern the restricted elective and specialisation profile courses, which were not deciphered in the previously accredited study plan. This plan provided for that each doctoral student would plan the limited specialisations and profile courses in collaboration with the supervisor of his/her thesis according to the topic of the thesis. An assessment of the results of such a personalised led to conclusion that, along to its benefits - possibility of attraction of virtually unique courses tailored to the needs of each doctoral student each time, it also has significant drawbacks. This approach is not only economically difficult to justify, as it requires different courses for each doctoral student, but also carries risks in terms of providing balanced content that is relevant to the international discourse of contemporary science. The proposed changes offer such content through the implementation of the module *Interdisciplinarity in Research*, which includes courses *Textual Analysis*, *Research Ethics*, *Academic Writing* and *Musicology Seminar*, as well as research methodology courses in each field of specialisation - Historical Musicology, Systematic Musicology and Ethnomusicology. The changes also apply to the compulsory part of the programme - individual research work and the elaboration of the doctoral thesis, which previously involved a complex and difficult to justify division within the context of modern science, where two types of literature studies were artificially separated from

the elaboration of the doctoral thesis (including by separate examinations): (1) Programme baseline literature (semesters 1-3) and literature of doctoral thesis (semesters 1-6). The changes foresee an organic integration of literature study into the elaboration process of doctoral thesis, where no separate tests are required.

In order to ensure high quality of studies and research, it is planned to involve in the implementation of the programme more internationally recognised researchers in historical musicology, systematic musicology and ethnomusicology, as well as the scientific staff of the JVLAM. The language of implementation is a natural step in this regard. In the future, it is planned to add English as the language of implementation of the study programme. The rationale for changes is rooted in the need for an international discourse of science. To achieve this, we have to think not only about attracting foreign researchers, but also foreign doctoral students, where English plays a key role.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

Doctoral study programme *Musicology*, programme code 51212, corresponds to the highest level of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) and the Classification of Education of the Republic of Latvia. It is implemented in accordance with the field of study in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Latvia, international agreements, Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia, the Constitution of the JVLAM, Regulations of Academic Doctoral Studies of the JVLAM and the documents subordinate thereto, observing the requirements of the documents regulating the studies of the JVLAM. The aim of the study programme is to obtain a Doctoral Degree of Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities (according to the amendments of 27 September 2022 to the Cabinet Regulation No. 595) and preparation of specialists of the highest qualification competitive in the international academic community for academic work at the JVLAM and other higher education institutions, as well as for scientific and organisational work in public and private cultural institutions. The tasks of the study programme are (1) to maximally develop individual scientific and research abilities of each doctoral student; (2) to provide in-depth theoretical knowledge in the field of specialisation in musicology chosen by the doctoral student; (3) to develop the doctoral student's academic work skills by working with university students and senior students of music secondary schools; (4) to provide an opportunity to enter the international scientific community already during the studies; (5) to provide the doctoral student with the necessary methodological and organisational assistance in order to complete the studies with the defense of the doctoral thesis. The name of the study programme, the code, the degree to be obtained, its goals and objectives, study results and admission requirements are closely and inextricably linked.

Quality of implementation of content of the Doctoral Study Programme is ensured by the Director of the Study Programme in cooperation with the Doctoral Council, Unit of Musicology, Composition and Technology, the Departments, the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre and the JVLAM Promotion Council. The Doctoral Council and its Chair (the Programme Director) oversees the implementation, academic development and quality of the programme. The Doctoral Council consists of professors,

associate professors, doctors of science, including those holding doctoral degrees in Humanities, involved in the implementation of the curriculum. The Doctoral Council shall carry out its activities in accordance with the Regulations on Academic Doctoral Studies approved by the JVLAM Senate.

Admission to the study programme takes place in accordance with the JVLAM admission rules and content requirements. When applying for the studies under the doctoral study programme *Musicology*, applicants are required to present the topic of their doctoral thesis and their research work (e.g. a master's thesis, research or publication) in the *Colloquium* at the entrance examination to demonstrate their experience and research achievements to date. In order to ascertain the applicants' background knowledge for successful achievement of the study programme results, the entrance examination assesses the applicants' background knowledge of the theories and research methods used in the research work elaborated in the respective subfield (Systematic Musicology, Historical Musicology, Ethnomusicology), the ability to produce original research findings on issues related to the field, and the ability to communicate and discuss the chosen field of research. The applicant describes his/her previous experience, is able to formulate the research question and the object of the individual research, is able to describe the resources needed to carry out the research, and sees his/her role in current research projects at the JVLAM. The admission requirements thus help to ensure that the objective of the study programme is achieved, as the time available to complete a doctoral study programme is limited and requires a certain amount of preparation.

The duration of the study programme at the JVLAM is three years of full-time studies. Doctoral students' individual work plans and reports are prepared by the doctoral student together with the thesis supervisor and approved by the Programme Director. Doctoral students' individual plans, reports and other study documents shall be kept in the doctoral students' study cards, administered by the study clerk of the Directorate of Study Programmes. Fulfilment of the doctoral students' individual plans are monitored by the supervisor of the doctoral thesis and the Programme Director.

Results of the doctoral students are assessed every semester: (1) results of the elaboration of doctoral thesis and literature studies, as well as participation in conferences and publications are evaluated by the Doctoral Council in the presence of the supervisor of doctoral thesis and at least one representative of the Doctoral Council; (2) results of the limited choice specialisation and profile, as well as free-choice courses are evaluated by the course lecturer; (3) results of acquirement of the study programme, partially or fully, are evaluated by the Doctoral Council and a decision on the doctoral student's attestation for the following period, continuation of studies or completion of studies is made. The doctoral study programme is concluded with a preliminary defense of the doctoral thesis. The doctoral thesis must be submitted one month before the announced date of the preliminary defense in accordance with the Regulations on the Procedure for the Elaboration and Presentation of the Doctoral Thesis approved by the JVLAM Senate. The doctoral thesis submitted by the doctoral student is reviewed by two experts in the field of *Music, Visual Arts and Architecture in the science of Humanities and Arts*. Preliminary defense of the doctoral thesis is evaluated by the Doctoral Council with the participation of at least two representatives of the Promotion Council, and the Doctoral Council adopts decision on the results of acquisition of the study programme. As a result of acquisition of the study programme, the doctoral student receives a statement from the JVLAM. Doctoral student shall obtain a Doctoral Degree in Science in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulation on the procedures and criteria for the award of a Doctoral Degree in Science (Doctoral).

The scope and duration of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* comply with the regulatory framework, which JVLMA considers as useful because within its framework it is possible to prepare for the doctoral dissertation process, which ends two years after completion of the study programme, as the total period of doctoral studies is five years, during which, according to the

currently valid regulation (Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 1001 "Procedures and Criteria for the Award of a Doctoral Degree in Science (Doctoral)"), a Doctoral Degree in Science must be obtained.

The existing and planned languages for the implementation of the study programme are Latvian and English, because, on the one hand, national research and scientific terminology is preserved and developed, on the other hand, modern science and research in the international discourse is unthinkable without studies and communication in English. For this reason, more and more doctoral students choose to write their dissertations in English.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The Academic Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* is the only one in Latvia offering a doctoral degree in science in musicology. Musicology, like music, is institutionalised in Latvia exclusively at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, thus, it is natural that doctoral study programmes in the respective fields are implemented in a logical sequence with bachelor's and master's study programmes, thus offering the opportunity of a third study cycle - doctoral studies in musicology to the graduates of the JVLAM academic master's study programme. Its economic rationale stems from two aspects: (1) The JVLAM has not only the infrastructure and academic staff necessary for a programme of this kind. The JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, which serves as a base for the involvement of doctoral students' in research and has elected academic staff from Latvia, Germany and Austria, thus ensuring international circulation, is the only one in Latvia focusing on music research in all three sub-disciplines of musicology, as well as the science of *Humanities and Arts* sub-disciplines of *Music, Visual Arts and Architecture* - historical musicology, systematic musicology and ethnomusicology, which are also fields of specialisation of the doctoral study programme *Musicology*; (2) The JVLAM doctoral study programme *Musicology* not only offers the opportunity to obtain a doctoral degree in science focusing on historical musicology, systematic musicology or ethnomusicology in Latvia, but also prepares the personnel necessary for music and scientific institutions with a high level of competence in all of the sub-disciplines of musicology.

The social justification of the study programme is determined by the need to offer third cycle studies in musicology, as well as the responsibility towards the Latvian scientific space, ensuring not only a balanced coverage of scientific disciplines nationwide, but also promoting the intensity of Latvia's role as an international player in the international music science cycle.

Graduates of the study programme are employed in higher education and research institutions, such as Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, University of Latvia, Latvian Academy of Culture, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Rēzekne Academy of Technologies, Daugavpils University, etc. as researchers, teaching staff, general staff; involved as general and academic staff in various projects of European Structural Funds and national research programme, for example, Lana Burmistrova, a graduate of the 2020 programme, is the coordinator of the project No.

1.1.1.5/18/I/001 *Development of International Cooperation Projects of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music in Research and Innovation*, and Alberts Rokpelnis (graduate of the 2020 programme), is an executive researcher in a JVLAM sub-project of the project *Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia/CARD*, supported by the National Research Programme. Several graduates of the programme are involved in international research networks and projects, for example, 2014 graduate Ieva Tihovska is involved in the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), while 2019 graduate Jachin Pousson was involved in an international

Latvian-Lithuanian-Taiwanese research project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* under the guidance of his thesis supervisor and also a graduate of the JVLAM Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology*, Vice-Rector for Academic Work and Professor Valdis Bernhofs. Graduates also work in music education institutions (music schools and music secondary schools) as teachers of theoretical music subjects, they are in demand also in Latvian Radio, Latvian Television, and concert agencies as lecturers and experts, music journalists, they are recognised composers and performing artists.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

The analysis of the number and composition of doctoral students in the period under review shows that the number of students in the Doctoral Study Programme *in Musicology* is relatively stable - on average 9 students per academic year. The number of doctoral students in the specialisation fields of the programme varies. The number of doctoral students is affected by the number of graduates of master's study programmes at the JVLAM and other music universities, their specialisation, graduates' motivation to work in science, graduates' desire to continue their education in Latvia, etc.

At the same time, the number of students is relatively small, and it is necessary to increase it. The implementation of the study programme in English will definitely be an important factor that will positively affect the dynamics of the number of students. This will also allow to increase the proportion of international scientists in the study programme.

As at 1 October 2013, there were 7 doctoral students in total studying under the programme (all of them funded by the state budget). 1 doctoral student took a study break, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 1/2, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in the summer of 2014.

As at 1 October 2014, there were 6 doctoral students in total (all funded by the state budget). 2 doctoral students took a study break, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 1/2, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in the summer of 2015.

As at 1 October 2015, there were 7 doctoral students in total (all funded by the state budget). 1 doctoral student took a study break, 2 doctoral students studied in semester 1/2, 2 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in the summer of 2016.

As at 1 October 2016, there were 9 doctoral students in total (8 funded by the state budget, and 1 self-funded foreign doctoral student). 2 doctoral students took a study break, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 1/2, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in the summer of 2017.

As at 1 October 2017, there were 7 doctoral students in total (6 funded by the state budget, 1 self-funded foreign doctoral student). 3 doctoral students took a study break, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 1/2, 5 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in the summer of 2018.

As at 1 October 2018, there were 8 doctoral students in total (7 funded by the state budget, 1 self-funded foreign doctoral student). 1 doctoral student took a study break, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 1/2, 2 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in the summer of 2019.

As at 1 October 2019, there were 10 doctoral students in total (all funded by the state budget). 2 doctoral students took a study break, 6 doctoral students were studying in semester 1/2, there were no students in semester 3/4, 3 doctoral students were studying in semester 5/6 and graduated from the study programme in summer 2020, 1 doctoral candidate was matriculated for the final elaboration and defense of his/her doctoral thesis.

As at 1 October 2020, there were 14 doctoral students in total (all funded by the state budget). 2 doctoral students took a break from their studies, 5 doctoral students studied in semester 1/2, 4 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, no students studied in semester 5/6; 5 doctoral candidates were matriculated for the final elaboration and defense of their thesis.

As at 1 October 2021, there were 10 doctoral students in total (all funded by the state budget). 2 doctoral students took a study break, 1 doctoral student studied in semester 1/2, 6 doctoral students studied in semester 3/4, 3 doctoral students studied in semester 5/6 and 2 doctoral students graduated from the programme in the summer of 2022.

As at 1 October 2022, there were 9 doctoral students in total (all funded by the state budget), 2 doctoral students are taking a study break, 2 doctoral students are studying in semester 1/2, 3 doctoral students are studying in semester 3/4 and 2 doctoral students are studying in semester 5/6.

According to the statistics, positive changes in the dynamics of the number of students were observed in 2019, when interest in studies in the sub-discipline of systematic musicology increased significantly. This was affected by new study methods and opportunities for doctoral students and doctoral candidates to participate in research projects at local and international level. In the recent years, there has also been a greater interest in research and innovation in the field of music, and participation in national and international interdisciplinary research projects, which is conducive factor for choosing to study under the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology*.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the

relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The volume of the doctoral study programme *Musicology* is 120 CP, consisting of individual research work and elaboration of doctoral thesis (68 CP), restricted elective specialisation profile courses (40 CP), free elective study courses (6 CP) and research work approbation practice (6 CP). The structure and content of the study programme meet the requirements of the doctoral level programme in musicology, ensure inclusion of the graduates' integration into the international scientific community and, as a result of acquisition of the programme, enable them to obtain a doctoral degree of science in Humanities.

The information included in the study courses, the set goals and content, as well as the achievable results are closely related to the goals and achievable results of the study programme (see study course descriptions and study course mapping for achieving the study results of the study programme in the appendix.). The content of the study courses has been updated according to the latest scientific trends and the needs of the labor market, which includes work in higher education and research, where there is a distinct lack of qualified music scholars in Latvia. The content of the programme has been updated with the aim of offering study courses that would focus on research in an international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral context.

The study course *Doctoral Thesis* includes literature studies and individual research work under the supervision of experienced scientists within the framework of local and international research projects. As a result of acquisition of the study course, the doctoral student is able to independently carry out original scientific research; has acquired the research methodology and methods in the relevant field of specialization; is able to independently analyze the obtained results and draw conclusions; has acquired the skills of academic work; is ready to defend the doctoral thesis, followed by being awarded Doctoral Degree in Science (Ph.D.) in Humanities.

The restricted option specialisations and profile courses include the module *Interdisciplinarity in Research*, which teaches text analysis, research ethics and academic writing in Latvian and English within the context of doctoral students' individual fields of specialisation and dissertation projects. This module also includes a *Musicology Seminar*, which aims to create a space for academic discussion on the issues, problems and results of research conducted by doctoral students. This module is acquired by doctoral students of all specialisations with the aim of promoting an interdisciplinary approach to the elaboration of the doctoral thesis. Other specialisation and profile courses are designed for each field of specialisation - historical musicology, systematic musicology and ethnomusicology - separately and are focused on the acquisition and analysis of research methodologies and theoretical approaches. These courses provide the student with the latest research paradigms and methods, as well as research presentation techniques, and provide the doctoral student with knowledge of the latest advances in research technology, data processing and their use in the course of elaboration of the doctoral thesis. Foreign language studies are integrated into the content of specialisation and profile courses.

The aim of the free elective study courses is to deepen or broaden previously acquired knowledge and skills or to acquire new ones that have become necessary during the course of elaboration of the doctoral thesis. The content of study courses includes lecture cycles of guest lecturers, master classes, they can be acquired within the framework of international mobility programmes or projects, as well as at the JVLAM cooperation universities in Latvia.

The scientific work approbation practice includes the academic work practice, during which the doctoral student learns and proves the skills of teaching study courses at the university, and the scientific work practice, where the doctoral student approbates the results of research work (publications, conferences), as well as is involved in the research work of the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre and/or international research projects.

Topicality of the content of the study courses, their relevance to the needs of the sector and the labour market are regularly monitored and discussed at musicology seminars. In order to keep the content of the study courses in line with current scientific trends, the programme involves internationally recognised authorities, for example, the study courses *Research Methodologies in Historical Musicology* and *Theoretical Approaches in Historical Musicology* are developed and taught by Kevin C. Karnes, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Professor of Music History at Emory University College of Arts and Sciences (USA); the study courses *Research Methods and Data Processing* and *Theoretical Approaches in Systematic Musicology* are developed and taught by Dr. Markus Christiner from the Centre for Systematic Musicology at the University of Graz (Austria), who has been elected as a researcher at the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre since July 2022; the courses *Research Methodologies in Ethnomusicology* and *Theoretical Approaches in Ethnomusicology* have been developed and are taught by Dr. Ardian Ahmedaja from the Institute for Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna (Austria). Ahmedaja is also the founder and director of the Study Group on Multipart Music of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), as well as the Research Centre for European Multipart Music (EMM), an international network of researchers based at the Institute for Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. Since July 2022, Ahmedaja has been working also as a researcher at the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre.

The content of study courses is updated taking into account the proposals of the JVLAM Scientific Council, Doctoral Council, students and graduates. The content of study courses and the quality of their implementation are systematically evaluated through surveys. Taking into account the suggestions made in the surveys, the Doctoral Council assesses the relevance and appropriateness of the suggestions, examines the cost implications of the proposals, relevance thereof to professional competences and, in the event of a positive decision, submits changes to the content of the study programmes to the Senate for approval.

During the period under review, the title of the study course *Elaboration of Doctoral Thesis and Literature Studies* was updated to *Elaboration of Doctoral Thesis*, as literature studies naturally fit into the acquisition of not only this, but actually of any study course. Content of the specialisation and profile courses was updated after examination of proposals submitted by the doctoral students and supervisors of doctoral theses. The specialisation and profile courses were previously planned by the doctoral student in collaboration with the supervisor of doctoral thesis according to the topic of the thesis, and these courses were not defined in the study plan, which, on the one hand, made it difficult for doctoral students to understand what to choose, and, on the other hand, was organisationally complicated and economically difficult to justify. In order to develop the updated content of the specialisation and profile courses, doctoral study programmes in musicology at universities in different countries were carefully analysed, and international experts were consulted.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

The programme leads to the award of a Doctor of Science (*Ph.D*) degree in the *Humanities and Arts in Music, Visual Arts and Architecture* in the sub-discipline of *Historical Musicology, Systematic Musicology* or *Ethnomusicology*. In accordance with the JVLAM Regulations on the Procedure and Criteria for the Degree, the submitted doctoral thesis may be in the form of a dissertation, a published monograph or a collection of publications (series of articles), which as a whole reflects original and significant research carried out independently. Doctoral thesis is accepted for public defense if it meets the following criteria: author of the doctoral thesis has justified the choice of the topic, defined the objectives and tasks of the research, described the scientific achievements in the study of the topic and the methods used, presented and discussed the results and findings obtained during the development of thesis, summarising them in the conclusions and theses to be put forward for defense; the doctoral thesis is a completed original research, the results of which are of significant importance in science; modern research methods have been used in the doctoral thesis, and the results provide new findings; results of the thesis have been published in a scientific journal or monograph, and the thesis demonstrates the applicant's ability to analyse and critically evaluate the material under research; results of the thesis have been presented at international conferences or seminars; the thesis has not been falsified or plagiarised, or no other breach of scientific ethics has been committed.

When accepting a thesis for defense, the Promotion Council shall appoint three reviewers for the thesis, one of whom shall be an expert of the JVLAM Promotion Council, and two - experts in the sub-area from other scientific institutions or organisations (preferably from abroad). The review and promotion process ensures that the award of the degree is based on the latest developments and knowledge in the field.

The main research directions of the study programme are related to the programme specialisations - historical musicology, systematic musicology and ethnomusicology, which, in accordance with the amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No 595 of 27 September 2022 "Regulations on Latvian Science Industry Groups, Scientific Industries and Subdisciplines", have been designated as sub-disciplines of the *Humanities and Arts Science Music, Visual Arts and Architecture* Industry.

Key research fields in *Historical musicology* are focused on the study of Latvian and world music history in diverse contexts from the Middle Ages to the present. During the period under review, doctoral theses were elaborated on the Riga Missal chants within the context of medieval European Gregorian traditions, the chamber music style and interpretation of Lūcija Garūta within a biographical context, the historical and stylistic development of piano texture and its manifestations in Latvian music, *new concepts of the interaction of music and text in Latvian choral music in the first decade of the 21st century*, *history of Latvian jazz*, multidimensionality in avant-garde music of the second half of the 20th century, analysing the compositional techniques of K. Stockhausen, P. Boulez, B. Furiho, E. Carter and G. Ligeti, etc.

Specialisation of *systematic musicology* deals with a wide range of issues in music theory, music psychology, music therapy and music pedagogy. An ever-increasing range of technologies allows us to broaden our research interests, creating an interdisciplinary approach to the study of musical processes. The JVLAM has a long tradition of studying the so-called systematic part of music. Until recently, doctoral theses were focused on issues of music theory and analysis. The last five years have seen significant changes expanding the capabilities of this branch, thus firmly taking position among the Europe's leading institutes of systematic musicology. Research in systematic musicology under the JVLAM doctoral programme focuses on approaches from music psychology and cognitive music science. In 2019, the Music Psychology Department acquired state-of-the-art technical equipment (EEG measuring equipment, microtonal instrument, analytical data processing

software), which allows it to fully integrate into the leading systematic music science institutes. By attracting young and talented researchers from Latvia and abroad, a branching of research interests, or the research profile of the JVLAM, has developed. The interests of the JVLAM systematic musicology include the phenomenon of musical giftedness, neuropsychological aspects of music listening and the music-making process, cognitive auditory training approaches, and the brain activity of musicians and music lovers in processing acoustic information. One of the latest challenges is an international collaborative project to develop algorithms for the brain's response to musical interaction. In the near future, this approach will probably lead to possibility of development of new types of aural training, as well as to promote individual performance during a musical performance. The researchers of systematic musicology at the JVLAM have a wide range of collaborators, because only international circulation allows to put forward and realise creative and bold ideas. The interdisciplinary approach outlined above encourages us to look for collaborators in a wide range of fields - healthcare, psychology, neuroscience, mathematics, biology, engineering, programming and, of course, music. Currently, the closest collaboration is with neuroscientists and medical doctors at the University of Heidelberg in Germany, who are closely involved in the *Music and Brain* research group they have founded in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Ethnomusicology studies music as a social process and seeks answers to the questions about how music lives and functions in society and culture, what it means to music practitioners and those who make up its target audiences, what meanings and messages it conveys, reinforces and discovers, and how different social contents are interpreted through music. During the period under review, the research of ethnomusicologists at the JVLAM focused on authenticity and ethnicity in Latvian Gypsy (Roma) music, research on polyphonic music, local practices of Latvian traditional music and their history, traditional musical instruments, etc.

The study programme is closely related to research in musicology and its three sub-disciplines, both in Latvia and internationally, in synergy and mutual influence. The doctoral study programme in musicology is an important prerequisite for the reproduction of Latvian researchers and for future research. Doctoral students' research makes a significant contribution to the development and update of the content of other levels of education, especially vocational line and vocational music education. Doctoral students regularly carry out their own authored courses in bachelor degree programmes (both restricted electives and Part C courses), as well as participate in study courses organised by the supervisor of thesis on the topic of their research focus. For example, Jachin Pousson, in collaboration with prof. V. Bernhofs, conducts the course *Music Perception - from Sound to Music*, in which students engage in practical experiments of music perception and processing. Zane Šmite, Līva Grīnberga, Lana Burmistrova, Kristiāna Vaickovska and others have created their own study courses.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The main method of implementation of the study programme both in Latvian and English is

involvement of doctoral students in the research process. Individual research work based on scientific criteria, study of literature and sources, as wide network as possible, interdisciplinary approach, academic discussion, etc. are the basis for the implementation of study courses and modules and contribute to the achievement of the objectives and tasks of study courses and study programmes.

The methods of study implementation, methods, types and requirements of competence evaluation both in Latvian and English are reflected in the description of each study course. Doctoral students learn the content of their studies through contact hours and independent work. Contact hours are organised in flow, group and individual sessions. According to the course description plan, lecturers structure stream and group classes in the form of lectures, seminars, colloquia, and individual classes in the form of practical work. Respecting the desire of several doctoral students to combine their studies with research or pedagogical activities, and taking into account the work planning of cultural institutions or cultural education institutions, the JVLAM takes into account the principles of student-centred education in the implementation of the study process, including the use of different ways of programme implementation, creating individual study plans, personalising the methods of study course learning, creating appropriate learning paths, regularly evaluating and improving teaching methods and methods, based on student autonomy, while providing guidance and support, including consulting, from lecturers. At the end of the study programme, the doctoral student's competence shall be evaluated in accordance with the Regulations on the Doctoral Council and the description of the study programme, which reflects the requirements and procedures for examinations, types, forms, organisation and conduct of examinations, duties and rights of the doctoral examination commission, conditions for testing and assessment of knowledge and skills, assessment criteria, as well as the appeal procedure.

During the period under review, from March 2020 to autumn 2021, due to Covid-19 restrictions, the study process was mostly implemented remotely by using various digital technologies, for example, videoconferencing software and apps such as ZOOM and GoogleMeet for the implementation of the study process. Digital technologies were used also for various conferences and projects. For example, in April 2020, a videoconference of the JVLAM Historical Musicology researchers on the results of their research for the 2019/2020 season took place, and in October 2021, the international interdisciplinary online conference *Art Pedagogy for the Future* took place. On 30 April 2021, the *European Scientists' Night* project was launched online.

Remote work and the digital environment significantly expanded the possibilities to attract academics from all over the world and to organise international discussions for both educational and research purposes. This has increased the interest of foreign applicants in doctoral studies at the JVLAM.

Due to the increasing involvement of foreign teaching staff, as well as the linking of doctoral studies with international research projects, use of English in the implementation of the study programme is on the rise, which allows us to expect an increase in the number of doctoral students in the future, along with the strengthening of the international environment of the programme, which is set as a strategic goal of the programme. For this reason, an agreement has been reached to establish a joint Baltic Doctoral School of Musicology with the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre and the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, both of which have similar dynamics as Latvia in terms of the number of doctoral students, and have attracted faculty members from Austria, Estonia and Germany.

The doctoral study programme is student-centred in nature, as every doctoral student has an individual approach based on the following key principles:

- 1) personalised study plan and content based on a research competences approach;

2) support mechanisms for student's independent research work by encouraging and financially supporting doctoral students' participation in conferences and the possibility to publish results in scientific journals;

3) respectful attitude of the staff involved in the doctoral study programme, e.g., examination in the study course *Elaboration of Doctoral Thesis Development and Literature Study* is organised with the involvement of international researchers as a discussion platform for further successful research work. Thus, the form of the test is changing to a collegial supervision.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The main principle of quality acquisition of the study programme content is the unity of study and practice. The amount of the approbation practice of scientific work in credit points, their distribution by semesters of studies, as well as the types of competence assessment shall be determined by the study programme. The content of the practice is determined by the course description and the practice work programme developed in accordance with the course description. The study programme includes implementation of scientific and academic practice.

Within the scientific practice, the doctoral student approbates results of the research work (participation in projects, publications, reports at conferences, seminars, etc.) in the amount of LV 4/ECTS 6 CP during the period from 3rd to 6th semester. The scientific practice is supervised by a practice supervisor who helps the doctoral student to get involved in international and/or local research projects, find information about conferences and opportunities to publish research results. The practice is implemented at the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, in cooperation with Latvian and foreign universities within the framework of Erasmus and other mobility programmes and research projects. The doctoral student obtains credit points by demonstrating competence in the knowledge and skills acquired through 20 contact hours of consultations and 140 hours of independent studies. Within the framework of the study programme, a close link with both Latvian and international researchers and networks is involved. Thus, within the framework of the entire programme, including within the framework of the practice, both Latvian (National Research Programme projects) and English (*Longgold* in collaboration with the universities of London and Hanover, *BCMI* in collaboration with the universities of Vilnius and Taiwan, and German (*Music and Brain* in collaboration with the universities of Germany, Switzerland and Graz) are used.

As a part of the academic work practice, during the study period of the 5th and 6th semester, the doctoral student must demonstrate the skills of teaching courses at the university in the amount of LV 2/ECTS 3 CP. The practice is supervised by the supervisor of doctoral thesis who, in cooperation with the director of the study programme, engages doctoral students in academic work at the JVLAM or at one of the Latvian or foreign collaborating universities. Doctoral students obtain credit points if they have taught study courses, including conducting the analysis of study programmes, course descriptions, etc., and the elaboration of study courses in the amount of at least 80 hours.

The practice takes place at the JVLAM according to the work programme drawn up by the lecturers, doctoral students are teaching staff or assistant professors, and doctoral students record their practice in the practice work report.

The practice of scientific work approbation is closely related to the study results to be achieved within the study programme. One of the criteria for obtaining a doctoral degree in science is the publication of articles during the doctoral studies, including in international scientific journals, and participation in international scientific conferences with a paper, which has been given serious attention when elaborating individual practice work programmes and monitoring their results.

As to the period under review, involvement of the doctoral candidate Alberts Rokpelnis in the JVLAM ZPC national research project *Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia*, sub-project *Music Culture in Latvia in the 1920s-1930s and the Second Half of the 20th Century: Understudied Processes, Issues, Problems*, may be mentioned as a few of the examples for linking the scientific work practice with the study results to be achieved within the study programme. Results of the research carried out within the framework of the scientific practice were presented at two JVLAM conferences: *18th-20th Century Music Culture and Socio-historical Contexts in Latvia: Recent Research* (22-23.04.2021) with a paper *Latvian Composers' Sheet Music Editions for Voice and Piano in the 1920s-1930s: genres of fashion dances, composers and schlager publishers*, published as a scientific article in the anonymously peer-reviewed regular scientific journal *Mūzikas akadēmijas raksti [Articles of the Academy of Music]* (2021, pages 75-96) and *Recent Studies on 18th-20th Century Music in Latvia* with the paper *Schlager's Musical, Social and Technological Contexts in the Latvian Press of the 1920s and 1930s*. The scientific article prepared on the basis of this paper has also been published in the journal *Mūzikas akadēmijas raksti*. In 2018, Alberts Rokpelnis presented his paper *The Useful Troubadour* at the 34th International Conference, organised at the JVLAM in Riga by the European organisation *European Seminar in Ethnomusicology*.

All the doctoral students participate in local and international conferences and prepare publications within the framework of the approbation practice of scientific work. In terms of participation in international scientific projects, the specialisation of systematic musicology is particularly active, where doctoral students, for example, Lana Burmistrova, Jachin Pousson, Tatjana Voitova and others were involved in the project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* of the Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan Science Cooperation Support Fund during the period under review.

The practice in a foreign language is ensured in the doctoral study programme, incl. for foreign students, because it is carried out in an international research environment, where communication both in international networks, conferences, etc., and involvement in research within the framework of international projects, incl. the JVLMA Scientific Research Center, where foreign scientists are also employed, everything is conducted in English. Also, scientific publications in international scientific publications are mostly published in English.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

The promotion process for the students of the study programme is governed by the Regulations on the Procedure and Criteria developed in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 1001 of 27 December 2005 "Procedures and Criteria for the Award of a Doctoral Degree in Science

(Doctoral)". The doctoral thesis shall be evaluated by the Promotion Council, the composition of which shall be approved by the Rector. The Council shall consist of at least five scientists who have the right of expert of the Latvian Science Council in the area of science, two of them - in the sub-area of science in which the doctoral thesis is defended. Foreign scientists may also be included in the Council, subject to the approval of the National Commission for Scientific Qualifications. Within one month of receipt of the doctoral thesis, the Promotion Council shall decide on its acceptance for public defense; determine in which foreign language and within what time limit the candidate must prepare a translation of the abstract of the thesis to ensure its international accessibility and discussion; inform the candidate in writing of the composition of the Council and the reviewers; set the time of the promotion meeting no earlier than three months and no later than six months after the receipt of the doctoral thesis; announce the defense of the doctoral thesis at least two weeks before the defense in the newspapers *Latvijas Vēstnesis* and *Zinātnes Vēstnesis* and ensure public availability of the doctoral thesis on the internet and in the JVLAM library. Reviewers of the doctoral thesis may not be relatives, direct subordinates or supervisors of the candidate, co-authors of the candidate's publications, supervisors and advisors of the doctoral thesis, as well as the staff of the department or group where the thesis has been elaborated.

Within one month after receiving the information, the candidate has the right to submit to the Rector of the JVLAM reasoned objections to the composition of the Promotion Council or to the reviewers. In such a case, the Rector may change the composition of the Promotion Council or instruct the Council to invite other reviewers of the doctoral thesis within one month. If the candidate has objections to the reconstituted council or to the invited reviewers, he/she may withdraw his/her application to defend the thesis. If the doctoral thesis is not accepted for public defense by the Promotion Council it shall notify the candidate in writing of the decision, indicating which requirements have not been met. The candidate has the right to resubmit the thesis for defense to the JVLAM no earlier than after one year. If the State Scientific Qualifications Commission (VZKK) finds that the doctoral thesis does not comply with generally accepted international standards in the field in terms of content and methodology, the promotion process is suspended. The VZKK shall notify the JVLAM Promotion Council in writing of this decision no later than four weeks before the public defense of the thesis, indicating which requirements have been violated. In such a case, the Promotion Council shall notify the candidate in writing of the VZKK decision within one week and inform the candidate on further actions.

The reviewers evaluate the theoretical novelty, significance and relevance of results of the doctoral thesis to the level of international achievements in the field of science, relevance of the sources and research methods used by the applicant to the aims and objectives of the dissertation, as well as the relevance of the conclusions and findings of the candidate to the results. Reviewers shall submit to the JVLAM Promotion Council a written review of the doctoral thesis, indicating the compliance of the thesis with the requirements for the award of the Doctor of Arts degree. The Council shall present the reviewers' comments to the candidate no later than three business days before the promotion meeting. If one reviewer's comment is negative, the promotion process may proceed, but the candidate is entitled to withdraw the doctoral thesis and complete or revise it. If comments of two or three reviewers are negative, the doctoral thesis is not to be examined at the meeting of the Promotion Council, and it shall be returned to the candidate for revision. The candidate may resubmit the revised doctoral thesis to the JVLAM no earlier than six months after receiving the negative comments. The Promotion Council shall submit a notice of the withdrawal of the doctoral thesis for publication in the official gazettes *Latvijas Vēstnesis* and *Zinātnes Vēstnesis* within one week after the receipt of the withdrawal.

Meetings of the Promotion Council are open to the public. All the interested parties may attend the meeting, ask questions to the candidate, Promotion Council and the reviewers, as well as provide

comments on the doctoral thesis. Minutes of the meeting shall be kept by the Secretary of the Council. Reviewers of the thesis shall have the right to vote at the meeting of the Council where the promotion takes place. Meeting of the Promotion Council has a quorum, if at least a half of the voting experts and at least two reviewers are present. The Secretary of the Council shall report on the documents submitted by the applicant, any decisions taken on the doctoral thesis and present the curriculum vitae of the applicant. Those present have the right to ask questions about the information provided by the Secretary of the Council. The candidate reports on the doctoral thesis and answers questions about the thesis and the results asked by the persons present. The Council hears and discusses the reviewers' comments, as well as the candidate's academic discussion with the reviewers. The Council hears the feedback of the supervisor (advisor) of the doctoral thesis concerning the candidate's academic performance. Decision to confer or refuse to confer a degree shall be taken by the Promotion Council by a simple majority in a secret ballot. In the event of a tied vote, the Council shall hold a discussion and vote repeatedly. If, after a second vote, the votes are still tied, the Council shall reconsider the thesis, but no earlier than one month and no later than six months after the promotion meeting at which the decision was not taken. Until the next meeting of the Council, the applicant has the right to make corrections to the doctoral thesis in agreement with the Chair of the Council. The Council shall inform the candidate, the Rector of the JVLAM and the VZKK in writing of its decision within one week. The diploma conferring the degree shall be issued by the JVLAM no earlier than six weeks and no later than six months after the decision of the Promotion Council to confer the degree, provided that this decision has not been contested.

Such a regulation is laid down in the Cabinet Regulation No. 1001. In JVLMA's opinion, the promotion process is relatively complicated, the role and functions of VZKK within this process are especially debatable. Along with the entry of the new Cabinet of Ministers' Regulation on promotion procedures and criteria into effect to be reflecting the new conceptual model of doctoral studies, whereof the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia has notified before, the procedure and criteria of promotion will have to be reviewed, including by making changes to the concerned regulatory enactments of the JVLAM.

PhD students of the study programme are provided with promotion opportunities, because in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 1000 of 27 December 2005 on the Delegation of the Right to Award Doctoral Degrees to Higher Education Institutions, the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music has been delegated the right to confer doctoral degrees in music, visual arts and architecture (branch of science) for the period of study programme accreditation. The Promotion Council is composed of the following researchers with the right of expert of the Latvian Council of Science (LCS) Humanities and Arts in the area of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture: JVLAM Professor, Ph.D Valdis Bernhofs (Chair), JVLAM Professor, Ph.D Jānis Kudiņš, JVLAM Researcher, Dr.Phil. Markus Christiner, JVLAM Researcher, Dr.Sc.Hum. Christine Gross, LULFMI Senior Researcher, Ph.D Sanita Bērziņa-Reinsone.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

Scientific novelty, topicality in the industry and the practical applicability of the research results in the labor market are the main criteria for the final thesis to be successfully defended. Introduction of each paper defines the topicality of the subject, analyses the field of research, and it is also approbated at scientific conferences and substantiated in scientific publications. The papers are

reviewed by the industry peers, with the leading experts being involved in the commissions. During the period from 2013-2021, the following doctoral theses were developed and defended at the JVLAM:

Author's name, surname	Title of doctoral thesis	Year of defense
Valdis Bernhofs	Pitch and rhythm structures for aural attention training	2013
Gundega Šmite	<i>New concepts in the relationships between music and text in Latvian choral music (the first decade of the 21st century)</i>	2013
Dzintra Erliha	Chamber music of Lūcija Garūta: biographical context, style and interpretation	2013
Diāna Zandberga	Historical and stylistic development of piano texture and its manifestation in Latvian music	2014
Jānis Petraškevičs	Multidimensionality of the Avantgarde music in the second half of the 20 th century (The composition techniques of K. Stockhausen, P. Boulez, B. Ferneyhough, E. Carter and G. Ligeti)	2014
Indriķis Veitners	Latvian Jazz history (1922-1940)	2014
Ieva Gintere	Concept music by Latvian composers of the youngest generation	2014
Ieva Tihovska	Authenticity and ethnicity in the music of Latvian Roma	2014
Guntars Prānis	Chants of the Riga Missal in the Context of Medieval European Gregorian Tradition	2015
Ieva Rozenbaha	Polyphony in sacred vocal-instrumental works by Latvian composers	2015
Ilona Būdeniece	Phenomenon of Libergenre in the context of genre theory and its manifestation in Latvian composers' instrumental music	2015
Terēze Zīberte – Ījaba	Symphonic orchestra as a musical institution in Riga from 1918 to 1940	2015
Zane Prēdele	Jāzeps Vītols in the dynamics of cultural memory: canons and archives	2015
Līga Pētersone	Piano trio performance in Latvia: historical overview, ensembles and performance traditions	2018

Each of the authors listed in the table above has justified the relevance of the topic, its contribution to the area and its practical application in the labour market in their doctoral theses. These criteria are essential for the evaluation of the doctoral thesis.

It should be concluded that the highest number of doctoral theses was defended in 2015. This is most likely due to the fact that Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, starting from the academic year 2009/2010, implemented the project *Support of the Doctoral Study Programme of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* (No. 2009/0169/1DP/1.1.2.1.2/09/IPIA/VIAA/001), supported by the European Social Fund. The project was implemented over a period of three academic years in collaboration with the following partners: Daugavpils University, the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia (LU LFMI), the Art Academy of Latvia and the Latvian Academy of Culture. During the period determined within the framework of the project, monthly targeted scholarships and additional funding were provided to finance quality support measures of doctoral studies for 80% of the number of doctoral students of the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music. The funding received within the framework of this project enabled doctoral students to appraise topics of their doctoral theses in scientific conferences and publications, to elaborate their doctoral theses and to defend them.

In 2021, within the framework of the project *Academic Staff Development - Approbation of the Doctoral Grant Approach and Attraction of Foreign Academic Staff at the Latvian Academy of Culture, Art Academy of Latvia and Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* No. 8.2.2.0/20/I/002, three JVLAM doctoral students have received support for the elaboration of their doctoral theses. It is planned that, thanks to the funding of this project, doctoral students will soon be able to elaborate their theses and submit them to the JVLAM Promotion Council for defense.

Although it is not formally required, in order to promote quality of the evaluation of doctoral theses, the JVLAM Promotion Council has decided to evaluate doctoral theses by also providing a quality evaluation: *summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, *cum laude*, *satis bene*, *rite*, *non rite*; *non probatum*. It should be noted that, during the period under review, the defended doctoral theses were evaluated only with high marks: *cum laude*, *magna cum laude* un *summa cum laude*.

The theses which are currently in the final stages of elaboration and which are expected to start the thesis process in the near future have the following themes: "Metaphor Discourse in the Context of Latvian Diaspora and Soviet Latvian Musical Yearbooks *Latvian Music Magazine*, 1968-1990 and *Latviešu Mūzika* *LatvianMusic*, 1958-1990" (Dāvis Eņģelis); "Modernisation of kokle: idea, process and results" (Ieva Kalniņa); "The Schlager in Riga in the 1920s and the 1930s: Evidence in the Press and Sheet Music Editions" (Alberts Rokpelnis); "Sound Creation-Based Assessment Tool in Music Therapy for Patients with Depression and/or Anxiety Disorders" (Ineta Heinsberga); "BCMI Design for Impacting Interactional Synchronisation during Embodied Musical Interaction" (Jachin Pousson). Doctoral students are increasingly choosing to write their theses in English to make them accessible to an international audience. This expands the possibilities for the JVLAM to involve international experts in the review and evaluation of the theses.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of

the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The resources and provision are adequate for the implementation of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* and for the achievement of the study results.

The following material technical facilities are used for the implementation of the programme:

- Classrooms;
- Computer class;
- Libraries (music library, book library);
- Sound library.

(see 2.3.2. of the self-assessment report: *Information about the infrastructure and material and technical support necessary for the implementation of the study direction and corresponding study programmes.*)

Doctoral students and teaching staff use the following databases, available at the JVLAM, in the process of studying the study programme: *Science Direct, Oxford Music Online, Letonika.lv, Naxos Music Library, Naxos Music Library Jazz, JSTOR, SCOPUS* and *Web of Science*. Doctoral students and teaching staff use also open access resource and databases created by the JVLAM library.

ESF project support is also used for the implementation of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* and for the achievement of study results. For example, within the framework of the project *Modernisation of Creative Industry Study Programmes implemented at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* No. 8.1.1./17/I/004, the following equipment was purchased for the Scientific Research Centre for research in music psychology: technologies for data reading and processing and an electroencephalograph. Purchase of specific software for recording and processing neurofunctional data, delivered and installed: *NeuroGuide, Matlab, Simulink, MAX/MSP, PureData, BCI2000, WinEEG, OpenVibe*. The Music Psychology classroom and research centre are equipped with information technology equipment: audio-acoustic speakers, digital voice recorder, TV displays, large format monitors, screen, copier-scanner, monitors, laptops, computers, stationary computers, video camera, memory card.

Within the framework of the project *Academic Staff Development - Approval of the Doctoral Grant Approach and Attraction of Foreign Academic Staff at the Latvian Academy of Culture, Art Academy of Latvia and Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* No. 8.2.2.0/20/I/002, the following equipment was purchased for doctoral students-researchers:

- WEB Kamera Logitech C925e 1 USB web camera with superior sensor for tracking a 3D object in low-light conditions;
- Cameo PIXBAR 500PRO 2 Pair of DMX light bars for mapping to BCMI visual output controls;
- Enttec DIN Ethergate 1 Ethernet to DMX/RDM gateway mapping software to DMX output;
- DMX 3 pin Cable, 10 meters 2 Pair of DMX Cables for controlling 2 lightbars from software.

The equipment of *DeltaAudio, Neuroelectrics* and *Stanford Music Latvia* was purchased within the framework of the international interdisciplinary scientific project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* funded by the Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan Support Fund.

The equipment acquired within the above-mentioned projects is used for the acquisition of study courses of the doctoral study programme *Musicology* and for the elaboration of doctoral theses.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

The base for the study and research work is provided by JVLMA doctoral study and science base funding, as well as the funding raised within the framework of research projects, incl. within the framework of cooperation with other scientific institutions and higher education institutions.

For several years, the JVLAM has been cooperating with the following higher education and scientific institutions:

- Riga Stradiņš University (through joint collaborative projects and by inviting teaching staff for specialisation and free elective courses, for example, for processing statistics in student research, for the implementation of psychiatry practice, ensuring interdisciplinarity of research and practice opportunities, as well as for reviewing doctoral theses);
- Latvian Academy of Culture (through joint cooperation projects and by inviting teaching staff for specialisation and free elective courses, for example, by involving the students in the Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia/CARD project of the State Research Program Latvian Culture – a Resource for National Development jointly implemented by the Latvian Academy of Culture, the Latvian Academy of Arts and the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, within the framework of which the students conducted research, participated in scientific conferences and prepared scientific publications);
- University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (by inviting foreign teaching staff and researchers for the implementation of study courses and international scientific projects, for example, involving students in the international project *European Voices*, as well as ensuring the international mobility of the teaching staff and students);
- University of Heidelberg (by inviting foreign teaching staff and researchers for reviewing doctoral theses, implementation of study courses and international scientific projects, for example, sharing the university's laboratories for collection of MEG and MRT brain biometric and analysis thereof with BESA);
- Institute of Literature, Art and Folklore at the University of Latvia (through joint cooperation projects and by inviting teaching staff for specialisation and free elective courses, for example, using LULFMI resources for the implementation of students' research practice).

Since 2019, within the framework of the international interdisciplinary project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction*, funded by the Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan Support Foundation, a successful collaboration with the Institute of Biosciences of Vilnius University (Lithuania) and the National Sun-Yat Sen University in Gaosōng (Taiwan) was established.

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

Doctoral programme in *Musicology* is funded by the state budget. In 2021, three JVLAM doctoral students - Ineta Heinsberga, Jachin Edward Pousson and Alberts Rokpelnis - have received support for the elaboration of their doctoral theses within the framework of the project *Academic Staff Development - Approbation of the Doctoral Students' Grant Approach and Attraction of Foreign Academic Staff at the Latvian Academy of Culture, Art Academy of Latvia and Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* No. 8.2.2.0/20/I/002. The aforementioned doctoral students are involved in this project as doctoral researchers. Doctoral students are also involved in other projects. For example, during the period 2019-2021, doctoral students Jachin Edward Pousson and Lana Burmistrova were involved in an international interdisciplinary project funded by the Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan Support Foundation *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction*.

Within the framework of the project *Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia/CARD* supported by the National Research Programme, doctoral student Alberts Rokpelnis is involved as an executive researcher in the JVLAM sub-projects.

Table 1: Study programme funding

Study year	Total funding of the programme (EUR)/available state budget funding	Cost per student/ state budget/ within the framework of the programme (EUR)	Number of students /State budget/
2017/2018	259,236	17,282	15
2018/2019	259,236	17,282	15
2019/2020	262,845	17,523	15
2020/2021	286,527	19,102	15
2021/2022	353,480	19,638	18

Doctoral studies are based on an individualized approach to the doctoral student, focused on the PhD student's chosen specialization and research interests. The largest part of the costs consists of the remuneration of highly qualified lecturers and support staff, provision of support activities, including participation in conferences, replenishment of equipment and library stocks necessary for conducting research, other expenses, incl. facility maintenance and service costs. Studies in English are self-financed; the estimate is made in such a way as to cover the costs for the implementation of the study courses provided for in the study plan. The range of research topics in musicology can varies, therefore doctoral students studying in Latvian, or English, who can make a significant contribution to the research of issues important to society, should be provided with studies at JVLMA, regardless of the number of students in the group. This is consistent with the approach on which the creation of the new Doctoral School concept in Latvia is currently based.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The number of the teaching staff elected by JVLMA, involved in the implementation of the mandatory part and the limited optional specialization and profile courses of the doctoral study programme *Musicology*, is nine, all of whom have PhD degree. The Lecturers are recruited for free-choice study courses depending on the choice of the students and the possibilities of the academy. These courses can also be implemented in cooperation with JVLMA partner institutions in Latvia and abroad.

The level of knowledge of the teaching staff involved in the study program in Latvian and English is adequate, in the case of English at least at C1 level. The number of foreign teaching staff involved does not affect the fulfillment of the condition of the Law on Universities that no more than one-fifth of the credit points of the study program are implemented in the official languages of the European Union in the study program, which is implemented in the national language.

Qualifications of the teaching staff of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* comply with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of the regulatory enactments. Both academic and guest staff are highly qualified and competent, providing students with the necessary research skills, theoretical knowledge, skills and competences.

Academic staff submit biographies of their scientific and artistic creativity every six years, which are carefully evaluated. In parallel, the documents submitted by applicants for academic positions are evaluated, the minutes of the Senate and the Scientific Council meetings, the election process and results; self-evaluation reports of the academic staff, feedback from students and results of their work are carefully evaluated. Qualifications of the academic staff are appropriate to the implementation of the objectives and tasks of the programme.

The number of foreign guest lecturers has increased significantly during the period under review, attracting internationally recognisable experts. Operating in a freely competitive market of education and academic services, the JVLAM promotes a flexible and attractive recruitment policy.

Both academic staff and guest teaching staff have been involved in several international research projects and other activities during the period under review.

For example, Professor Anda Beitāne is involved in (1) international research project *European Voices: Audiovisuals*. Series of the *Research Center for European Multipart Music* (EMM) (Department for Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology of the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, Austria/ Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music), within the framework of which several audiovisual publications have already been released in Latvia under Beitāne's organizational leadership, the first of which was her book and double CD *Notes from Latvia: Multipart Music in the Field*; author of the second publication in the series is Ardian Ahmedaja, editor of the series, then - guest professor within the JVLAM doctoral study programme, since 2022 - researcher at the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre. Three editions are currently in preparation, with authors from the University of Cagliari (Italy), the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (Austria) and the University of Aberdeen (UK); (2) *Towards an alliance for distributed*

ethnomusicology data. Partners: The Department of Music Acoustics (IWK) at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (mdw, Austria); The Department of ethnomusicology (IVE) at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (mdw, Austria); The Information Management and Preservation Lab at the Institute of Software Technology and Interactive Systems (IFS) at the Technical University Vienna (Austria); The Mahidol University College of Music (Thailand); Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (Malaysia); U.P. Center for Ethnomusicology (Philippines).

Ms Beitāne is also the *Liaison* Officer of Latvia to the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), (Available in English) <http://www.ictmusic.org/world-network> and a researcher at the Research Centre for European Multipart Music (EMM), (Available in English) <https://www.mdw.ac.at/ive/emm/?l=en>, as well as a member of the International *Ballad Commission/ Kommission für Volksdichtung* and the European Seminar in Ethnomusicology (ESEM). In 2018, at the invitation of the ESEM Council, she organised the 34th ESEM Conference in Riga, at JVLAM. She regularly participates in international conferences and is the author of numerous publications. Thanks to the extensive international network, she also involves students of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* and regularly invites internationally recognised guest lecturers.

Professor Valdis Bernhofs is involved in and/or supervises the following projects:

1) Project *Neuronale Grundlagen der Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen* of the research group of the Neurology Clinic at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) – in collaboration with Austrian and Swiss universities;

2) *Musik macht fit! Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen bei vielmusizierenden Kindern und Kinder mit ADS und ADHS*. The project included statistical processing of biometric data, processing of musicality indexing module data, participation in the preparation of a publication, development and validation of the musicality indexing module. The project is implemented by the Research Centre of the Neurology Clinic at the University of Heidelberg;

3) Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan international scientific project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* (together with the JVLAM Systematic Musicology doctoral students).

Thanks to Mr Bernhofs, during the period under review, at the beginning of which he defended his doctoral thesis, and during which, with the involvement of his doctoral students, he has significantly developed, in fact created an internationally recognised systematic musicology team at the JVLAM, the interest in the study programme *Musicology* at the JVLAM has significantly increased, as doctoral students in the systematic musicology specialisation from day one have the opportunity to participate in international research projects in collaboration with German, Austrian and British universities.

Both academic staff and the visiting teaching staff have presented their reports in international scientific conferences and regularly publish in anonymously peer-reviewed scientific journals, which is one of the crucial factors in improvement of scientific qualifications.

During the period under review, thanks to the support of the European Regional Fund and the State, JVLAM researchers, teaching staff and doctoral students participated in the European Researchers' Night event. European Researchers' Night in Latvia is a project rated above the quality threshold in the European Union's research and innovation programme *Apvāršnis Eiropa [Horizon Europe]* and was implemented under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) project *Support for International Cooperation Projects in Research and Innovation* No. 1.1.1.5/20/A/002. On 30 April 2021, the European Night of Scientists was held for the first time in an online format at the JVLAM. The JVLAM offered a varied programme consisting of thematic lectures, talks by researchers, a trip into the laboratory of a systematic musicology researcher and a scientific concert, during which the audience could trace the pianist's brain impulse map with the help of electroencephalogram image

projections.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The Doctoral Programme *Musicology* involves the highest rated teaching staff who have made a significant contribution to any area of music science at national and international level. The composition of the teaching staff in the Doctoral Programme *Musicology* has been broadly stable over the period under review in terms of elected academic staff. On average, 70% of the total number of academic staff, including professors and associate professors, have been involved in the programme without interruption.

The situation with the visiting and guest staff is different. At the beginning of the period under review (academic year 2013-2014), seven JVLAM professors and two guest professors from the Latvian Academy of Culture and Vilnius Academy of Music and Theatre were involved in the implementation of the JVLAM doctoral study programme *Musicology*. In the 2014-2015 academic year - eight professors and associate professors, one assistant professor and one guest lecturer from the Latvian Academy of Culture. In the 2015-2016 academic year, the study programme employed eight professors and associate professors, one assistant professor and one visiting lecturer from the Latvian Academy of Culture. In the 2016-2017 academic year, the study programme had eight professors and no guest lecturers from other universities. The situation started to change from 2017-2018, when, in addition to seven JVLAM professors and associate professors, three visiting lecturers - two from Riga Stradiņš University and one from the University of Latvia - were involved in the implementation of the study programme. In the 2018-2019 academic year, the academic staff will remain unchanged, but the invited faculty members from Riga Stradiņš University and the University of Latvia will be joined by professors from the Latvian Academy of Culture and the Art Academy of Latvia, as well as a visiting professor from the University of Heidelberg (Germany). In the 2019-2020 academic year, similar dynamics remain. Dynamic changes are obvious in the 2020-2021 academic year, when the composition of the JVLAM academic staff is supplemented by a female researcher from Germany, and number of guest teaching staff significantly grows: one professor from the Latvian Academy of Culture, two from the University of Latvia, one from the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia, one from the Art Academy of Latvia, as well as five guest professors: from the University of Heidelberg (Germany), the University of Graz (Austria), the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (Austria), the University of Stockholm (Sweden) and the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. Guest professors from Goldsmiths University London (UK), the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre and Emory University College of Arts and Sciences (USA) are being attracted for the academic year 2022-2023. Such a dynamics shows that the study programme offers a personalised approach to each doctoral student, involving globally recognised authorities to help doctoral students achieve high and internationally convertible research results.

Currently, the JVLAM doctoral study programme is implemented by JVLAM professors Anda Beitāne, Valdis Bernhofs, Mārtiņš Boiko, Lolita Fūrmane, Baiba Jaunslaviete, Jānis Kudiņš, researchers Ardian Ahmedaja (Austria), Markus Christiner (Austria), Christine Gross (Germany) and guest professor Kevin C. Karnes (Emory University College of Arts and Sciences, USA), with a view to further flexible attraction of visiting professors within the framework of student-centred education approach.

The analysis of changes in the composition of teaching staff allows to conclude that, from a

relatively local situation at the beginning of the period under review (2013-2017) with attraction of some teaching staff from other Latvian universities, currently or at the end of the period under review there is a wide and flexible attraction of visiting teaching staff from universities of different countries. This approach not only has a positive impact on the quality of studies, but also allows the JVLAM doctoral study programme to position itself as an international player.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

During the period under review, 97 scientific publications were issued, including publications in the Articles of the JVLAM *Academy of Music*.

Below is a summary of the number of scientific publications indexed in SCOPUS/Web of Science/ERIH+ during the period under review, together with a list of the most relevant publications.

Year	Publications
2013	Christiner, M. , Reiterer, S.M. (2013) Song and speech: examining the link between singing talent and speech imitation ability. <i>Frontiers in Psychology</i> , 21(4), 874, 1-21. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2013.00874
2015	Christiner, M. , Reiterer, S.M. (2015) A Mozart is not a Pavarotti: singers outperform instrumentalists on foreign accent imitation. <i>Frontiers in Human Neuroscience</i> , 9, 482, 1-8. https://doi.org/10.3389/fnhum.2015.00482

2016	<p>Serrallach B., Gross C., Bernhofs V., Engelmann D., Benner J., Gündert N., Blatow M., Wengenroth M., Seitz A., Brunner M., Seither S., Parncutt R., Schneider P., Seither-Preisler A. (2016) Neural biomarkers for dyslexia, ADHD and ADD in the auditory cortex of children. <i>Frontiers in Neuroscience</i>, 10, 324, 1-23. doi: 10.3389/fnins.2016.00324</p> <p>Boiko M. (2016) On the unresolved issues of the classical folk song poetry. <i>Letonica. Humanities Journal</i>, No. 33. Riga: LU Literatūras, folkloras un mākslas institūts, pages 46-59</p> <p>Kudiņš, J. Pēteris Vasks as Neo-Romantic: Characteristic Style Signs of Latvian Composer Symphonic Music in the Context of Postmodern culture and art, in: Katarina Bogunovič Hočevār, Gregor Pompe, Nejc Sukljan (Eds.). <i>From Modernism to Postmodernism. Between Universal and Local</i>. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2016, 303-326</p>
2017	<p>Šarkovska-Liepiņa, Ilze (2017) Emilis Melngailis (1874-1954) <i>LATVIAN FOLKLORISTICS IN THE INTERWAR PERIOD</i>, 236-248.</p>
2018	<p>Boiko M. (2018) Song strings. Reflection on the problem and the phenomenon in the 19th and 20th century research literature. <i>Letonica. Journal of Humanities</i>, No.37 Riga: LU Literatūras, folkloras un mākslas institūts: pages 82-108</p> <p>Kudiņš, J. (2018) Latvian Music History in the Context of 20th-century Modernism and Postmodernism. Some Specific Issues of Local Historiography. <i>Musicological Annual</i>, 54, 97-139. doi:10.4312/mz.54.2.97-139</p> <p>Jaunslaviete, B. (2018) The theory of polystylism as a tool for analysis of contemporary music in the postsoviet cultural space: some terminological aspects. Teorija polistilizma kao alata za analizu suvremene glazbe u poslijesovjetskome kulturnom prostoru: neki terminološki aspekti. Rasprave Instituta za hrvatski jezik i jezikoslovlje, 44, 455-465. doi: 10.31724/RIHJ.44.2.8</p> <p>Jaunslaviete, B. (2018) Origins of Post-Modern Music in Latvia: Its Historical Background and Manifestation in the Work by Mārgeris Zariņš. <i>Crossing Borders in Arts: Beyond Modern & Postmodern</i>. Sofia: Institute of Art Studies: pp. 142-150</p> <p>Christiner, M., Reiterer, S.M. (2018) Early Influence of Musical Abilities and Working Memory on Speech Imitation Abilities: Study with Pre-School Children. <i>Brain Sciences</i>, 8(9), 169, 1-16. doi: 10.3390/brainsci8090169</p> <p>Christiner, M., Rüdegger S., Reiterer, S.M. (2018) Sing Chinese and tap Tagalog? Predicting individual differences in musical and phonetic aptitude using language families differing by sound-typology. <i>International Journal of Multilingualism</i>, 15(4), 455-471. https://doi.org/10.1080/14790718.2018.1424171</p>

2019

Kudiņš, J. (2019) Phenomenon of the Baltic Singing Revolution in 1987–1991: Three Latvian Songs as Historical Symbols of Non-Violent Resistance. *Muzikologija/Musicology*, No. 26/1, *Journal of the Institute of Musicology SASA*, Belgrade, ed. Ivana Medic, pp. 27–39 ISSN 1450-9814.

Jaunslaviete B. (2019) The Reception of Russian Music in Riga During the 1860s and 1870s: The Characteristic Opinions Manifested in Press Reviews. *Music Scholarship / Problemy Muzykalnoj Nauki*, No. 4 (December), Ufa: Ufimskiy gosudarstvennyy institut iskusstv imeni Zagira Ismagilova (Ufa State Institute of Arts named after Zagir Ismagilov). ISSN 1997-0854 (Print), 2587-6341 (Online)

Coumel, M., **Christiner, M.**, Reiterer S.M. (2019) Second language accent faking ability depends on musical abilities, not on working memory. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 10, 257, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00257>

Zoellner S., Benner J., Zeidler B., Seither-Preisler A., **Christiner M.**, Seitz A., Goebel R., Heinecke A., Wengenroth M., Blatow M., Schneider P. (2019) Reduced cortical thickness in Heschl's gyrus as an in vivo marker for human primary auditory cortex. *Human Brain Mapping*, 40(4), 1139-1154. doi: 10.1002/hbm.24434

2020

Kudiņš, J. (2020) The Rock Opera *Lāčplēsis* (Bearslayer, 1988): Symbolic Meaning in the Historical Change Process and the Cultural Memory of Latvia. In: *Lietuvos Muzikologija / Lithuanian Musicology*, No. 21, Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, eds. Rūta Stanevičiūtė, Rima Povilionė, pp. 94–111 ISSN 1392-9313

Kudiņš, J. (2020) Folk music quotations and allusions in Latvian composers' neo-romantic symphonic music in the last decades of the 20th century and early 21st century. *New Sound*, 55, 213-218

Jaunslaviete, B. (2020) Reception of Czech and Latvian Music by German Music Critics in Riga in the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries: Some Comparative Aspects, *Musicologica Brunensia*, Brno: Masarik University, 55 (2), pp. 151-164 **ISSN 1212-0391 (print), ISSN 2336-436X (online)**

Pousson, J.E.; Voicikas, A.; **Bernhofs, V.**; Pipinis, E.; Burmistrova, L.; Lin, Y.-P.; Griškova-Bulanova, I. (2021) Spectral Characteristics of EEG during Active Emotional Musical Performance. *Sensors*, 21(22), 7466, 1-12.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/s21227466>

Christiner, M., Gross, C., Seither-Preisler, A., Schneider, P. (2021) The melody of speech: What the melodic perception of speech reveals about language performance and musical abilities. *Languages*, 6 (3), 132, 1-18.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/languages6030132>

Jaunslaviete, B. (2021) Latvian Music in the Forums of the Composers Union from Late 1970s until the Late 1980s: Main Manifestations of Sociocultural Changes. *Lietuvos muzikologija*, 22, Vilnius: Lietuvos muzikos ir teatro akadēmija, 104-117 ISSN 1392-9313

Christiner M., Bernhofs V., Groß C. (2022) Individual Differences in Singing Behavior during Childhood predicts Language Performance during Adulthood. *Languages*, 7, 72, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.3390/languages7020072>

Christiner M., Renner J., **Groß C.**, Benner J., Schneider P. (2022) Singing Mandarin? What short-term memory capacity, basic auditory skills, musical and singing abilities reveal about learning Mandarin. In: *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13, 895063, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.895063>

Rus-Oswald Oana G., Benner J., Reinhardt J., Bürki C., **Christiner M.**, Hofmann E., Schneider P., Stippich C., Kressig R. W., Blatow M. (2022) Musicianship related structural and functional cortical features are preserved in elderly musicians. *Frontiers in Ageing Neuroscience*, 14, 807971, 1-22. doi: 10.3389/fnagi.2022.807971

Groß C., Serrallach B., Möhler E., Pousson J., Schneider P., **Christiner M.**, **Bernhofs V.** (2022) Musical Performance in Adolescents with ADHD, ADD and Dyslexia - Behavioral and Neurophysiological Aspects. *Brain Sciences*, 12, 127, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.3390/brainsci12020127>

Christiner M., Serrallach B., Benner J., **Bernhofs V.**, Schneider P., Renner J., Sommer-Lolei S., **Groß C.** (2022) Examining Individual Differences in Singing, Musical and Tone Language Ability in Adolescents and Young Adults with Dyslexia. *Brain Sciences*, 12, 744, 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.3390/brainsci12060744>

Serrallach B., **Groß C.**, **Christiner M.**, Wildermuth S., Schneider P. (2022) Neuromorphological and Neurofunctional Correlates of ADHD and ADD in the Auditory Cortex of Adults. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 16, 850529, 1-12. doi: 10.3389/fnins.2022.850529

Ghodousi, M., Pousson, J. E., Voicikas, A., **Bernhofs, V.**, Pipinis, E., Tarailis, P., Burmistrova, L., Lin, Y.-P., Griškova-Bulanova, I. (2022) EEG Connectivity during Active Emotional Musical Performance. *Sensors*, 22, 4062, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.3390/s22114064>

Information about the experts of the Latvian Council of Science involved in the JVLMA doctoral study programme *Musicology*:

There are 4 experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the elected teaching staff of the JVLMA doctoral study programme at the moment:

1. Valdis Bernhofs, Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, until 06.07.2025.
2. Christine Gross, Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, until 06.07.2025.
3. Jānis Kudiņš, Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, until 06.04.2025.
4. Markus Christiner, Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, until 06.07.2025.

Total number during the period under review: 7

No.	Name, surname	Sector	Term
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1	Valdis Bernhofs	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	22.11.2014 – 20.11.2017 07.07.2022 – 06.07.2025
2	Anda Beitāne	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	22.11.2014 – 20.11.2017
3	Mārtiņš Boiko	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	26.11.2016 – 25.11.2019 19.11.2019 – 18.11.2022
4	Christine Gross	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	07.07.2022 – 06.07.2025
5	Baiba Jaunslaviete	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	20.02.2020 – 19.02.2023
6	Jānis Kudiņš	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	23.01.2016 – 21.01.2019 24.04.2019 – 23.04.2022 07.04.2022 – 06.04.2025
7	Markus Christiner	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	07.07.2022 – 06.07.2025

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

During the period under review, lecturers and researchers of the academic staff involved in the implementation of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* were actively involved in various research projects at local and international level as project leaders, principal investigators or sub-project leaders.

For example, **in 2013**, Professor Jānis Kudiņš was the leading researcher in the project *Sociocultural Crossings and Borders*, implemented by the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre with the support of the Research Council of Lithuania and the International Musicological Society: *Musical Microhistories* (amount of funding: LTL 35,000); Associate Professor Baiba Jaunslaviete was the leading researcher in the project implemented by the JVLAM and the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia, titled *Virtual Encyclopaedia of Humanities*, funded by the State Culture Capital Foundation.

In 2014, Professor Jānis Kudiņš was involved as a senior researcher in the project *Modernisation in the Music of Eastern Europe (1900-1940)* at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre: *The Perspective of Paratactic Comparativism*, funded by the Research Council of Lithuania (amount of funding: LTL 35,400.00); Professor Valdis Bernhofs was a supervisor of the JVLAM sub-project in the project *Musik macht fit!* implemented by the Research Centre of the Neurology Clinic at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) *Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen bei vielmusizierenden Kindern und Kinder mit ADS und ADHS*; Professor Ilma Grauzdiņa was the leading

researcher in the project *Latvians and Latvia* at the of the Latvian Academy of Sciences Baltic Strategic Research Centre; Associate Professor Baiba Jaunslaviete was the leading researcher in the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre project *Music of Different Ages from the Perspective of Critics, Musicologists and Philosophers: Interaction of Evaluation Systems and Search for New Paradigms of Research*. Professor Lolita Fūrmane was the leading researcher in two projects of the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, supported by the State Culture Capital Foundation: *Latvian Academy of Music - for Latvia's Centenary* and the *Latvian music history project*, as well as in the project *Musikgeschichte in Mittel- und Osteuropa* at the University of Leipzig (Germany).

In 2015, Professor Anda Beitāne was the principal executor in the project *Identity Aesthetics: literature, folklore and art - historical signs and contemporary symbols of national identity* of the National Research Programme *National Identity (language, Latvian History, culture and human security)*, implemented by the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia; Professor Mārtiņš Boiko was the chief researcher in the project *Jesuit Mission Activity in the Second Half of the 18th Century, First Decades of the 19th Century, and Contemporary Traditional Culture of Latgale*, implemented by the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, supported by the State Cultural Capital Fund.

In 2016, Professor Valdis Bernhoff was the principal investigator of the project *Neuronale Grundlagen der Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen* at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) in collaboration with the Institute of Systematic Musicology in Graz (Austria) and the sub-project leader of the JVLAM and Heidelberg-Basel University Clinic project *Hearing centre characteristics in musicians and non-musicians, physiology of absolute pitch, testability and perception of sound pitches*.

In 2017, Professor Valdis Bernhofs was the leading researcher in the project *Neuronale Grundlagen der Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen (Neuronal Grundlagen of Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen)* at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) in collaboration with the University of Graz (Austria) and the University Clinic of Basel (Switzerland) ;

In 2018, doctoral candidate and scientific assistant Lana Burmistrova commenced the project No. 1.1.1.5/18/I/001 *Development of International Cooperation Projects in Research and Innovation at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music*, with funding from the European Regional Development Fund and the state budget funding (EUR 87,344), the project is still ongoing; Professor Anda Beitāne is leading a sub-project of the JVLAM in a cooperation project with the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology *European Voices* at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (Austria): *Audiovisuals. Series of the Research Center for European Multipart Music*. This project was led by Ardian Ahmedaja, then a guest professor at the JVLAM, now a researcher. The project is still ongoing.

In 2019, Professor Valdis Bernhofs will started sub-project management of the project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* between the JVLAM, Vilnius University (Lithuania) and National Sun-Yat Sen University (Gaosjuna, Taiwan) with funding from the Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan Scientific Cooperation Support Fund (65 289.97 EUR), the project was completed in 2021.

In 2020, Professor Jānis Kudiņš, in collaboration with the Latvian Academy of Culture (leading partner), the Art Academy of Latvia, the National Library of Latvia and the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia, commence leadership of the JVLAM project within the National Research Programme Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia/CARD. No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003 with two sub-projects: (1) *Music Culture in Latvia in the 1920s-1930s and in the Second Half of the 20th Century: Understudied Processes, Issues, Problems and* (2) *Music in Latvia in the 17th-19th Century: Creative Processes in Cultural Contexts*

are led by Professor Jānis Kudiņš and Professor Lolita Fūrmane, respectively. (Amount of funding EUR 228,614.60). The project was completed in 2022.

In 2021, Professor Anda Beitāne started a sub-project at the JVLAM in collaboration with the Institute of Music Acoustics and the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (Austria), the Laboratory for Information Management and Preservation at the University of Vienna (Austria), Mahidol University College of Music (Thailand), Sultan Idris University of Pendidikan (Malaysia) and U.P. Ethnomusicology centre (Philippines) within the implemented project *Towards an alliance for distributed ethnomusicology data*. The project is ongoing.

In 2022, Professor Valdis Bernhofs is a supervisor of the JVLAM sub-project in collaboration with the Hanover University of Music, Theatre and Media (Germany) and Goldsmiths University of London, in which first semester doctoral students Margarita Mižujeva and Reinis Maurītis are also conducting their researches in relation to their doctoral studies.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

The teaching staff of the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* collaborate continuously in research, collaborative projects and networks. All the programme staff are involved in various projects and networks. Regular meetings of the Work Group, the Department of Musicology and the Doctoral Council are held to discuss ways of fostering cooperation and ways of developing it. Once a year, the doctoral study programme staff shall submit a self-evaluation report on their performance in each academic year. As several members of the teaching staff of the Doctoral Programme *Musicology* are also researchers at the Scientific Research Centre (ZPC) of the JVLAM, at the end of each calendar year, the researchers submit a report on their work during the calendar year and a work plan for the following year. Results and plans are discussed in joint meetings of the ZPC and in research groups. Detailed analysis of doctoral students' questionnaires and discussions of the individual plan play an important role in ensuring the interconnectedness of study courses/modules. Based on the suggestions of doctoral students, doctoral seminars were initiated in 2022, during which the research results and problems arising from the studies of doctoral students were regularly presented and discussed, as well as research paradigms in various sub-disciplines of musicology were introduced and analysed under the guidance of various members of teaching staff, including guest professors. Based on the successful experience of these seminars, study course *Musicology Seminar* was included in the study programme. Another example of promoting cooperation between teaching staff in the implementation of a study programme is the so-called collective courses, where several members of teaching staff are involved in the implementation of each study course. During the self-evaluation period, this practice was implemented in the specialisation profile courses *Textual Analysis* and *Research Methodology and Methods*. The interconnectedness of the study courses is ensured by an individual approach to each doctoral student and the topic of his/her doctoral thesis, as it affects the development of individual plans of doctoral students, where all the study courses are planned in an interconnected way, subordinated to the topic of doctoral thesis. It should be concluded that, the doctoral study programme is based on an individual approach to each student, which also ensures successful cooperation both between

the members of the teaching staff and between the teaching staff and the doctoral students.

At the time of submission of the self-evaluation report, 9 doctoral students are active under the doctoral study programme, and 9 members of the teaching staff are employed, 6 of whom are academic staff of the JVLAM and 3 are guest professors from Goldsmiths University, London (UK), Emory University College of Arts and Science (USA) and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Another two members of the JVLAM teaching staff are involved in the evaluation of doctoral students' study results in the Doctoral Council. Thus, the ratio of students to teaching staff in the Doctoral Study Programme *Musicology* is on average 1:1, with a tendency for the number of faculty members to slightly exceed the number of students. At the same time, the specific nature of doctoral studies does not allow for a precise calculation of the number of students and teaching staff, as the study process is inextricably linked to the research process and the resulting networks, and the actual involvement of doctoral students in research projects significantly increases the supposed number of teaching staff, which may therefore depend on the number of researchers involved in the project.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.AD_Diploma.docx	3.1.AD_diploms.docx
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3.1.AD_Statistics on students.docx	3.1.AD_statistika par studejosajiem.docx
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard		
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)	compliance-with-external-regulations.docx	atbilstiba-arejam-regulejumam.docx
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3.2.AD_Maping of study results.xlsx	3.2.AD_kartejums pret studiju rezultatiem.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3.2.ADSP_Music_Curriculum.xlsx	3.2.ADSP_Muzika_Studiju plans.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.AD_Study course descriptions.7z	3.2.AD_Studiju_kursu_apraksti.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	description-of-practice-organization.docx	prakses-organizācijas-apraksts.docx
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)	3_4_1_AMSP_ADSP_Confirmation_teaching_staff_LHEI55.edoc	3_4_1_AMSP_ADSP_Apliecinajums_macibspeki_AL55.edoc
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	3_4_1_AMSP_ADSP_Confirmation_teaching_staff_LHEI55.edoc	3_4_1_AMSP_ADSP_Apliecinajums_macibspeki_AL55.edoc

Music (45212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Music
Education classification code	45212
Type of the study programme	Academic master study programme
Name of the study programme director	Elīna
Surname of the study programme director	Šmaukstele
E-mail of the study programme director	elina.smaukstele@jvlma.lv
Title of the study programme director	Mg.geogr.
Phone of the study programme director	66102825
Goal of the study programme	<i>To provide for the education of specialists in music-related scientific sub-disciplines for the cultural and social needs of the country, offering the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences necessary for academic and scientific activities, which would promote competitiveness in the labour market and motivate professional development and further education.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to deepen the knowledge and understanding acquired at Bachelor level, providing opportunities for originality in the development and application of ideas in research, as well as in the practical work of a musicologist; - to develop problem-solving skills in new or unfamiliar environments in a musicological context; - to develop the ability to integrate knowledge, formulate conclusions in the face of limited and/or complex information, taking professional and ethical responsibility; - to provide knowledge and develop skills to present findings in a scientifically sound manner and to demonstrate research results to both specialist and non-specialist audiences; - to develop independent research skills and prepare Master's students for doctoral studies.

Results of the study programme	<p>1) <i>Is able to demonstrate advanced or expanded knowledge and understanding, some of which is in line with the latest findings and trends in music-related sub-disciplines and the specific professional field (Historical Musicology, Ethnomusicology, Systematic Musicology), and which provides a basis for creative thinking and research, including working at the interface between different fields.</i></p> <p>2) <i>Is able to independently apply theories, various methods and skills to carry out scientific research and artistic research activities in one's specialisation.</i></p> <p>3) <i>Is able to explain and discuss complex or systemic aspects of the music industry and the musician's professional field in a reasoned manner with both specialists and non-specialists.</i></p> <p>4) <i>Is able to independently direct the development of competences in his/her specialisation; take responsibility for the results and analysis of the work of teams of staff (research or artistic project or cultural education institution).</i></p> <p>5) <i>Is able to carry out entrepreneurial activities (management of cultural institutions, research groups or individual artistic projects, private practice as a teacher); to implement innovations in the field of music in one's field of specialisation.</i></p> <p>6) <i>Is able to carry out research or further learning (continuing education, PhD) in complex and unpredictable environments and, if necessary, to modify them using new approaches.</i></p> <p>7) <i>Is able to integrate knowledge from different fields, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, the development of research or professional methods, and demonstrate an understanding of and ethical responsibility for the potential impact of scientific results or professional activities on the environment and society.</i></p> <p>8) <i>Is able to formulate and critically analyse complex professional and scientific problems related to music independently, to justify decisions and, if necessary, to carry out further analysis.</i></p>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	Master's Thesis

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	latvian
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	Academic or professional bachelor's degree in natural sciences, medical and health sciences, social sciences or humanities and arts and entrance examination for all applicants

Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master's Degree in Arts, Humanities</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	---

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 2 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Academic or professional bachelor's degree in natural sciences, medical and health sciences, social sciences or humanities and arts and entrance examination for all applicants, English language proficiency, at least level B2</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Master's Degree in Arts, Humanities</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	---

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

The previous accreditation letter No 2021/64 of the field of study *Arts* was issued on 26.10.2021. This accreditation sheet includes the Academic Master study programme *Music*, programme code - 45212; scope in credits - 80; mode and form of implementation - full-time studies, "in-presence"; place of implementation - Riga; degree to be awarded - Master of Arts in Humanities, language of implementation - Latvian.

Since the previous accreditation of the study field, the learning outcomes of the study programme have been revised and updated in order to meet current requirements.

The main programme parameter that is planned to be changed within the framework of the evaluation procedure is the language of the programme. In the future, it is planned to add English as the language of implementation.

The implementation of the study programme in English would be an important step both in ensuring the sustainable operation and development of the JVLAM and in the development of higher education in music in Latvia, expanding the opportunities for competitiveness and international cooperation. As described in criterion 3.1.1 of the self-assessment report for the Professional Master degree programme *Music and Performing Arts*, mastering higher music education in English is now at least theoretically possible in Latvia:

- Bachelor level studies at the regional higher education institution DU (English is included as one of the study programme implementation languages in the programme's license issued in 2021, but there is no information about the actual launch of the study programme in English);
- Doctoral level studies at the JVLAM (Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in *Arts*).

But nowhere in Latvia is there an opportunity to study for a Master degree in Music in English language.

In order to make higher music education at all levels accessible to foreign students, the JVLAM has applied to add English as the language of implementation for all study programmes in the *Arts*, including the Academic Master programme *in Music*, as part of the evaluation procedure for this study area.

Currently, the number of students studying the Academic Master study programme *Music* is small. Delivering the programme in English would broaden the pool of potential students. In addition, some study courses are already taught by foreign teaching staff members to ensure that study courses are offered in line with industry trends and student interests. At the level of academic master studies, especially in the specialisation of *Systematic Musicology*, students are involved in international projects, thus gaining international practice in their specialisation. These projects are creating new collaborations between teaching staff and students. Foreign students involved in such projects have also expressed interest in studying at the JVLAM, but at the moment the study

programme is only available in Latvian. Also, with the involvement of foreign lecturers - authorities in the field - in the implementation of the study programme, students from other countries, who have fewer opportunities to be admitted to music universities in their home countries, could potentially follow these docents to another European music university, in this case - the JVLAM.

The updated study programme plan already involves foreign lecturers in teaching some study courses, for example, the study course *Theories and Paradigms of Ethnomusicology* is taught by Ardian Ahmedaja, a researcher at the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna; the course *Theories and Paradigms of Historical Musicology* is taught by Professor Toomas Siitan, Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, according to the student's chosen Master thesis topic *for the Specialisation Internship*, in the academic year 2022/2023, Professor Kevin C. Karnes from Emory University (USA) will be involved.

The internationalization of higher education promotes the development of study programmes and processes in line with quality criteria accepted in international practice. The implementation of the study programme in English and the presence of foreign students would give every JVLAM student the opportunity to acquire intercultural competences and enrich their intercultural experience. This would allow for more cooperation with foreign guest lecturers, who could provide specific expertise to Masters students, increasing the competitiveness of graduates. This would create an opportunity for the JVLAM lecturers to broaden their international cooperation and experience by becoming increasingly involved in various international study and research projects.

For more information on the need for internationalization of the study programmes of the JVLAM and the targeted actions taken in accordance with the JVLAM strategy to ensure the implementation of studies in English and to attract foreign students, see the descriptions of the criteria 3.1.1. of the self-assessment report for the Professional Bachelor and Professional Master study programmes in *Music and Performing Arts*.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The Academic Master degree programme in *Music*, with its specialisations in *Historical Musicology*, *Ethnomusicology* and *Systematic Musicology*, fully corresponds to the field of study *Arts*. Study programme code 45212 corresponds to the *Regulations on the Classification of Latvian Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 322, approved on 13 June 2017) according to the thematic group of Humanities and Arts Education, the thematic field of Arts Education, the education programmes of Music and Performing Arts.

The title of the study programme is *Music*, the aim of the study programme is "To provide education of specialists in music-related sub-disciplines for the cultural and social needs of the country by offering to acquire the knowledge, skills and competences necessary for academic and scientific activities, which would promote competitiveness in the labour market and motivate for professional development and continued education, as well as tasks, admission requirements and content of the programme, which ensure the attainment of the knowledge, skills and competences specified in the

study programme, correspond to the degree to be awarded - the Master of Arts in Humanities. The content of the study programme is developed and implemented in accordance with the national standard for academic education.

Admission to the Academic Master study programme *Music* requires a bachelor degree in the natural sciences, medical and health sciences, social sciences or arts and humanities. All applicants, regardless of previous education, has to pass an entrance examination - a colloquium on the topic of the Master thesis and the chosen field of specialisation. It is provided for applicants to assess their preparation and suitability for the study programme. For the study programme in English, in addition to the admission requirements, it is planned to include a requirement for proof of English language knowledge at least at B2 level.

The study programme is implemented as a full-time "in-presence" study programme with a duration of 2 years and a scope of 80 credit points (120 ECTS). The duration of the study programme is optimal for Master's students to achieve study results in accordance with the 7th level of the Latvian Qualifications Framework (LQF), including the ability to demonstrate in-depth or extended knowledge and understanding, some of which is in line with the latest findings and trends in music-related sub-disciplines and the specific professional field; be able to independently apply theories, different methods and skills to scientific research and artistic research activities in their specialisation; be able to explain and discuss in a reasoned way complex or systemic aspects of the music sector and the musician's professional field; be able to independently guide the development of competences in their specialisation; take responsibility for the performance and analysis of staff groups; be able to undertake research or further learning; be able to integrate knowledge from different fields, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, the development of research or professional methods, demonstrate understanding and ethical responsibility for the potential impact of scientific results or professional activities on the environment and society; be able to formulate and critically analyze complex professional and scientific problems related to music independently, justify decisions and, if necessary, carry out further analysis. For a full list of expected outcomes of the study programme, see the study programme parameters.

In the first year of study, the Master's students broaden and deepen their theoretical knowledge, research and approve theoretical findings of the relevant sub-discipline (Historical Musicology, Ethnomusicology or Systematic Musicology) in the aspect of current problems of the chosen field, carry out assistantship, specialisation and research work practice, as well as start the development of their Master's thesis. In the second year of study, theoretical and practical study courses are continued, with the main focus on the Master's thesis. By successfully developing and defending a Master's thesis, students obtain Master's degree based on the knowledge of the relevant scientific subfield.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The development and updating of the content of the study programme in the field of *Arts* of the JVLAM has been based on the social and economic justifications of the need for the programme in the Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia", which define the goals and priorities of the national cultural policy and contribute to the achievement of the goals set in the long-term and medium-term policy planning documents (for more information see the descriptions of the criteria 3.1.3 of the self-assessment report for the Professional Bachelor and Professional Master

study programmes in *Music and Performing Arts*).

In line with the cultural policy guidelines that the cultural education system should significantly promote the integration of research, scientific innovation and creative and artistic activity, by promoting the inclusion of practice in all stages of higher education with the aim of ensuring the regional competitiveness of the Latvian higher education system, the Academic Master study programme also includes internship study courses alongside the development of theoretical knowledge, research skills and competences relevant to the field. The argument that in order to ensure further education and transfer of research skills in the fields of culture and creative industries, it is essential to develop and use the potential of art universities and teachers in the field of cultural education is also taken into account. The Academic Master study programme provides students with research skills development, as well as assistantship training to prepare the Master's students for pedagogical work at higher education level. The individualized study plans and up-to-date study content of the study programme promote and develop scientific and creative excellence.

The Academic Master study programme *Music* is the only one in Latvia that offers acquiring Master's degree in Arts in the humanities based on music-related sub-disciplines in Latvia. Musicology, like music, is institutionalized in Latvia exclusively at the JVLAM, so it is only natural that the Academy offers study programmes at all levels in this field. The Academic Master study programme provides an important link between the bachelor and the doctoral level education in music. The JVLAM has the necessary infrastructure and academic staff to implement this type of programme, and the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre (hereinafter - SRC) is the only one in Latvia that focuses on music research in all three subfields of musicology, as well as in the humanities and arts in Music, Visual Arts and Architecture - Historical Musicology, Systematic Musicology and Ethnomusicology. These are also the areas of specialisation of the Master study programme *Music*. The SRC serves as a base for Master's student involvement in research. For more information, see criterion 3.1.3 of the self-assessment report for the Academic Doctoral study programme in *Musicology*.

The JVLAM systematically works on obtaining information on graduate employment, during the reporting period a graduate employment register has been created, with data obtained from graduate survey results as well as through informal communication. Given the relatively small number of students and graduates of the study programme, no quantitative data analysis was carried out in the reporting period to analyze the number of graduates.

Graduates of the academic study programme *Music* have successful careers in research, education (at all levels) and in the management of various cultural and educational institutions and departments. Many graduates return to the JVLAM as academic and general staff and continue their studies in the academic doctoral programme. For example, I. Cepurniece, a graduate of the academic year 2020/2021, is currently the Head of the Department of Musicology at the JVLAM, a SRC staff member, as well as a docent in study courses for students of Bachelor study programmes; L. Burmistrova, a graduate of the academic year 2015/2017, is currently the Head of Scientific Projects at the JVLAM, as well as a docent at the Department of Musicology. Other graduates of the Academic Master study programme *Music* from the reporting period are also involved in the implementation of the study process as docents at JVLAM: L. Grīnberga, graduate of the academic year 2015/2016, J. Janišauska, graduate of the academic year 2017/2018, K. Vaickovska, graduate of the academic year 2017/2018, and T. Voitova, graduate of the academic year 2020/2021.

Several graduates of the study programme have been involved in music research (for example, in the project *Sacred Music Heritage Research in Latvian Lutheran Churches* (2018); *VPP Culture Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia CARD*; research assistant at the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia; folklore and folk music expert at the

Latvian National Centre of Culture). Several graduates of the study programme are employed in music journalism, television and radio (e.g. music reviewer and programme manager at LR3 Klasika; Latvian Television Resource Planner). In several cases, graduates are employed as the heads of theoretical subject departments of music schools and secondary schools, as well as teachers (e.g., Head of the Department of Theoretical Subjects of Jāzeps Mediņš Riga 1st Music School; Head of the Department of Music History and Theory of Emīls Dārziņš Music School; teacher of theoretical subjects and accordion play at Jūrmala Music High School; project manager of Riga Cathedral Girls' Choir, etc.).

Overall, graduates of the study programme are in demand in the labour market and are mostly employed in the field of their studies.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

Analyzing the composition and number of students in the study programme in the reporting period, it can be concluded that the number of students and state budget study places in the study programme has slightly decreased, the total number of study places in the second half of the reporting period has stabilized at 6 places. The number of students per specialisation often varies. The number of students on the programme is not high, but it is broadly in line with demand, given the specificities and needs of the sector. Despite the relatively small number of students, the Academic Master study programme *Music* plays an important role in the development of scientific and artistic research in the field, as well as in the provision of qualified teaching staff for art universities and the cultural education sector.

During the reporting period, the number of students enrolled in the study programme ranged from 1 to 6 per year, with an average of 3.2 enrolled Master students per year. See figure 3.1.4.1.

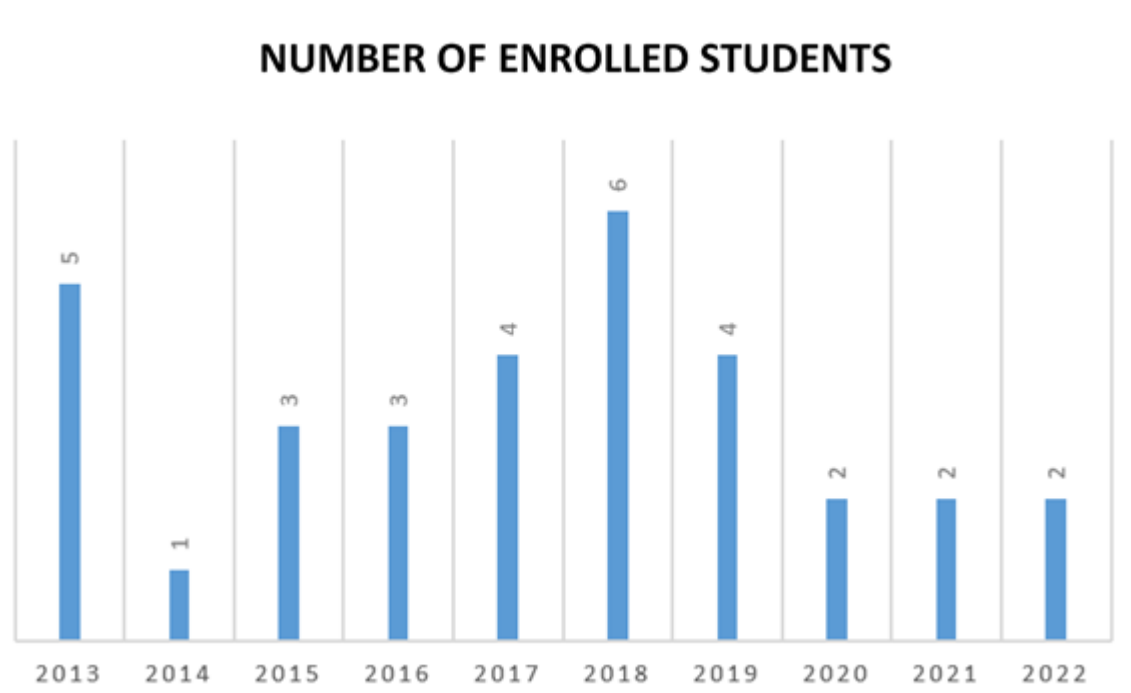


Figure 3.1.4.1. Number of students enrolled in Academic Master study degree programme Music 2013-2022

The total number of students enrolled in the programme during the reporting period was on average 7.5 Master students per year. During the reporting period, there was only one Master's student who studied with personal funding, while the remaining Master's students used the opportunity to study with state budget funds. During the reporting period, the number of students enrolled in the programme has decreased (see Figure 3.1.4.2), which is characteristic of the overall statistical trends of higher education students in Latvia: between 2013 and 2021, the total number of higher education students in Latvia has decreased by 14% (for more information, see the description of criterion 3.1.4 of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*).

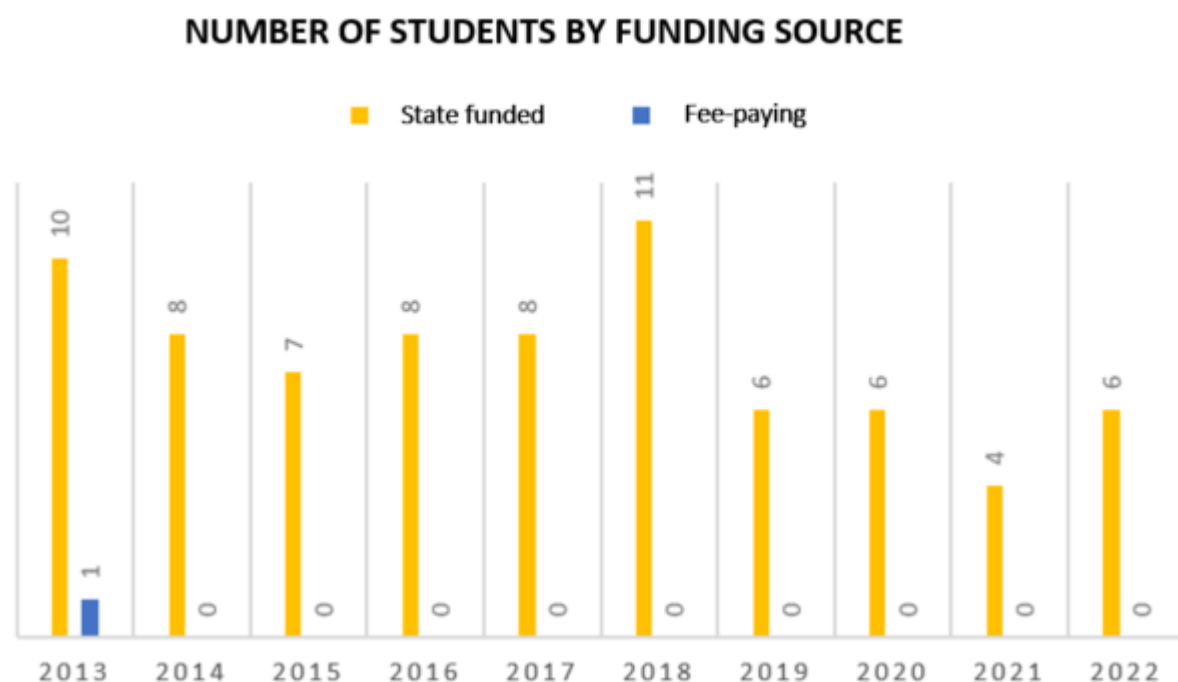


Figure 3.1.4.2. Distribution of students enrolled in Academic Masters study programme in Music, by funding source, 2013-2022

During the 10-year period under review, 8 Master students (on average 0.8 students per year) have been exmatriculated from the programme, see figure 3.1.4.3. There have been years when no students have been exmatriculated and years when 1 or 2 students have been exmatriculated. Half of the students in the reporting period were exmatriculated because they did not return from the study break due to health or other reasons, 2 students terminated their studies of their own volition (in semesters 1 and 2), 1 student was exmatriculated in semester 3 for not fulfilling the study programme requirements, while 1 student failed to pass the final examinations in semester 4.

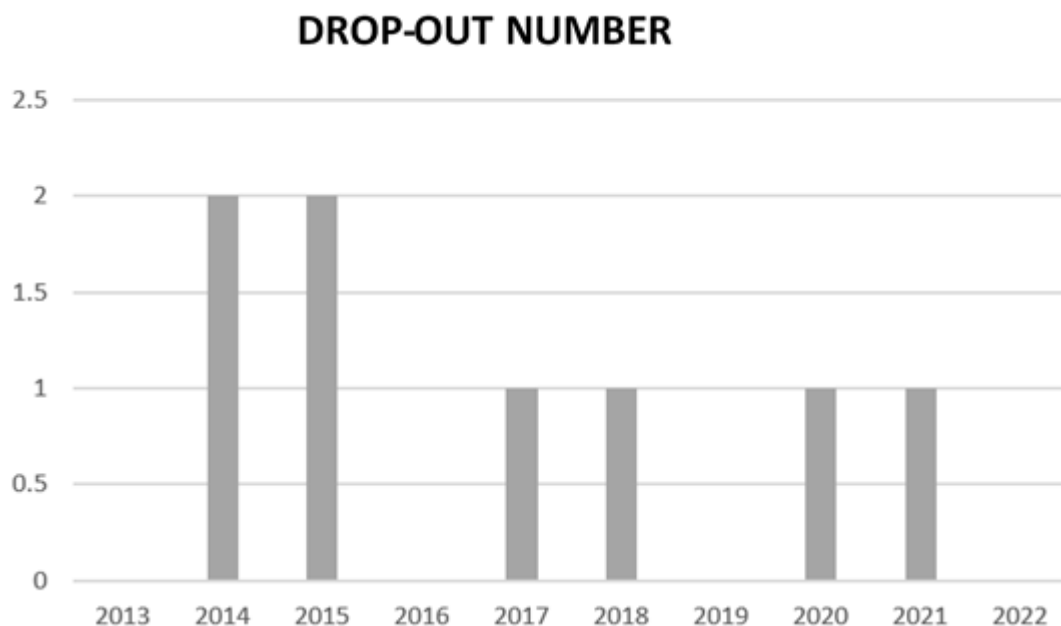


Figure 3.1.4.3. Drop-out of the students in Academic Master study programme Music, 2013-2022

The number of graduates per year averaged 2.3 Master's students during the reporting period (see figure 3.1.4.4).

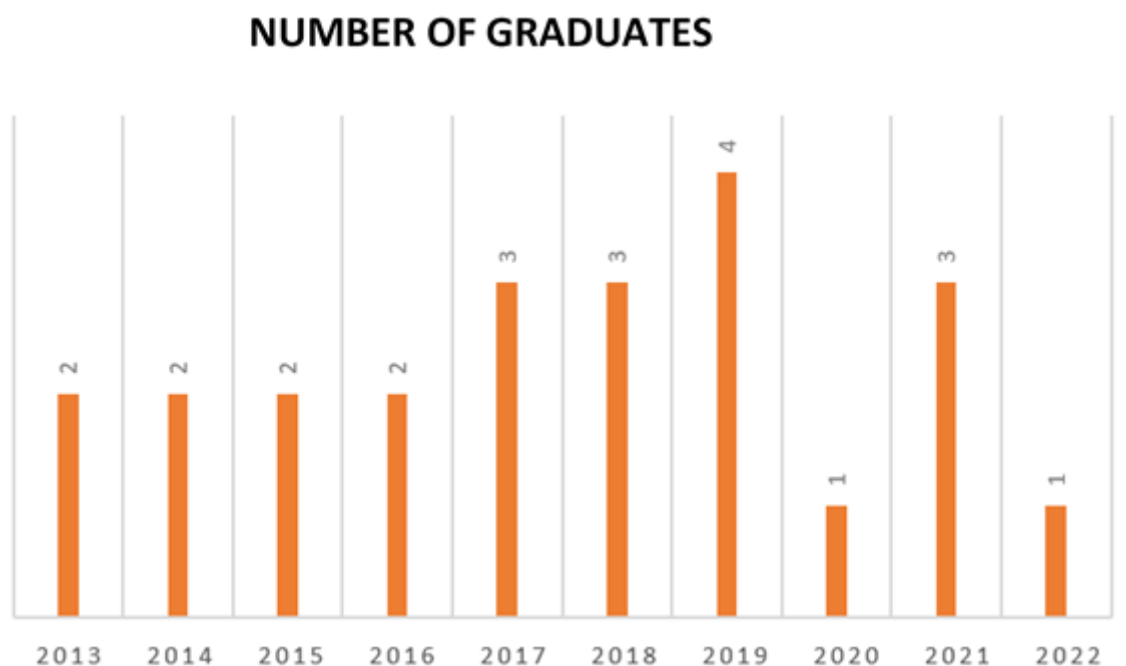


Figure 3.1.4.4. Number of graduates of Academic Master study programme in Music, 2013-2022

Overall, student statistics have remained relatively stable over the period under review, with a decreasing trend in the number of students. This is in line with the overall situation in Latvian higher education. It should be noted that no further decline in the number of Master's students is foreseeable in the coming years: as a large proportion of students in this study programme are traditionally graduates of the JVLAM Professional Bachelor level specialisations in *Music History, Theory and Journalism*, as well as *Ethnomusicology*, while in the last few years there has been an increase in the number of students enrolled in these specialisations, it is expected that the inflow of applicants to the academic study programme *Music* will remain relatively stable in the coming years as well.

However, in order to increase the number of students enrolled in the programme and to make the study programme more competitive, attractive and accessible to a wider range of stakeholders, it is essential to launch the study programme in English. This is seen as an essential step for the sustainable operation and development of the JVLAM, making better use of the opportunities of internationalization processes. By adding English to the study programme, and by placing more emphasis on the internationalization of higher-level study programmes, the JVLAM could attract one foreign student per year to the Academic Master study programme. For more information on the activities undertaken and initiated in the reporting period in accordance with the JVLAM's strategy to ensure sustainable operation and development, which would facilitate attraction of foreign students, see the description of criterion 3.1.4 of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The Academic Master study programme *Music* consists of 80 credit points (120 ECTS), which comprises study courses, theoretical findings validation practice and a Master's thesis. The structure and content of the study programme comply with *the Regulations on the State Standard of Academic Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 240, approved on 13 May 2014), current trends in the field and the labour market, as well as trends in relevant scientific subfields. The content of the study programme facilitates the application of the acquired knowledge, scientific cognition and insights in the musicologist's research activities, as well as the acquisition of a Master of Arts degree in the humanities as a result of study programme completion.

The titles of the study courses, their content, the scope of the courses and the period of their implementation are related to the competences required for the specialisation of musicologist, so that the graduate is able to qualitatively carry out research in the subfields of the field of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture - historical musicology, systematic musicology and ethnomusicology.

The content of study courses is updated taking into account the proposals of the JVLAM Scientific Council, Doctoral Council, experts in the field, students and graduates. The content of study courses and the quality of their delivery are systematically evaluated through surveys and discussions with those involved in the study process. In the light of the proposals, the relevant chairs shall assess the relevance and appropriateness of the proposals, consider the cost implications of the proposals, as well as the relevance to competences, and, in the event of a positive decision, submit the changes to the content of the study programmes to the Senate for approval.

During the reporting period, the specialisations included in the Academic Master study programme were reviewed and updated. Previously, the academic study programme *Music* had 10 specialisations: *Music History; Music Theory; Sociology of Music; Philosophy of Music; Pedagogy of Music; Psychology of Music; Anthropology of Music; Ethnomusicology; Performing Arts; Composition*. However, taking into account the small number of students enrolled in the study programme, as well as the fact that systematic musicology actually combines several of the previously separately identified specialisations, in the academic year 2021/2022, when reviewing the study programme plan, a decision was made to further implement the academic study programme *Music* with 3 specialisations, which comply with the sub-sectors of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture of Humanities and Arts sciences, specified in the *Regulations on Latvian Science Sector Groups, Scientific Sectors and Sub-Sectors* (Cabinet Regulations No. 595, approved on 27 September 2022), which can also be continued as specialisations at the doctoral level at the JVLAM (see description of the Academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*):

- 1) *Historical musicology*;
- 2) *Ethnomusicology*;
- 3) *Systematic musicology*.

Each specialisation has a specialisation module of 10 credits (15 ECTS) in the study plan, which is designed to provide knowledge and competences in courses relevant to the particular field of study.

The study plan of the academic study programme *Music* has been developed in accordance with the National Academic Education Standard:

Part A (compulsory part) of the study plan of 26 credits / ECTS 39 consists of:

1. Study courses in Research of theoretical findings (LV 18 credits / ECTS 27), which include research of theoretical findings in *Anthropology of Music, Psychology of Music, Style and Hermeneutics, Sociology of Culture, Research Methodology, Music University Didactics, Academic Writing, Cultural Project Management* and *Foreign Language for specialisation*.
2. Theoretical knowledge validation internship (LV 8 credits / ECTS 12) according to the chosen music sub-discipline includes the study courses *Research Work Internship, Specialization Internship, University Assistant Internship*.

Part B (restricted elective part) of the study plan consists of specialisation profile courses of 10 credits / ECTS 15, determined by the chosen specialisation and the research interests of the Master's student. Study courses relevant to specialisations:

1. Historical musicology: as a result of the specialisation courses, the Master's student acquires in-depth knowledge of a specific field of music history research and research methodology, which ensures originality in the development of ideas in the research and practical work of a musicologist. Study courses of the specialization: *Terminology of Musical Styles, Research Design, Interpretation of Sources of Music History, Theories and Paradigms of Historical Musicology*.
2. Ethnomusicology: as a result of mastering of the specialisation courses, the Master's student

acquires in-depth knowledge of the type of music (traditional, popular, cult, art, etc.) of specific regions and social groups of the world in the cultural context and the musical behavior of people, as well as research methodologies that ensure originality in the development of ideas in research and practical ethnomusicological work. Study courses of the specialization: *Fieldwork, Research Design, Cultures of Music, Theories and Paradigms of Ethnomusicology*.

3. Systematic musicology: as a result of the specialisation courses, the Master's student acquires in-depth knowledge of a range of issues in music theory, music psychology, music therapy and/or music pedagogy relevant to the Master's interests, acquiring an interdisciplinary approach to the study of musical processes that ensures originality in the development of ideas in the research and practical work of the musicologist. Study courses of the specialization: *Interdisciplinary Research in Systematic Musicology, Statistics and Data Analysis, Music and Cognition, Theories and Paradigms in Systematic Musicology*.

The state examination part of the study plan consists of the development and defense of a Master's thesis LV 40 credits / ECTS 60: the elaboration and defense of a research thesis in the chosen specialisation, in which the Master's student has drawn independent scientific conclusions.

Part C includes free elective study courses of 4 credits / ECTS 6, which provide the opportunity to deepen knowledge and skills in study courses related to the chosen specialisation or to broaden knowledge in another field, at the choice of the Master's student. You can choose from the free elective study courses offered by the JVLAM or study at another higher education institution.

The content of study courses is regularly updated. Not only the content of study courses, but also the content of independent work, assessment methods and the reading list are reviewed. The docents of the JVLAM keep abreast of current events by actively participating in scientific research and artistic creativity related to their field of study, attending relevant qualification improvement events, as well as working in the field on a daily basis. This helps to ensure that the information included in the study programme is up-to-date and relevant to the needs of industry and the labour market, as well as to scientific trends in line with the study programme's objectives.

The content of the study courses corresponds to the current trends in Music science. For example, the study courses *Theories and Paradigms in Historical Musicology, Theories and Paradigms in Ethnomusicology*, and *Theories and Paradigms Systematic Musicology* includes the most important and latest topics in the field of studies according to the student's chosen specialization. In order to facilitate students' orientation and inclusion in the international scientific environment, the above-mentioned study courses have been developed and are led by foreign visiting professors who are internationally recognized authorities in the relevant sub-branches of Musicology, and those study courses are implemented in English language. Great importance in the content of the study courses is given to interdisciplinarity, for example, the study course *Interdisciplinary Research in Systematic Musicology*, as well as to practical applicability, for example, *Interpretation of the sources of Music History, Fieldwork, Music and cognition*, etc.

The study programme has 8 defined outcomes, which are integrated into the expected outcomes of the study courses included in the programme. Students with different previous education can enroll in the study programme, by fulfilling the admission requirements of the study programme, which include appropriate prior knowledge for successful completion of the Master's study programme. One of the requirements is an entrance examination - a colloquium on the topic of the Master's thesis and the chosen field of specialization. This allows to assess prospective students' preparation and suitability for the study programme in order to ensure the possibility of successfully achieving the learning outcomes of the study programme.

The content of the programme focuses on an interdisciplinary approach in the development of the

Master's thesis. Master's studies include the acquisition of in-depth theoretical knowledge, and the development of research skills and abilities in the chosen field of scientific research. Both study courses of part B of the study plan and internships are focused on the chosen specialization of each student. The study plan is designed in such a way that the group and individual study courses included allow students with different previous education to achieve the learning outcomes of the study programme. If students whose previous education is not related to music want to supplement their knowledge in a specific music-related issue in order to more successfully achieve the learning outcomes, there is an opportunity to choose study courses of the corresponding subject in the elective part of the study plan. In such a case, at the student's request, the head of the Department of Musicology can assist in choosing suitable study courses.

The structure and content of the study programme is designed in such a way that Master's students apply theoretical knowledge in research and practical work. This approach allows Master's students to integrate into the labour market or research environment during their studies. The study plan and content have been regularly reviewed and updated during the reporting period. The current version of the study plan was updated and approved at the JVLAM Senate meeting on 15 June 2022. Master's students acquire up-to-date and in-demand knowledge, skills and competences, which is also confirmed by the high employment rate of JVLAM graduates.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

After the completion of the Academic Master study programme *Music*, the Master's degree in Arts is awarded, which, according to the specialisation chosen by the Master's student and the subject of the Master's thesis, is based on the subfield of Historical Musicology, Systematic Musicology or Ethnomusicology of the field of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture of the Humanities and Arts.

In accordance with *the Regulations on the State Standard of Academic Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 240, approved on 13 May 2014) and the *Regulations on Final Examinations and Final Examination Commissions of the Academic Master Study Programme* approved by the JVLAM Senate, the study programme concludes with a final examination - the development and defense of a Master's thesis. It is the final stage of the study programme, which assesses the competences acquired during the studies in relation to the planned study outcomes of the study programme, which correspond to the 7th level of the Latvian Qualifications Framework. For the purpose of acquiring Master's degree, the theoretical knowledge is tested in written form (Master's thesis) and oral form (defense of Master's thesis). The development and defense of the Master's thesis is carried out in accordance with the methodological guidelines developed by the JVLAM, observing the principles of academic integrity.

The competence of the Master's student in the final examination shall be assessed by a final examination commission of at least three persons approved by the Academic Board. The content of the final examination, the methods of the examination, the form of the examination, the assessment criteria, the procedure of the examination, the duration of the examination, the requirements for the venue and the necessary equipment are described in the course description of the study course *Development and Defense of Master's Thesis*. The decision on the thematic

orientation of the Master's thesis is made by the Department of Musicology, assessing the relevance of the planned themes and content of the Master's thesis to the achievements and knowledge of the relevant scientific sub-discipline. The title of the Master's thesis is agreed at a meeting of the Department of Musicology, the Division of Musicology, Composition and Technology, and approved by the Vice-Rector for Research and Creative Work.

If a Master's student has obtained a grade of not less than 4 points (almost average) or "pass" in all final examinations of the study courses and final tests of the study programme, the Academic Council of the JVLAM decides on the award of the Master of Arts degree and the Master's diploma.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The objectives and requirements of the study courses of the Academic Master study programme are varied and differ between the different study courses and specialisations. The methods of implementation of the study process, methods of competence assessment, types and requirements are specified in the description of each study course. Master's students learn the content of the study through contact hours and independent work. Contact hours are organized through sessions of flows and groups and individual sessions.

Two Master's level study programmes are implemented at the JVLAM field of study *Art*: the Academic Master study programme *Music* and the Professional Master study programme *Music and Performing Arts*. Both study programmes have a number of common outcomes to be achieved in the study programmes in accordance with the descriptions of knowledge, skills and competences corresponding to 7th level of LQF as set out in the *Regulations on Latvian Classification of Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 322, approved on 13 June 2017). In order to facilitate cooperation between the students of the two Master's study programmes of the JVLAM, as well as to plan the optimal use of resources, the Master's study plans of both programmes include a number of joint study courses, where the achievable results correspond to the aims and objectives of both study programmes. Given the small number of students in the Academic Master's programme, participation in these group and stream study courses also allows enriching the Master's student study process with more varied study methods typical of larger group classes. Students of both programmes are jointly enrolled in several courses, such as *Psychology of Music*, *Sociology of Culture*, *Cultural Project Management*, *Didactics of Music Higher Education*.

According to the study course description, lecturers structure flow and group classes in the form of lectures, seminars, colloquia, and individual classes in the form of practical work. In the Academic Master's degree programme, individual study courses are included in the internship part of the study plan. Respecting the desire of the students of the Academic Master's programme to engage in research work, specialisation and university assistantship during their studies and to integrate into the future working environment, as well as analyzing the work planning of cultural institutions and cultural education institutions, the JVLAM implements the study process according to the best

practice of student-centered education - it uses different approaches to programme learning, individualizes the content of study courses and methods of course learning, adapts learning paths, regularly evaluates and improves teaching modes and methods, as well as prioritizes student autonomy, while providing docents with support in the study process in the form of consultations and promoting mutual respect in the student-docent relationship.

The implementation of the study programme is mainly ensured by the Department of Musicology (individual study courses are also offered by other JVLAM departments according to their competences), following the principles of international best practice. The methods of course implementation are chosen in such a way as to facilitate the development of transferable skills in the study process. According to the existing possibilities, each student is given an individual approach, depending on his/her skills, abilities and preferences, using a communicative approach in the selection and learning of the programme. Students receive regular feedback, which, if necessary, provides advice on the study process. In general, all departments operate on the principle that only a deep individualized immersion in the student's interests, aptitudes, research interests and actual abilities can contribute to the successful development of a musicologist.

The study process in the Academic Master's study programme *in Music* is rated as highly student-centered. The research interests of each Master's student according to the chosen specialisation are taken into account when drawing up the study plan of each Master's student. In cooperation between students and docents, appropriate learning paths are chosen taking into account students' previous experience and knowledge. The teaching methods used in the implementation of the study programme are in line with the goals and tasks of the programme. Regular department meetings have discussed the usefulness of specific methods, examining their application in both domestic and international contexts of similarly oriented educational programmes. To ensure maximum efficiency of the independent work, the tasks have been clearly formulated and examples offered during the contact hours at the level the Master's student is expected to reach (model analyzes, demonstrations, model improvisations, model tables, etc.). The lecture sessions ensure the following with maximum possible clarity: 1) structure the material to be presented; 2) highlight the basic knowledge (which must be retained in active memory); 3) indicate ways to deepen one's knowledge (practical forms of work, recommended literature, etc.); 4) show the practical applicability of the knowledge in the students' independent work.

By adding English as a language of implementation to the study programme, it is planned to use the methods of study course delivery that have been used and approved in the study process so far, and which allow for successful achievement of the study outcomes. The docents' experience in working with students, based on the principles of student-centered education, adapting the study content to the individual needs of students, will enable them to successfully provide studies also for foreign students. Some study courses are already taught in English, taking advantage of the possibility to attract highly qualified foreign lecturers, e.g., in the academic year 2022/2023, the courses of the study programme will be taught by Ardian Ahmedaja, researcher at the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Toomas Siitan, professor at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, and Kevin C. Karnes, professor at Emory University (USA). Implementing the study programme in English would also make it attractive to potential foreign students.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how

internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

For the successful validation and development of the theoretical knowledge, skills and competences acquired in the study programme, the study programme plan also includes an internship. The organisation of internship work is determined by the *Regulations on the Organization of Internship Work in Art Study Programmes of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* (attached as an appendix to the self-assessment report). The Regulations regulate the procedure for students of second-level professional higher education programmes of the JVLAM to acquire practical skills.

The following types of internships are implemented within the study programme:

- *University assistantship;*
- *Specialization internship;*
- *Research internship.*

The scope of internship in credit points, as well as their distribution by semesters, is specified in the study plan. The content of the internship, as well as the criteria and forms of assessment of competence, are specified in the course descriptions attached as an annex to the self-assessment report, as well as in the internship work programmes developed in accordance with the course descriptions. The organisation and conduct of the internship work of the Academic Master study programme *Music* is ensured by the Department of Musicology. Internships can take place at or outside the JVLAM - at other cultural institutions or educational institutions. The JVLAM supports Master's students in organizing and implementing internships suitable for the successful achievement of the study programme outcomes. Heads of the Department of Musicology and / or the tutors of the study course assist the postgraduate students in finding and selecting the internship opportunities.

The university assistantship continues the development of students' pedagogical skills started at the Bachelor studies level. If Bachelor's students study methodology and carry out pedagogical practice in schools in order to obtain the right to teach, then Master's students study the *Didactics of Music Universities* in the theoretical part of the programme and validate the theoretical knowledge acquired in the University assistantship with Bachelor's students according to the course descriptions and the assistantship work programme developed for each Master's student by the assistantship supervisor for the respective semester. The assistantship is mainly implemented at the JVLAM. The assistantship allows to involve Master's students in the study process and helps to prepare the future JVLAM teaching staff.

Specialization internship and Research internship are carried out in accordance with the requirements of the course description for the successful achievement of the study programme outcomes in the field of specific research interests of each Master's student. Master's students participate in conferences organized by the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, also in cooperation with Latvian and foreign universities within the *Erasmus* programmes, as well as in concert lectures organized by the JVLAM Creative Projects Division. Ethnomusicology students participate in field research, which usually takes place in the regions of Latvia, in agreement with cultural institutions and in cooperation with cultural experts from the Ministry of Culture.

Here are a couple of examples of the link between studies and internship in the reporting period:

Master's student A. Kupjanska has been involved in the JVLAM SRC state research project *Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia* in the sub-project *Music in Latvia in the 17th-19th Centuries: Creative Processes in Cultural Contexts* in the academic year 2020/2021. The information obtained during the research was presented at the JVLAM scientific conference *Cultural and Social Historical Contexts of 18th-20th Century Music in Latvia: Latest Research* with the paper *Correlation of the Text of the Play and the Opera Libretto in Felicitas Tomsone's Opera "Pūt, vējiņi!" (1960)*, she also worked on and defended her Master's thesis on this topic. The internship opportunities in this project were also used by M. Vidmonte, a graduate of the academic year 2021/2022, who worked on the research on the composer Valentin Utkins in the VPP as well as in her Master's thesis.

The relevance of the study programme content and its compliance with industry trends is demonstrated by the practical involvement of students in international research projects already at the Academic Master's level, thus promoting international research experience. As an example, T. Voitova, a graduate of the academic year 2020/2021, has already participated in the project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* of the Latvia-Lithuania-Taiwan Research Cooperation Support Fund during her studies.

With the launch of the study programme in English, foreign students will also be provided with a study internship. It is planned to implement study internship for foreigners in the same way as for JVLAM students - both within and outside the JVLAM in cooperation with cultural institutions. The lack of Latvian language skills does not impose any limitations in the implementation of the Research work and the Specialization internship. As for the current Master's students, the JVLAM staff will support the foreign students in organizing their internships. As for the assistantship - foreign students, as well as Master's students from Latvia, will be able to implement it by assisting the teaching staff of the departments in the English language study programme of the JVLAM Bachelor's degree programme in accordance with the tasks of the assistantship.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

The study programme culminates in a final examination. The competence of the Master's student is assessed by the Final Examination Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission). The FE Committee is a body delegated by the Academic Council and composed of leading experts in the field to ensure that the final thesis is assessed objectively and in line with current trends in the field. At the end of the Academic Master's study programme, a final examination is organized - *Development and Defense of Master's Thesis*. According to the criteria set out in the course description, the FE Committee assesses the Master's student's competence in this examination on a 10-point scale.

In the reporting period, the Master's students' competence assessments in *Development and Defense of Master's Thesis* have been very high - the Master's theses were most often rated with 9 (excellent) and 10 (outstanding) points, as evidenced by the FE Committee's entries in the Final Examination Protocols. The average mark for Master's theses in the reporting period is 9.1. 10% of the students received 7 (good), 10% - 8 (very good), 45% - 9 (excellent) and 35% of the Master's theses received the highest possible grade - 10 (outstanding).

To give you an insight into the topics explored in the most successful Master's theses, here are the topics of the outstanding theses during the reporting period: *"Traditions of Harmony Teaching in Latvia and Possibilities of Course Development in Secondary Music School"*; *"Interval Sonance"*; *"Stylistics of Marģeris Zariņš' Choral Music"*; *"Imants Ramiņš' Opera 'Lakstīgala' in the Context of Development of Children's Opera Genre: Stylistic and Production Aspects"*; *"Listening to Music as a Theoretical Study: the Interaction of Perceptive Processes"*; *"'Goreigōs Dziesmes' in Catholic Prayer Books - History, Types And Usage"*; *"Libretto Terminology and depiction of 'Pūt, Vējiņi!' Play by Rainis in the Opera by Felicita Tomšone"*.

The topicality of the chosen topics of students' final thesis in the industry is related to (1) the needs of the labor market, which primarily refers to the teaching of theoretical music subjects in professional orientation and professional music education, including the development of curriculum, where aspects of terminology, music theory and music history play an important role; (2) since the graduates of this study programme are potential researchers and doctoral students, it is important to promote the research of various issues of musical history, theory and cultural heritage, especially considering that there are still many unexplored areas in the context of Latvian music history and processes.

It should be noted that, in general, during the reporting period the graduates of the academic study programme *Music* have shown very high study results throughout the study programme, as evidenced by the diplomas *with distinction* issued to several graduates of the study programme during the reporting period.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The available resources of the JVLAM are used for the implementation of the study programme, as described in Criteria 2.3.1 -2.3.3 of the description of the study field in the self-assessment report. The provision meets the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The available infrastructure of the JVLAM is used for the implementation of studies - classrooms equipped with musical instruments, audio and video playback facilities, information resources, sports complex, student and lecturer lounge, canteen, cloakroom, etc. The implementation of the Academic Master's study programme *Music* makes more use of research facilities and information

resources in particular. The JVLAM library provides students with access to the main electronic databases that support students in their research work:

Oxford Music Online (Grove Music Database) is the leading online database for music research, offering a comprehensive collection of music knowledge and full-text dictionaries from The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 2nd edition (2001), The New Grove Dictionary of Opera (1992) and The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz, 2nd edition (2002).

- the ScienceDirect database contains full-text journals from *Elsevier* in the sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities.

- *SCOPUS* is *Elsevier's* multidisciplinary database of scientific publications, bibliographic and citation information. The database provides visual analysis of journals, searches by author, institution name, keywords and other criteria, and provides a citation index for journals and articles, allowing assess to the scientific achievements of the authors of publications.

- *Web of Science* is an electronic resources research platform that combines bibliographic and citation index searches. It is possible to find the latest and most relevant information on more than 20 000 peer-reviewed, high-quality journals in the sciences, social sciences, humanities and arts. Information on books and conference proceedings is also provided, with bibliographic and citation information, abstracts and other information. The database offers extensive search, selection and analysis options.

- *JSTOR* is a database of journals, books and primary sources, consisting of several collections. JVLAM subscribes to the JSTOR Arts & Sciences III collection.

- The *Naxos Music Library* contains over 2,216,700 tracks from over 143,040 CDs - classical, jazz, blues and more. Biographies of the composers and artists, a list of the works on the CD and the cover art are available.

- *Naxos Music Library Jazz* offers more than 207,400 jazz tracks from over 17,610 CDs. More than 12,000 jazz artists are represented in the database. This is one of the most complete catalogues of jazz music, as well as one of the largest catalogues of blues and R&B music.

Open access resources and databases created by the JVLAM library are also used. For more information on the research facilities available at the JVLAM, as well as in cooperation with other scientific institutions and higher education institutions, see also criteria 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 of the description of the Academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*.

According to the interests of the Master's students, during their studies it is also possible to join study courses implemented by different departments of the JVLAM, both in the free elective C part, and also master study courses outside credit points (for example, students may choose to study playing a musical instrument), as well as to use other equipment available at the JVLAM, if it is necessary in relation to the interests of the chosen specialisation of the student.

The available resources and facilities meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and contribute to the achievement of the study outcomes.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The financial year of the academy corresponds to the calendar year, therefore the budget processes and its development take place in autumn, when the JVLAM unit plans and budgets activities for the following financial year. The main source of income for the study process is the funding of state budget places. In addition to the state budget, the study programme is also supported by project funding from the European Structural Funds and mobility programmes. If there is interest about studying from those applicants that have not passed the competition for state funded studies, it is planned to offer studies for a fee. For these applicants individual cost estimates will be prepared that fully covers the costs of the studies. In this study programme only one student has studied for personal funding during the reporting period. By adding English language as a second language of implementation of this study programme, it is intended to attract foreign students who will study for a fee, covering the costs of their studies according to prepared individual cost estimates.

The optimal funding of the study programme is calculated, based on the historical average total number of students in the programme, i.e. 6 full-time students per year in all semesters (years). The calculation accounts for individual costs of each student (individual contact lessons, administrative costs etc.), as well as the costs of student groups.

The optimum financing for the study programme is calculated for the average of 6 state budget study places per year for studies in Latvian, with part of the study content implemented in English language. Since the contribution from internationally recognized academic staff members is very important, the calculations take into account the additional costs that may potentially be created by the management of individual and group study courses in English language (that is, the students that undertake courses in English in frames of the Law of the Higher Education Institutions). The calculations also take into account various additional resources (books, periodicals, etc.) that are required to implement such study courses, as well as the equipment and material resources that may be required to ensure successful mobility of students in frames of Erasmus+ programme.

The financial calculations of the study programme are made by multiplying the base funding by the coefficient of the subject field of education and the coefficient of the study programme level specified in the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 994 (12.12.2006) "Procedures for Financing Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges from the Funds of the State Budget".

Base funding	Subject field coefficient	Programme level coefficient	Funding per student
EUR 1630.11	3.9	1.5	EUR 8802.59

The calculation follows the proportions of funding for academic work, general staff costs and

maintenance costs recommended by the Cabinet of Ministers - 51% of funding (EUR 4482.52) allocated for academic work, 34% (EUR 2992.88) for general staff costs and 15% (EUR 1320.39) for programme maintenance costs.

The cost per student for the different specialisations within the study programme is calculated at the weighted average rate of pay of the academic post, annualized from a cost perspective. Due to the special place of the study programme in the Latvian music education system and the programme's task - to prepare candidates for the Academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*, the proportion of docents is planned to be mainly professors and associate professors:

Academic post:	Average number of posts per programme:	Recommended post ratio (Cabinet of Ministers):	Ratio of the JVLAM:	Monthly salary rate:	Costs (EUR):
Professor	5	15%	63%	1800.00	9000
Professor Emeritus				1800.00	
Associated professor	1	15%	13%	1440.00	1440
Docent	1	30%	13%	1155.00	1155
Lecturer		25%		925.00	
Assistant	1	15%	13%	735.00	735
Weighted average rate:					1541.00

The costs of the study programme are calculated by providing support staff funding in proportion to the costs of academic work and material-specific funding in proportion to the costs of maintenance. The cost of academic staff for the study programme takes into account the occupancy rate of the groups according to the expected number of students for each specialisation. As the programme field coefficient and the level coefficient ensure a stable balance between income and expenditure, the profitability of the programme remains high even if the number of students drops to 2 Master's students per study cycle. Calculated profitability indicators have been met during the reporting period.

The funding allocated to maintenance costs is proportionally distributed, taking into account the use of material and technical resources specific to the field of study. The maintenance costs in proportion to the grant per student are as follows:

Payment for services:	33%
Materials, energy, water and equipment:	24%
Purchase of books and magazines:	14%
Cost of acquiring and upgrading equipment:	26%
Sports and health:	1%

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

The qualifications of the teaching staff of the Academic Master's study programme *Music* comply with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of the regulatory enactments. Both academic and guest staff are highly qualified and competent, ensuring that students acquire the necessary research skills, theoretical knowledge, skills and competences, and that the objectives and learning outcomes of the study programme and relevant study courses are achieved.

The teachers in charge of the study programme are docents with relevant education and professional experience. In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, academic staff carry out artistic creativity, scientific research and participate in the education of students. The election of academic staff to academic positions at the JVLAM shall be carried out in accordance with the regulatory enactments. For the election of academic staff, there are common criteria to be assessed, the most important of which are scientific and artistic achievements. Having examined the academic staff's scientific and artistic creativity reports, the minutes of the Senate meetings, which reflect the documents submitted by the person for election to the academic position, the election process and results, the academic staff's self-assessment reports, students' work results and students' feedback, it can be concluded that the qualifications of the academic staff are in line with the implementation of the programme's goals and tasks.

The level of Latvian language skills of the academic staff of the study programme complies with the conditions required for the implementation of the study programme. Latvian language is the primary language for the majority of the academic staff members. Foreign tutors are invited on regular basis by the JVLAM to teach selected study courses and/or their sections, thereby providing a part of the study content in English, in accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions. Whilst preparing to add the English language to the list of programme implementation languages, the English language skills of the involved academic staff members were evaluated, reaching the conclusion that in all departments a sufficient number of academic staff members have English language skills of the required level (B2 and higher), permitting the implementation of the programme in English. Taking into account that the implementation of the programme in English language could begin in 2024/2025 at the soonest, the JVLAM plans to appoint academic staff members with sufficient language skills to the study courses in English language, to provide systematic language training to the tutors with currently insufficient language skills, as well as to

attract new academic staff members for the purpose of teaching the study courses in English language, simultaneously facilitating the internationalization processes of the JVLAM.

The implementation of the study programme is mainly carried out by docents of the Department of Musicology. The Department currently employs specialists in their field, who mainly carry out individual research work in fields related to music history, theory, ethnomusicology and music psychology, as well as researchers at the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, which also provides opportunities for students of the programme to engage in research work. The study courses included in the study plan of the Academic Master's study programme *Music*, which are related to the study of theoretical knowledge of the relevant sub-disciplines of science and the validation of theoretical knowledge in the aspect of current problems of the chosen field, are taught by the teaching staff who have obtained a doctoral degree. The majority of the academic staff elected to academic positions at the JVLAM are professors. At the time of submitting the self-assessment report, 9 teaching staff members that are elected to JVLAM academic positions, and 12 teaching staff members with a PhD are involved in the implementation of the study programme.

In order to provide the opportunity to acquire knowledge corresponding to the specific research interests of the Master's students, guest docents are also involved in the implementation of the study programme, as well as researchers from the JVLAM SRC. For example, among the JVLAM docents, the range of systematic musicology docents is not wide enough, but the students' interests in this field of research are becoming more and more diverse, which is why Christina Michael Gross, a researcher at the JVLAM SRC, is invited to teach specific courses.

The JVLAM uses various opportunities to attract internationally renowned specialists. Attracting guest docents fosters competition, diversity of study methods and innovation in study content. For example, Ardian Ahmedaja, researcher at the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, was invited to teach the course *Theory and Paradigm of Ethnomusicology*, and Toomas Siitan, professor at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, was invited to teach the course *Theory and Paradigm of Historical Musicology*. Also, according to the topic of the Master's thesis chosen by the student, if necessary, foreign lecturers are engaged *for the Specialisation internship*. Professor Kevin C. Karnes from Emory University (USA) has been assigned to this individual study course for the academic year 2022/2023.

The docents of the Department of Musicology are mostly involved in scientific activities. Most of the docents at the Department are also researchers at the JVLAM SRC. During the reporting period, lecturers participated in various Latvian and international scientific conferences, published articles in both Latvian and foreign publications, participated in national research programme projects and international projects, conducted masterclasses and lectures also outside the JVLAM, performed concerts, participated in recordings, as well as engaged in other scientific and creative activities.

The active involvement of lecturers in research projects provides information on the latest trends and opportunities in research for students working on their own research projects. Master's students are also involved in the activities and current projects of the JVLAM SRC.

The qualifications of the teaching staff involved in the study programme successfully enable the study results to be achieved. Moreover, in order to facilitate cooperation between the students of the two master's level study programmes (Academic Master's study programme *Music* and Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*), as well as to plan the optimal use of resources, the study plans of both Master's programmes include a number of joint study courses in which the achievable results correspond to the aims and objectives of both study programmes. Several of these study courses, which are aimed at achieving the common outcomes of both programmes, are taught directly by the staff of the Department of Musicology and the JVLAM SRC, who are mainly involved in the implementation of the academic study programmes of

the JVLAM.

For example, both Master's programmes share a common expected outcome: *to be able to demonstrate advanced or broadened knowledge and understanding (...) that provides a basis for creative thinking and research, including working at the interface between different fields*. Both programmes include a course of study *Psychology of Music*, which provides Master's students with an understanding of issues in music psychology in an interdisciplinary context, in relation to individual perception and processing of music, as well as insights into quantitative research methods for cognitive processing of music. The course is taught by Professor Valdis Bernhofs (Vice-Rector of Academic Work at the JVLAM), who holds a Doctor of Arts degree and whose research activity includes the study of systematic musicological issues, in particular cognitive approaches to auditory training, neuropsychological aspects of musical giftedness, and brain activity of musicians and music lovers in the processing of acoustic information. V. Bernhofs has been active in scientific and research activities in this field, for example, the professor has been the scientific supervisor of the JVLAM in the project approved by the Latvian-Lithuanian-Taiwanese scientific cooperation support *Brain Computer Music Interfacing For Embodied Musical Interaction*.

The Academic Master's programme *Music* is largely implemented by the same academic staff as the Academic Doctoral programme *Musicology*, so for more information on the qualifications of the academic staff, as well as more examples of the involvement of docents in research and artistic creativity activities during the reporting period, please see criteria 3.4.1 and 3.4.3 of the Academic Doctoral programme *Musicology*.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The composition of the teaching staff in the study programme is based on an analysis of the academic staff policy of the top-ranked music higher education institutions, taking into account the social and economic specificities of Latvia and the Baltic region. The study programmes are delivered by highly qualified academic staff. Changes in the composition of the teaching staff are driven by generational changes, as well as by the need to define the specialisation choices and research interests of Master's students. The Academic Master's study programme *Music* has a strong student-centered approach, which has resulted in the recruitment of appropriate teaching staff to the programme during the reporting period, taking into account the research interests of individual Master's students.

During the reporting period - 10 years since 2013 - both new docents and docents who have already proved themselves in their work at the JVLAM as guest lecturers with a highly professional and creative approach have been elected to academic positions at the JVLAM, and specialists who are well-known and highly appreciated in the international research community have been attracted to work in the study programme.

When assessing changes in the composition of the teaching staff since 2013, it should be noted that there has been a decrease in the number of specialisations offered in the programme over the reporting period (see more in the description of the study programme criterion 3.2.1). In the previous reporting period, students were offered the possibility to choose specialisation courses related to, for example, composition and performing arts in the restricted elective part of the study plan, so the programme was implemented with the involvement of teaching staff from these specialisations. By making changes in the specialisations to be acquired in the study programme (in

accordance with the sub-specialisations of Music, Visual Arts and Architecture in the Humanities and Arts as defined in the *Regulations on Latvian Science Sector Groups, Science Sectors and Sub-Sectors* (Cabinet Regulations No 595, approved on 27 September 2022)), the updated study plan includes 3 specialisations in the restricted elective courses of the study programme: *Historical Musicology, Ethnomusicology, Systematic Musicology*. As a result, the number of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme has also decreased.

This change is positive - the study programme now includes teaching staff directly related to the specific science sub-disciplines. This allows Master's students to engage in research in their field together with the academic staff of the programme, and also provides the opportunity to continue research and collaboration with the same academic staff at Master's level in their chosen specialisation in the Academic Doctoral programme *Musicology*. Given the relatively low number of students in this programme, the specialisation and the resulting reduction in the number of teaching staff is also positive from the point of view of the administration of the study programme. At the beginning of the reporting period (2013), the study plan of the Academic Master's study programme *Music* included approximately 20 additional lecturers for the limited elective study courses related to the other specialisations.

Overall, the changes in the composition of the teaching staff during the reporting period have had a positive impact on the quality of studies. Staff elected to academic posts have taken advantage of various opportunities to upgrade their qualifications, including the chance to be elected to higher academic posts. Guest lecturers from various fields - both Latvian and foreign specialists - are attracted to teach specialised study courses, as well as for short-term academic and artistic activities, creating favourable conditions for competition and promoting diversity of study methods, as well as offering innovations in study content.

Given that the specialisations of the Academic Master's study programme *Music* coincide with those of the Academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*, as well as both programmes require the involvement of highly qualified teaching staff and researchers, the implementation of both academic study programmes at the JVLAM involves to a large extent the same teaching staff. Consequently, more information on the changes in the composition of the teaching staff during the reporting period can be found in criterion 3.4.2 of the characteristics of the Academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

The implementation of the study programme involves mainly docents elected to academic positions in the Department of Musicology, as well as guest docents. Some courses are also delivered by docents from other departments (e.g. the Department of General Studies). When calculating the ratio of students to teaching staff, it should be taken into account that the number of students in the study programme is not large, but the study programme offers 3 different specialisations (*Historical Musicology*, *Ethnomusicology* and *Systematic Musicology*), whose profile courses are provided by different lecturers according to the research interests of the specific Master's students. The number of teaching staff involved in the implementation of a study programme therefore depends to a large extent on the similarity or dissimilarity of the specialisations chosen by Master's students in a given academic year. For example, in the academic year 2022/2023, the specialisations chosen by Masters' students are mainly related to Historical Musicology and Ethnomusicology. At the time of submission of the self-assessment report, 2.8 teaching staff per 1 student are involved in the provision of courses of the Academic Master's study programme or are planned to be involved in the provision of courses of the specialisation offered. It should be noted that approximately one third of these teaching staff are involved in the delivery of group and flow study courses for the two JVLAM Master of Arts study programmes combined. Therefore, although the ratio of the number of teaching staff to the number of students in the programme is significantly higher than in other study programmes, it is facilitated by the optimally planned use of resources, combining students of Master's study programmes in groups to achieve common results, while not increasing the workload of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study field and the costs of the study programme.

Given that the Academic Master's study programme *Music* is largely implemented by the same teaching staff as the Academic Doctoral study programme *Musicology*, see also criterion 3.4.5 of the description of the Academic Doctoral study programme for more information on teaching staff collaboration.

In order to ensure a successful study process and cooperation of teaching staff, the departments and their substructures, which represent a particular specialisation and unite academic staff, external teaching staff and students involved in the implementation of study courses within the competence of the department, play an important role in the implementation of the study programme. Departments are headed by heads of departments, who cooperate with heads of

sections (directors of the study programmes) and the vice-rector for academic work in ensuring the study process. The departments ensure the quality, implementation and development of the content of the study programmes, which is appropriate to the objectives and level of the Academy. In order to ensure the cooperation of the teaching staff, the Department of Musicology, which is the most involved in the implementation of the study process of the Academic Master's study programme *Music*, organizes meetings of the Department of Musicology, during which the topicality of study courses, results achieved by students, opportunities for cooperation between study courses, as well as ensuring the continuity of the study course content are discussed.

Since the lecturers of the Department of Musicology provide study courses for the implementation of other study programmes of the JVLAM, as well as the academic staff of other departments lecture courses for the students of the *Music* programme, giving students the opportunity to acquire knowledge appropriate to their chosen specialisation with highly qualified specialists, the interdepartmental cooperation of lecturers also plays an important role in ensuring the success of the study process. This happens both formally and informally. The Vice-Rector of Academic Work of the JVLAM organizes regular meetings of heads of departments, inviting other participants to the meetings of heads of departments, such as the Rector of the University, representatives of the Council, the head of the field of study, heads of departments and heads of other structural units, in order to ensure the most effective information flow and opportunities for cooperation. Cooperation between teaching staff also takes place through their participation in various collegial institutions (e.g. the JVLAM Senate, the Constitutional Assembly), implementation of study courses, and joint artistic projects.

There is regular cooperation between the teaching staff of different departments of the JVLAM both in the study process and in artistic activity. There are also many examples of successful interdepartmental cooperation outside the direct course delivery process. In the case of academic study programmes, particular emphasis should be placed on the cooperation of academic staff in various research activities, projects, organisation of scientific conferences, etc. Docents also collaborate in the assessment committees of the final examinations. It should be noted that docents of the Department of Musicology also participate in the final examination commissions of all other departments to certify the theoretical and research knowledge and competences of students.

The cooperation between the teaching staff of the Academy takes place not only in formal meetings, evaluating and planning the study process, discussing various methodological and strategic issues, but also in various research, artistic and creative activities both at the Academy and outside the Academy - at conferences, concert halls, radio studios, expert commissions and elsewhere, as the JVLAM teaching staff members are active members of various professional organizations and both Latvian and international associations, creative personalities and high-level experts who regularly participate in both Latvian and international music life and research events.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3_1_2_AMSP_Diploma_sample.pdf	3_1_2_AMSP_Diploma_paraugs_.pdf
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3_1_4_AMSP_Students_statistics_.pdf	3_1_4_AMSP_Studenti_statistika_.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3_2_1_a_AMSP_Compliance_state_stand_MK240.xlsx	3_2_1_a_AMSP_Atbalstiba_valsts_izgl_stand_MK240.xlsx
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3_2_1_b_AMSP_Mapping_LO_.xlsx	3_2_1_b_AMSP_Kartejums_studiju_rezultati_.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3_2_1_c_AMSP_Music_Curriculum_.xlsx	3_2_1_c_AMSP_Muzika_Stud_plans_.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3_2_1_d_AMSP_course_descriptions_.zip	3_2_1_d_AMSP_studiju_kursu_apraksti_.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	3_2_4_Organisation_of_internship.pdf	3_2_4_Prakses_organizācijas_apraksts.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)	3_4_1_AMSP_ADSP_Confirmation_teaching_staff_LHEI55.doc	3_4_1_AMSP_ADSP_Apliecinājums_macibspeki_AL55.edoc

Music and Performing Art (47212)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Music and Performing Art
Education classification code	47212
Type of the study programme	Professional master study programme
Name of the study programme director	Elina, Kristīne, Toms
Surname of the study programme director	Šmaukstele, Zelicka, Ostrovskis
E-mail of the study programme director	elina.smaukstele@jvlma.lv
Title of the study programme director	Mg.geogr., Mg.art., MMus
Phone of the study programme director	67227184, 66102825, 66102826
Goal of the study programme	To provide the highest level of professional training in music and performing arts for the cultural and social needs of the country, offering the acquisition of in-depth or extended knowledge, skills and competences related to music and performing arts.
Tasks of the study programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop artistic, creative, pedagogical and scientific research skills; - to use teaching methods and forms of work organisation appropriate to the Professional Master's studies; - to motivate for further education in the Single European Education Area and to prepare for further doctoral studies.
Results of the study programme	<p>1) Is able to demonstrate advanced or expanded knowledge and understanding, some of which is relevant to the latest findings and trends in the specific professional field of music and performing arts, and which provides a basis for creative thinking and research, including working at the interface between different fields.</p> <p>2) Is able to independently apply theory, various methods and skills to perform artistic activities and highly skilled professional functions related to music and performing arts.</p> <p>3) Is able to explain and discuss complex or systemic aspects of the music industry and the musician's professional field or the choreography industry and the choreography professional field in a reasoned manner with both specialists and non-specialists.</p> <p>4) Is able to independently direct the development of competences in his/her specialisation; to take responsibility for the work results of an artistic ensemble (orchestra, choir, chamber ensemble, opera company, ballet company, dance company, etc.) and analysis thereof.</p> <p>5) Is able to carry out entrepreneurial activities (cultural institutions, individual or collaborative artistic projects, private teaching practice); innovate in the field of music or choreography in their field of specialisation; carry out professional work related to music and performing arts.</p> <p>6) Is able to carry out research or further learning (continuing education, PhD) in complex and unpredictable environments and, if necessary, to modify them using new approaches.</p> <p>7) Is able to integrate knowledge from different fields, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, the development of research or professional methods, and demonstrate an understanding of and ethical responsibility for the potential impact of scientific results or professional activities on the environment and society.</p> <p>8) Is able to independently formulate and critically analyse complex professional problems related to music and performing arts, to justify decisions and, if necessary, to carry out further analysis.</p>

<p>Final examination upon the completion of the study programme</p>	<p><i>Specialization Composition: Development and defense of diploma thesis, diploma examination in Composition, diploma examination in Instrumentation;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Sound Recording: Development and defense of diploma thesis, diploma examination in Sound Recording;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Woodwind instruments / Percussion instruments play: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization String instruments play: Development and defense of diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Keyboard instrument play: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Chamber Ensemble: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Piano accompaniment: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Early music (instrumental): Development and defense of diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of diploma concert examination programme, Instrument playing, Early Music Ensemble, Baroque Orchestra;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Early music (harpsichord play): Development and defense of diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of diploma concert examination programme, Preparation and performance of Baroque chamber ensemble concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Early music (vocal): Development and defense of diploma thesis, Early Music singing / Performance project / Preparation and performance of diploma concert examination programme, Early Music Ensemble;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Conducting - choral conducting: Development and defense of diploma thesis, Orchestral conducting, Preparation and performance of diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Conducting - symphony orchestra conducting: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Conducting - brass band conducting: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Opera and Chamber Singing: Development and defense of the diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of the diploma concert examination programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Choreography: Development and defense of diploma thesis, Dance composition, Preparation and defense of diploma thesis programme;</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Music and education - music tuition: Development and defense of diploma thesis, Diploma work practice, Methodology of pedagogic research</i></p> <p><i>Specialization Music and education - instrument performance tuition: Development and defense of diploma thesis, Preparation and performance of diploma examination programme, Diploma work practice</i></p>
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Study programme forms

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Specializations Conducting, Composition, Vocal music, Sound recording: professional bachelor's degree in music, 6th level professional qualification, specialization knowledge and skill mastered at the level of professional bachelor studies and / or professional experience which the masters' students are going to deepen and/or extend in the professional master's study programme; Specializations Instrumental music, Music and education: bachelor's degree in the field of music or music pedagogy and 6th level professional qualification obtained at the level of professional bachelor studies, or rights of its specialization teacher which the masters' students are going to deepen and/or extend in the professional master's study programme; All specializations: entrance examination</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Master's Degree in Music</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	---

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀņa BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 2 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Specializations Conducting, Composition, Vocal music, Sound recording: professional bachelor's degree in music, 6th level professional qualification, specialization knowledge and skill mastered at the level of professional bachelor studies and / or professional experience which the masters' students are going to deepen and/or extend in the professional master's study programme; Specializations Instrumental music, Music and education: bachelor's degree in the field of music or music pedagogy and 6th level professional qualification obtained at the level of professional bachelor studies, or rights of its specialization teacher which the masters' students are going to deepen and/or extend in the professional master's study programme; All specializations: entrance examination, English language proficiency, at least level B2</i>

Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Master's Degree in Music</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	---

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 2 years - latvian

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree in the field of choreography or dance education or professional higher education of second level in the field of choreography/dances with the right to study in master's programme, entrance examination</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Master's Degree in Choreography</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	---

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 2 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	2
Duration in month	0
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	80
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Bachelor's degree in the field of choreography or dance education or professional higher education of second level in the field of choreography/dances with the right to study in master's programme, entrance examination, English language proficiency, at least level B2</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional Master's Degree in Choreography</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	---

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
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Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050
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3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

The previous accreditation letter No 2021/64 of the field of study *Arts* was issued on 26.10.2021. This accreditation sheet includes the Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, programme code - 47212; credit points - 80 (120 ECTS); mode and form of implementation - full-time, "in-presence" studies; place of implementation - Riga; degree to be awarded - Professional Master's degree in Music (sub-programme *Music*) and Professional Master's degree in Choreography (sub-programme *Choreography*), language of implementation - Latvian.

Since the previous accreditation of the study field, the learning outcomes of the study programme have been revised and updated in order to meet current requirements.

The main programme parameter that is planned to be changed within the framework of the evaluation procedure is the language of implementation of the programme. In the future, it is planned to add English as the language of implementation.

The implementation of the study programme in English would be an important step in the development of the JVLAM and Latvian higher education in the field of music, expanding opportunities for competitiveness and international cooperation. Comparing the study programmes offered by the JVLAM with other European and Baltic universities, it was found that study programmes at other music universities, including those in neighbouring Lithuania and Estonia, are often conducted in both local and English languages. With the exception of JVLAM, Professional Bachelor's and Professional Master's degrees in music in Latvia can only be obtained at Daugavpils University, which is not considered a direct competitor of JVLAM in offering higher education in the field of music. However, both Latvian and English have been approved as the languages of implementation for the DU-licensed Professional Bachelor's study programme *Music*. This means that DU is currently the only university in Latvia that can offer foreign applicants a Professional Bachelor degree in music, while studying in English.

Of the study programmes accredited and/or licensed by the JVLAM, English as the language of implementation is currently added only to the joint Doctoral study programme *Arts*. So, at least theoretically, it is possible to get higher music education in English in Latvia:

- Bachelor level studies at the regional higher education institution DU (English is included as one of the study programme implementation languages in the programme's license issued in 2021, but there is no information about the actual launch of the study programme in English);
- Doctoral level studies at the JVLAM (Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in *Arts*).

But nowhere in Latvia is there an opportunity to study for a Master degree in Music in English language.

In order to make higher music education at all levels accessible to foreign students, the JVLAM has applied to add English as the language of delivery for all study programmes in the *Arts* programme,

including the Professional Master's programme *Music and Performing Arts*, as part of the evaluation procedure for this field of study.

The possibility to start implementing study programmes in English is an important step in ensuring the sustainable operation and development of the JVLAM in order to be able to make better use of the opportunities of internationalization processes. Foreign students from EU and other countries (e.g. USA, Japan, China, etc.) have shown and continue to show interest in studying at Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral level at the JVLAM. The launch of an English language study programme could increase the number of students studying at the JVLAM, including those studying for personal funding. As Latvia's population declines, the number of potential students could shrink in the coming years, leading to a decrease in competition for study places and a decline in the artistic quality of students. These issues could be addressed by attracting students from other countries. This would require the launch of an English-language study programme.

The internationalization of higher education calls for the development of study programmes and processes in line with the quality criteria adopted in international practice. The implementation of the study programme in English and the presence of foreign students would give every JVLAM student the opportunity to acquire intercultural competences and enrich their intercultural experience. For the teaching staff, it would give them the opportunity to broaden their international cooperation and experience by becoming increasingly involved in various international study, research and artistic creativity projects or programmes.

Targeted actions taken in accordance with the JVLAM strategy, as well as the successful experience gained so far in providing study courses to incoming exchange students at the JVLAM, would enable the implementation of the study programme in English. The extensive cooperation with foreign partners also enables the JVLAM to regularly supplement the study process with masterclasses, guest lectures and various joint projects by foreign guest lecturers and artists/musicians. At the level of Master's studies, some study courses are already conducted in English (for example, students of the *Composition* and *Symphony Orchestra Conducting* sub-programmes master the course *Analysis of Contemporary Music* in English, which was developed in cooperation with the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (hereinafter - LAMT)). The implementation of the study programme in English would allow to expand cooperation with foreign guest lecturers, who could provide specific knowledge to the students of JVLAM, as well as to facilitate the integration of JVLAM graduates into the international music market.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* with the *Music* sub-programme specialisations *Instrumental Music*, *Conducting*, *Vocal Music*, *Composition*, *Music and Education* and *Sound Direction* and the *Choreography* sub-programme is fully in line with the *Arts* field of study. Study programme code 47212 corresponds to the *Regulations on the Classification of Latvian Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 322, approved on 13 June 2017) according to the

thematic group of Humanities and Arts Education, the thematic field of Arts Education, the education programmes of Music and Performing Arts.

Title of the study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, the aim of the study programme "To provide for the cultural and social needs of the country the education of music and performing arts related professionals at the highest level by offering the acquisition of advanced or extended knowledge, skills and competences related to music and performing arts" and the tasks, admission conditions and content of the programme, which ensure the attainment of the knowledge, skills and competences specified in the study programme, correspond to the degrees of Professional Master of Music and Professional Master of Choreography.

The goals, tasks and study outcomes of the respective sub-programmes follow the goals, tasks and study outcomes of the overall study programme, putting emphasis on the knowledge, skills and competences of the respective sub-programme and/or specialization in accordance with the specific requirements of each professional field. The study outcomes of the sub-programme *Music* are related to the professional aspects of the field of music and at the activities of musicians, and in the study outcomes of the sub-programme *Choreography* address the professional aspects of the field of dance and are aimed at the activities of choreographers.

Admission to the Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, the sub-programme *Music* in the specialisations *Conducting, Composition, Vocal Music, Sound Recording* requires a Professional Bachelor's degree in Music and a 6th level professional qualification at the level of Professional Bachelor's studies, as well as knowledge and skills in the specialisation, acquired at the Professional Bachelor's level and/or through professional experience that the Master's student will deepen and/or extend in the Professional Master's study programme. The knowledge and skills acquired in the professional experience are not determined in terms of time, but are evaluated by the admission committee in the context of the acquired education, the study courses related to the specialization acquired during it, as well as the results of the skills acquired in the professional experience. The submitted documents are evaluated, and during the colloquium, it is discussed and evaluated whether the results achieved in the professional experience are sufficient to start learning the relevant specialization at the master's study level.

Admission to the Professional Master's degree programme in *Music and Performing Arts*, sub-programme *Music*, specialisations *Instrumental Music, Music and Education* requires a Bachelor's degree in Music or Music Pedagogy and a 6th level professional qualification at the level of Professional Bachelor's studies or the right to teach in the specialisation that the Master's student will deepen and/or extend in the Professional Master's study programme.

Admission to the Professional Master's degree programme in *Music and Performing Arts*, sub-programme *Choreography* requires a Bachelor's degree in Choreography or Dance Education and a 6th level professional qualification at Bachelor's level, or a 2nd level professional higher education qualification in Choreography/Dance with the right to study at Master's level.

Applicants are additionally required to take entrance examinations relevant to their chosen sub-programme and specialisation, as approved by the Higher Education Council. Entrance examinations are designed for each sub-programme, specialisation and profile to ensure the appropriate selection of applicants who will be able to achieve the expected learning outcomes during their studies. As an admission test, applicants from all sub-programmes and specialisations are given a colloquium to assess their motivation for the Master's degree and their intended research focus, as well as additional entrance examinations appropriate to their specialisation:

In the *Music* sub-programme, specialisation in *Instrumental Music* (academic, ancient music or jazz instrument play):

- instrument play - profile solo instrument play and string quartet for applicants;
- string quartet - for applicants of string quartet profile;
- chamber ensemble - for applicants with a chamber ensemble profile (chamber ensembles with piano, accordion or harp; piano duets, single or mixed ensembles without piano);
- piano accompaniment - for applicants of piano profile;

In the sub-programme *Music, specialisation Vocal Music* - opera singing / chamber singing / ancient music / jazz music:

- academic singing, or ancient music singing, or jazz music singing;

In the sub-programme *Music, specialisation Conducting* - choir conducting / symphony orchestra conducting / brass band conducting:

- conducting.

In the sub-programme *Music, specialisation Composition*:

- composition.

In the sub-programme *Music, specialisation Music and Education* - music studies:

- colloquium of pedagogical and artistic activity.

In the sub-programme *Music, specialisation Music and Education* - instrument play studies:

- a colloquium on the selected topic of the thesis;
- instrument play.

In the sub-programme *Music, specialisation Sound Recording*:

- sound recording.

In the sub-programme *Choreography*:

- choreography.

These admission requirements allow for an assessment of whether applicants have the necessary theoretical knowledge and artistic skills to start their studies, as well as for a comparison of applicants' performance, with the highest-performing applicants being offered state budget funded study places. When aggregating test results, the specialty test is prioritised and given the highest weighting in the ranking of test results.

For the study programme in English, in addition to the admission requirements, it is planned to include a requirement for proof of English language knowledge at least at B2 level.

In order to ensure the most objective possible assessment in the entrance examinations, the entrance examination commission is composed of representatives of the specialisation (heads of specialisation departments or lecturers), representatives of employers - professional organizations, as well as representatives of the Study Programme Directorate (heads of sections) who participate in the entrance examinations of specialisations, thus facilitating more equal application of assessment criteria between different specialisations.

The study programme is implemented as a full-time "in-presence" study programme with a duration of 2 years and a scope of 80 credit points (120 ECTS). Taking into account the specificity of the educational programme group of Music and Performing Arts, the high proportion of individual lessons in cooperation with course lecturers, the need to practice, cooperate with fellow students

and artistic collectives, as well as the organisation of internships, the implementation of the study programme in a part-time or distance learning format would make it difficult to achieve qualitative results of the study programme.

The duration of the study programme is 2 years, which is optimal for the student to achieve the study outcomes in accordance with the 7th level of Latvian Qualifications Framework (LQF), including the ability to demonstrate in-depth or extended knowledge and understanding of the latest developments and trends in the specific professional field of music and performing arts; the ability to perform artistic activities, highly qualified professional functions related to music and performing arts, as well as to carry out research activities in his/her field of specialisation; be able to independently formulate and critically analyze complex professional problems related to music and performing arts; be able to integrate knowledge from different fields, contribute to the development of methods of professional activity, demonstrate awareness and ethical responsibility for the potential impact of professional activity on the environment and society (see the full list of study programme outcomes under programme parameters). In the first year of study, Master's students broaden and deepen their knowledge of the theory and practice of the field, develop their research skills, as well as study courses and internships in creative work relevant to their chosen specialisation. The knowledge and skills acquired in the second year of study are used to prepare for state examinations, to develop and defend a diploma thesis, and to prepare a diploma examination programme appropriate to the specialisation and level of Master's study. Upon successful completion of the state examinations, students are awarded a Master's degree based on the achievements and insights of the respective field of artistic creativity.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

The development and updating of the content of the Professional Master's study programme has been based on the social and economic justifications of the need for the programme in the Cultural Policy Guidelines for 2014-2020 "Creative Latvia", which define the goals and priorities of the national cultural policy and contribute to the achievement of the goals set in the long-term and medium-term policy planning documents of the country. In order to achieve the overarching policy goals described in the Guidelines, several priorities have been identified, of which (2) Creativity in Lifelong Learning and Labour Market Oriented Cultural Education, and (3) Competitive Cultural and Creative Industries are directly relevant to JVLAM study programmes. The establishment of the Professional Master's study programme is in line with the cultural policy guidelines that the cultural education system should significantly promote the integration of research, scientific innovation and creative and artistic activity, facilitating the inclusion of practice in all stages of higher education, with the aim of ensuring the regional competitiveness of the Latvian higher education system - the Professional Master's study programme places research and creative practice at its centre and provides an important link between bachelor and doctoral level education in music and performing arts. The argument is also taken into account: in order to ensure further education and transfer of research skills in the fields of culture and creative industries, it is essential to develop and use the potential of teachers from art universities and the cultural education sector - the Professional Master's study programme provides students with knowledge of the most relevant innovations in the field of study and prepares Master's students for pedagogical work at the higher education level within the assistantship; individualized study plans and up-to-date study content promote and develop scientific and creative excellence. One of the JVLAM's obligations (3.1.2) in the tasks of the

Cultural Policy Guidelines (Annex 5) is to ensure targeted updating and modernisation of study programme content and equipment, as well as the quality and sustainability of study programmes, taking into account the requirements of the labour market - within the framework of the Professional Master's study programme, this obligation is fulfilled through close cooperation between Master's students, docents and representatives of the labour market.

In addition to the national socio-economic rationale for the programme, the social rationale of the demand for music and performing arts studies at Master's level has been taken into account - by analysing the processes of the cultural education system, as well as the processes of admission to the university, it has been found that, despite demographic and economic obstacles, interest in Master's level studies has remained consistently high. The economic rationale has also been analyzed: one of the most important rationales is the training of top-level specialists to work in the national and European community cultural industry; the demand for specialists such as orchestral musicians, orchestra and choir conductors, concert masters, solo artists in various instruments and vocal arts, choreographers and dance art specialists, composers, sound engineers, etc., trained under the programme, has been identified in cooperation with employers. It has been found that Master's students of all specialisations are in demand in the labour market both in Latvia and abroad, and, thanks to the deepening of competences at Master's level, employers' interest in Master's students and graduates of Professional Master's programmes is naturally higher than in graduates of Bachelor's programmes.

JVLAM systematically works on obtaining information on graduate employment, during the reporting period a graduate employment register has been created, with data obtained from the results of a graduate survey. However, the number of respondents tends to decrease, so other options for monitoring graduate employment data are being considered (see more in the description of criterion 3.1.3 of the Professional Bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*). Given the close cooperation between graduate students and JVLAM teaching staff, information about graduates is often not obtained through formal surveys, but through informal communication. An important factor is that many of the docents and graduates, often also current students, are colleagues who collaborate on various projects and play together in artistic ensembles. The links with practice, the labour market and the learning process are therefore very close and direct.

As a result of written and oral surveys, the JVLAM concludes that most of the graduates work in their profession - they are instrumental musicians, musicians of professional orchestras, dancers, choreographers, some of the graduates work as teachers according to their specialty as musicians or choreographers, including graduates of the Master's study programme also as teaching staff at the JVLAM, thus ensuring the continuation of traditions, but at the same time giving the departments new opportunities for growth and development. Some graduates are employed in other cultural and educational institutions, while a small number are working abroad in their specialisation. Employers' feedback on the professional performance of the JVLAM graduates in their field is positive. We have received praise from LNOB, LNSO, LNKC, Latvian Piano Teachers Association, Association of Music Education Directors, etc.

For the analysis of quantitative data on the employment of Latvian graduates, the NEIS Higher Education Graduates Monitoring Tool is used, which aims to provide information on the employment, income and employment/unemployment rate of higher education graduates 10 years after graduation (available in Latvian: <https://www.viis.gov.lv/monitoringa-riki>). This tool provides data on Latvian graduates from 2017 to 2019. As not all data are disaggregated by study level, some of the analysis covers several study levels together, but as the majority of JVLAM students study directly in the Professional Bachelor's and Professional Master's study programmes, and, according to the results of written and oral surveys, graduates of Master's study programmes often continue to work in jobs where they started their working career at the previous study level (often

in higher skilled roles after their master's studies), these data provide insights into the employment of graduates of both levels of professional study programmes.

Having assessed the available data, it can be concluded that the employment rate of JVLAM graduates (at all study levels) is high, and according to the data of the 2019 fiscal year JVLAM with 89% employment of graduates in higher qualification professions ranks 3rd among State Universities in Latvia, behind only the Latvian National Defense Academy and Riga Stradins University (see more in the description of criterion 3.1.3. of the Professional Bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*). According to the NEIS Graduate Monitoring Tool data on the employment rate of 2019 graduates in 2020, 93% of graduates of the JVLAM Master's study programmes were employed, 95% of them in highly skilled professions.

When monitoring data on graduates of Latvian universities by thematic fields of education, graduates of the JVLAM field of study *Art* are included in the Humanities and Arts group. According to the Ministry of Education and Science, among Latvian higher education institutions as a whole, this thematic group has the lowest employment rates in higher qualifications and the lowest average income level of graduates in the country compared to graduates from other sectors. Figure 3.1.3.1 shows data on graduates of Master's degree programmes in the Humanities and Arts group at different Latvian higher education institutions.

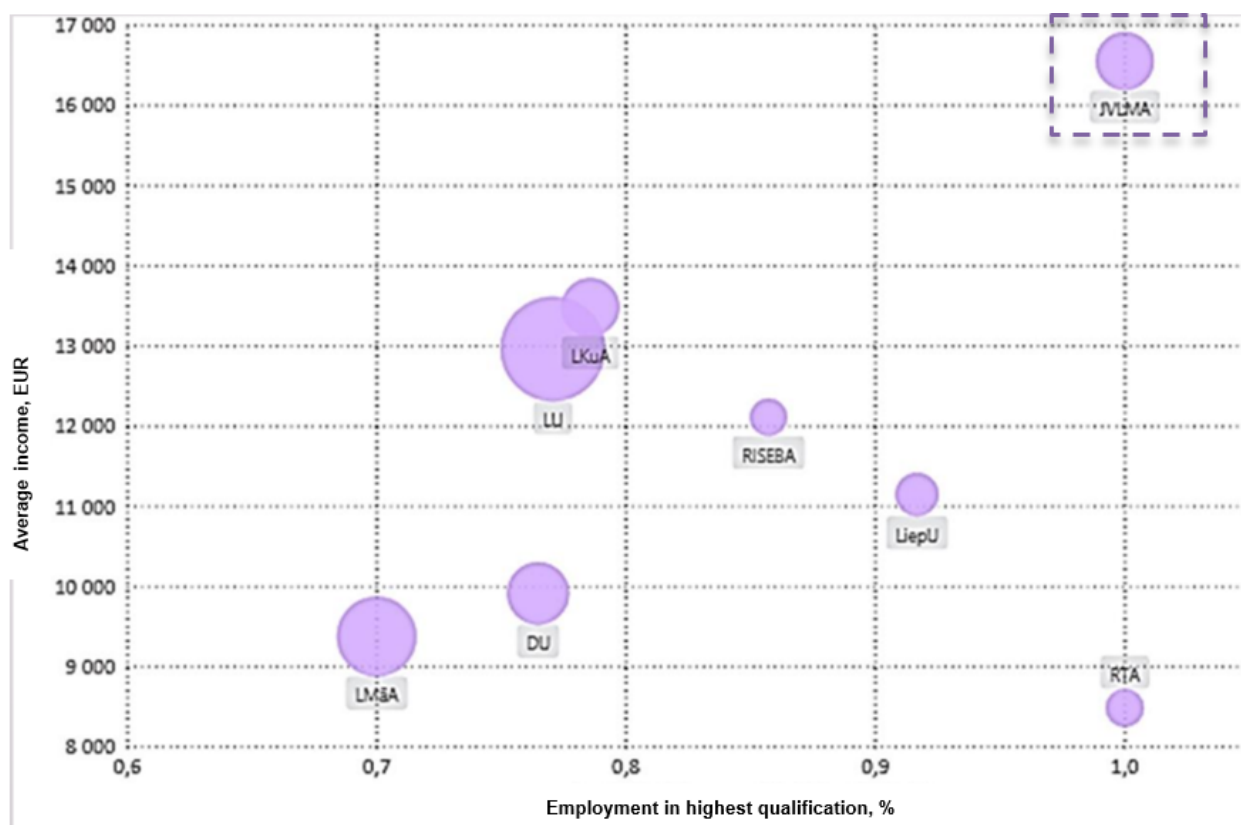


Figure 3.1.3.1. Employment in higher qualifications and weighted average income of the graduates of Master's programme thematic group Humanities and Arts (Figure from Brief characteristics of Doctoral and Master's graduates (available in Latvian: <https://www.izm.gov.lv/lv/media/2113/download>, p. 9), vertical axis shows average income (EUR), horizontal axis shows employment in highest qualification (%))

It can be seen that among this group of graduates, it is the graduates of the JVLAM Master's programme who have one of the best employment rates in the country, as well as the best employment rates among Latvian universities of arts and culture (in the figure, JVLAM, LMāA - Art Academy of Latvia and LKwA - Latvian Academy of Culture).

In the field of graduate employment, the JVLAM cooperates with employers and professional organizations, which is also determined by the common goals and objectives set by cultural and educational institutions. The range of cooperation issues is broad and multifaceted, including issues of graduate employability. The JVLAM provides professional organizations (opera theatres, opera ballet companies, orchestras, ensembles, choirs, cultural education institutions) with the necessary specialists - vocalists, choral artists, vocal teachers, dancers, choreographers, etc. The research on the training of specialists for the labour market in the cultural sector is carried out by the Ministry of Culture in cooperation with the JVLAM, and state orders for the training of specialists are placed in accordance with the labour market demand. The job market in the cultural sector is very broad, so there are plenty of opportunities for graduates of the JVLAM. Graduates work directly and indirectly with many institutions under the Ministry of Culture. The following are some of the jobs held by JVLAM graduates at all levels in Latvia during the reporting period:

Cultural education institutions: Emīls Dārziņš Music Secondary School, Riga Cathedral Choir School, Jāzeps Mediņš Riga Music Secondary School, Alfreds Kalnins Cēsis Music Secondary School, Staņislavs Broks Daugavpils Music Secondary School, Jelgava Music Secondary School, Emīls Melngailis Liepāja Music Secondary School, Jānis Ivanovs Rēzekne Music Secondary School, Ventspils Music Secondary School, Riga Choreography Secondary School, etc.

Professional organisations: Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, State Chamber Orchestra Sinfonietta Rīga, Latvian National Opera and Ballet - symphony orchestra, choir, ballet, vocalists, etc., Liepāja Symphony Orchestra, Riga Professional Wind Orchestra, VSIA "Latvijas Koncerti", VSIA "KREMERATA BALTICA", Academic Choir "Latvija", Latvian Radio Choir, Riga Choir Ave Sol, etc.

Amateur arts: 184 folklore groups, 70 *kokle* ensembles, 60 folk music ensembles, 57 brass bands.

Professional music, art or dance programmes: more than 100 municipal and 5 private educational institutions providing professional music programmes, 49 municipal and 5 private educational institutions providing dance programmes.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

Analysing the composition and number of students in the study programme in historical perspective, it can be concluded that the number of state budget study places is stable. The number of students in the programme specialisations can vary, especially in the orchestral instrument specialisations - wind/percussion, strings. Given that the study programme offers all specialisations, there is always a competition for the state budget study places in one of the specialisations, with an average of 2 - 3 applicants per study place. For those applicants who have successfully passed the entrance examinations but are not admitted to study places at the expense of the state budget, the JVLAM offers studies for a tuition fee. During the reporting period, the proportion of fee-paying students in the Professional Master's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts* ranged from 2 to 8.5%.

The provision of studies for tuition fees is seen as a factor contributing to the overall quality of studies in the programme, creating a continuous, healthy competition for studies at the state budget expense. At the end of the academic year, the JVLAM conducts a ranking of students'

competence evaluations, which may result in a change of funding source, thus motivating students to achieve consistently high performance in their academic work and contributing to the production of high quality young professionals.

The number of students enrolled in the study programme has remained stable over the reporting period, with an average of 45 students per year, with the largest shifts in 2013 (38 students) and 2017 (55 students). See figure 3.1.4.1.

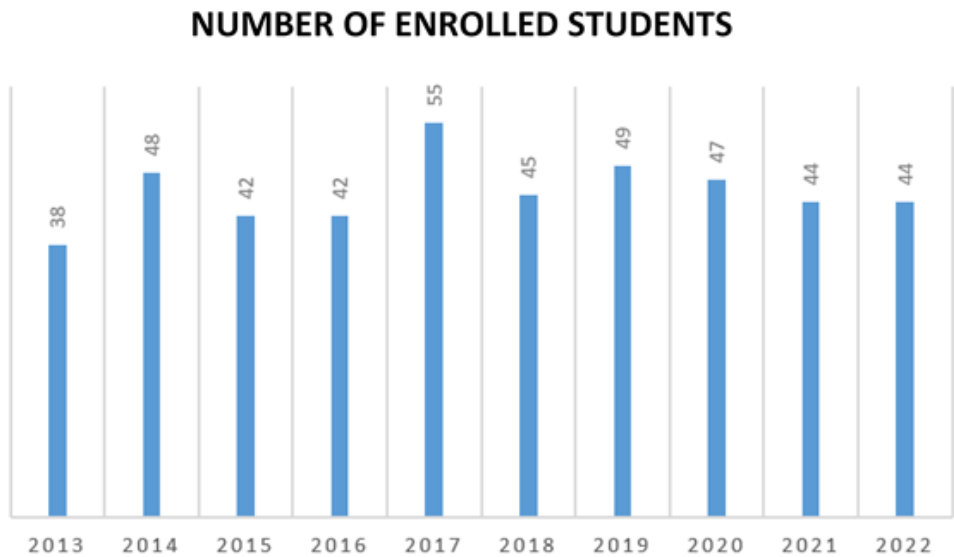


Figure 3.1.4.1. Number of students enrolled in the Professional Master's study programme Music and Performing Arts 2013-2022

The total number of students enrolled in the study programme during the reporting period was on average 90 Master’s students per year, with the number of students in the programme remaining relatively stable, except for 2017 when 103 Master’s students were enrolled in the programme. During the reporting period, the number of students studying on state-funded budget programmes has increased, while the number of students studying on private funding has decreased (see Figure 3.1.4.2).

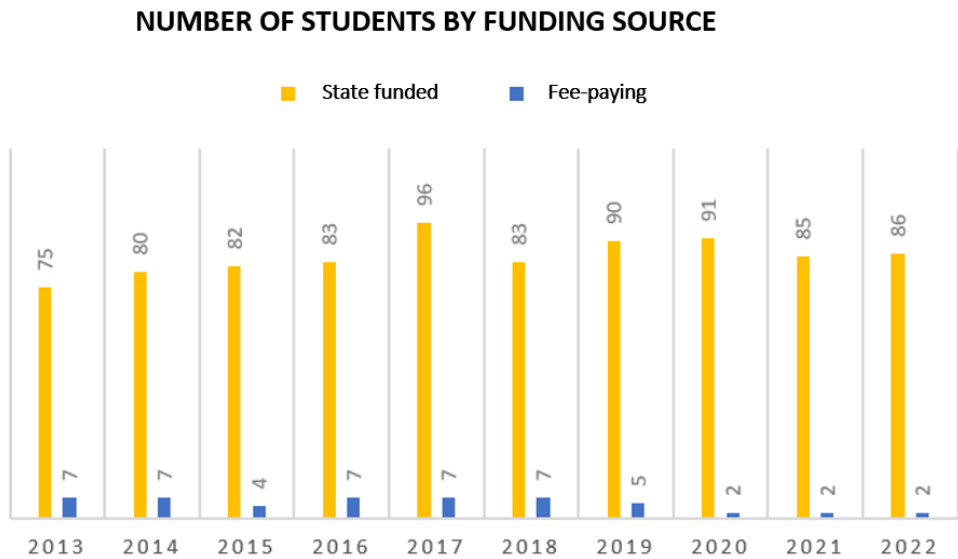


Figure 3.1.4.2. Distribution of students enrolled in the Professional Master's study programme Music and Performing Arts by funding source, 2013-2022

Student drop-out has been variable over the reporting period, ranging from 1 to 9 students (average 5 students) per year, see Figure 3.1.4.3. In some cases student drop-out occurs when students leave their studies of their own volition. In Music and Performing Arts, this decision is taken for reasons such as migration to universities abroad, more favourable job market opportunities during the student years, and professional prospects in artistic and creative collectives. This type of drop-out statistically occurs during all semesters of study. A small percentage of drop-outs are students who change their field of study priorities during their studies. Considerable amount of the drop-out rate is made up of students who have not returned from a break in their studies due to health or other reasons, as well as students who have rotated out of a state budget place due to their performance. This type of drop-out occurs throughout the semesters of study. During the reporting period, the national epidemiological restrictions imposed in the academic year 2021/2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic meant that students not vaccinated against Covid-19 could not continue with their full-time studies, which was also a reason for the drop-out of some students.

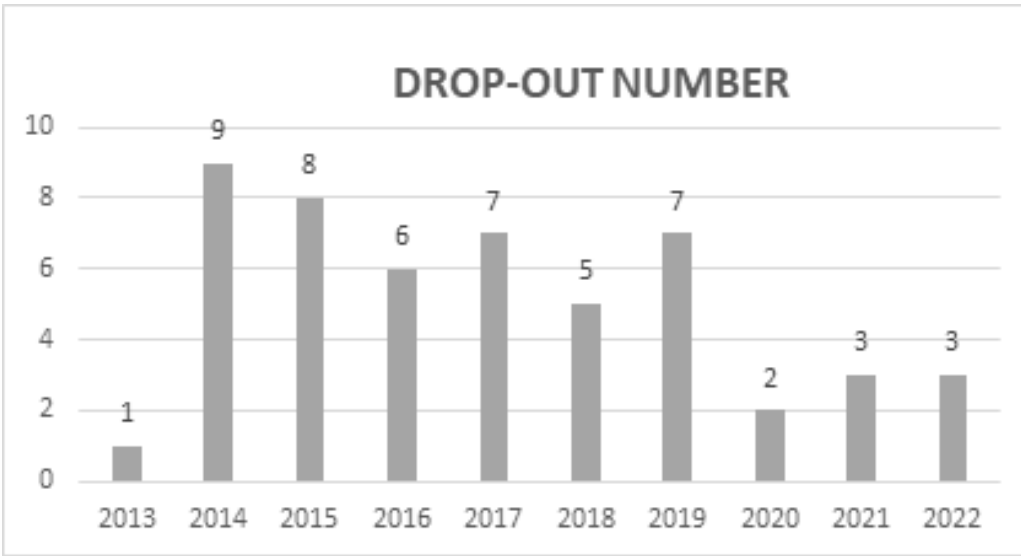


Figure 3.1.4.3. Drop-out of the students of the Professional Master's study programme in Music and Performing Arts, 2013-2022

The number of graduates from the programme during the reporting period was on average 37 Master's students per year, with an increasing trend towards the second half of the period (see Figure 3.1.4.4).

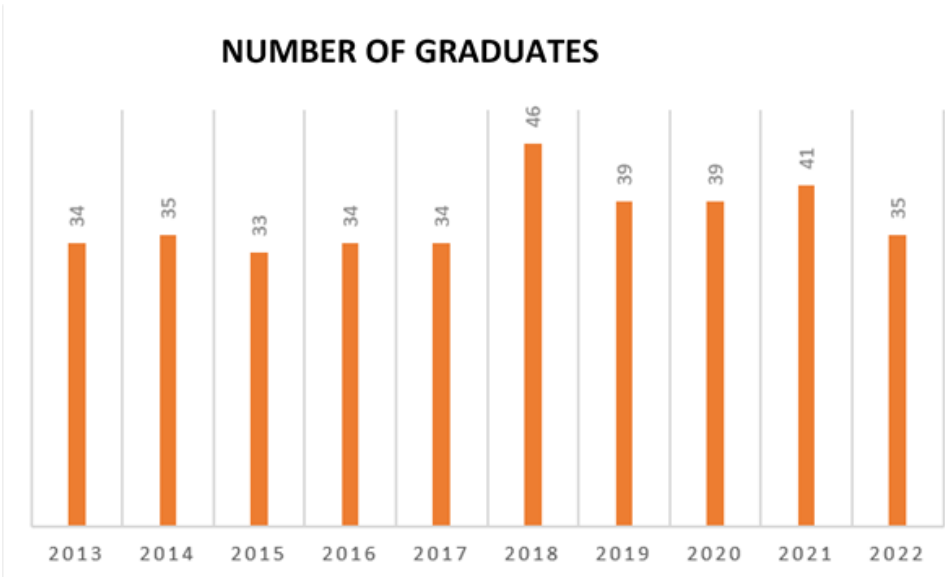


Figure 3.1.4.4. Number of graduates of the Professional Master's study programme Music and Performing Arts, 2013-2022

Overall, student statistics have remained stable over the reporting period. Considering that the total number of university students in Latvia has decreased by 14% between 2013 and 2021 (for more information, see the description of the Professional Bachelor's degree programme *Music and Performing Arts*, criterion 3.1.4), the stable number of students in the programme is considered a very positive indicator. The number of tuition fee-paying students in the programme (which, however, still represents a small proportion of the programme's student population) has decreased over the reporting period. The decline in the number of tuition fee-paying students is in line with the overall trends in Latvian higher education statistics - between 2013 and 2021, the total number of the fee-paying students in Latvia has decreased by 18% (see Figure 3.1.4.5).

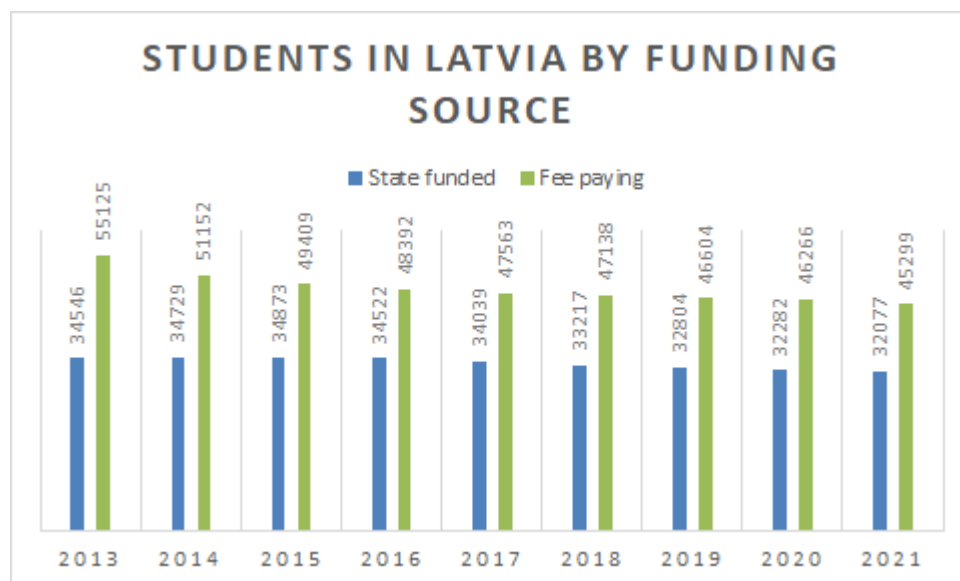


Figure 3.1.4.5. Number of students in Latvian higher education institutions by source of funding, 2013-2021 (data source: Central Statistical Office (Latvian only), <https://stat.gov.lv/lv/statistikas-temas/izglitiba-kultura-zinatne/augstaka-izglitiba/8097-studenti?theMeCode=IG>)

Launching the study programme in English would help attract students from abroad, thus increasing the overall number of students and competition in the study programme. In addition, attracting tuition fee-paying students would also increase the funding available for the programme. This is seen as an essential step for the sustainable operation and development of the JVLAM, making better use of the opportunities of internationalization processes. By adding English to the study programme, taking into account the wide number of specialisations represented in the study programme, as well as by placing more emphasis on the internationalization of higher-level study programmes, the share of foreign students in the JVLAM Professional Master's study programme could reach approximately 10%, i.e. approximately 9 foreign students per year could study in the programme. For more information on the activities undertaken and initiated in the reporting period in accordance with the JVLAM's strategy to ensure sustainable operation and development, which would facilitate attraction of foreign students, see the description of criterion 3.1.4 of the Professional Bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts*.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

The study programme has been developed in accordance with the requirements of *the Regulations on the State Standard of the Second Level Professional Higher Education* (Cabinet Regulations No.512, approved on 26 August 2014) and the decisions of the JVLAM Senate. The structure and content of the study programme meet the requirements for the education of music and choreography specialists and, in accordance with the aim of the study programme, contribute to the education of music and performing arts-related professionals at the highest level for the cultural and social needs of the country by offering the acquisition of advanced or extended music and performing arts-related knowledge, skills and competences. The quality of the implementation of the study process, teaching and learning of the study content is regularly monitored and analyzed by the responsible units.

The content of the study programme is arranged in 5 parts of the study plan so that Master's students can apply theoretical knowledge in practical work - both artistic and assistant internship. This approach allows Master's students to integrate into the labour market already during their studies. The internship is organised in cooperation with concert organisations, professional orchestras, choirs, dance groups and other organisations. Parts of the study plan (according to the national standard for education):

Part A (compulsory) study courses provide the opportunity to learn the latest developments in theory and practice in the field, to acquire in-depth knowledge in the field of management and artistic research methods.

Part B (restricted elective) courses provide the opportunity to specialize in different areas of music and choreography, deepening the knowledge and skills acquired at the Professional Bachelor's level.

Part C (free elective) courses give the opportunity to deepen your knowledge and skills in courses related to the chosen specialisation, or to broaden one's knowledge in another field, at student's choice. You can choose from the free elective study courses offered by the JVLAM or study at another higher education institution.

Internship study courses provide an opportunity to test the theoretical findings acquired in study

and research work in practice, facilitate the development of professional skills, and promote the unity of theory and practice.

In the study courses included in the state examination part, the Master's student must demonstrate scientific and research competence in the development and defense of the Master's thesis, as well as the application of theoretical knowledge and insights in the practical work of the chosen specialisation or profile (e.g. preparation and performance of a programme in a two-part public concert / preparation and defense of a performance project).

The study plan is designed so that the acquisition and development of knowledge, skills and competences in the study courses included in the study plan is sequential. In the first year of study, Master's students acquire the latest achievements in theory and practice in the field, broaden their knowledge in research methods and management, as well as study courses in creative work and internship related to their specialisation. In the second year of study, the knowledge and skills acquired are applied in preparation for the state examinations described above.

Taking into account the wide range of specialisations of the study programme, many JVLAM departments and classes are involved in the implementation, content development and updating of the study programme, which are responsible for the provision of appropriate study courses. In order to achieve the common goals and results of all sub-programmes, joint theoretical study courses are implemented, which are provided by the relevant competence departments (e.g. *Artistic Research Methods* - Department of Musicology, *Cultural Project Management* - Department of General Studies, etc.), while study courses for the achievement of study results specific to specialisations are developed and implemented by the relevant specialisation departments. The transfer of study courses to the competence of specialisation departments makes it possible to effectively ensure the interrelation of the information, expected outcomes, objectives and other parameters included in specialisation study courses between different study courses, as well as with the overall objectives and expected outcomes of the study programme. In 2021, in cooperation with the heads of departments and classes within the units supporting the study process, a study was carried out on the relevance and interconnection of the study programme content during the reporting period. It is concluded that the study courses implemented in the departments are highly interrelated and the work of the departments is consistently oriented in this direction. Each department has its own successful examples, but due to the limited scope of the self-assessment report, only a few examples will be mentioned here.

For example, in the Department of Jazz Music, jazz piano and composition courses combine the topics of several courses/modules taught by one docent. While learning piano, one also learns harmony, theory, improvisation, rhythm and style skills, and composition. Similarly, arranging is an integral part of the study programme, which directly complements and improves other study courses. The compulsory rhythm instruments course also gives students the skills to verbalize two types of rhythmic patterns, to play, read and use the correct notation of the drum part, and to copy all this on their own instrument.

The conducting courses offered by the Department of Choral Conducting can be mentioned as an example - these courses are particularly versatile, as they cover the practical part - conducting, playing scores, voice singing, and the theoretical part - written analysis of compositions and oral knowledge of music history, theory and current issues. A very close link is established with the study courses of the required professional competences.

According to the information provided by the heads of departments, the study courses are designed in such a way that their content is related to, but does not overlap with, other courses and ensures the continuity of knowledge acquisition. Defining the course description and the learning outcomes to be achieved by students in a course of study ensures that they contribute to the achievement of

the programme outcomes. For example, the docents of the String Instruments Department always collaborate in the development of learning outcomes, content, description of independent work and assessment of results. The repertoire of the course is sufficiently extensive and varied, it can be used in different ways and adapted to the individual needs of each student, it includes compositions of all periods and styles, developing both advanced technical skills of playing the instrument and musical thinking and understanding. The inclusion of recently composed works in the repertoires of study courses is an innovative contribution, which is constantly and actively being worked on.

In many departments, specialisation courses are closely integrated with courses in music history and theory, collective music-making and collaborative practice. During the reporting period, the link between the content, objectives and outcomes of the Professional Bachelor's and Professional Master's study programmes has also been improved, with a gradual increase in the breadth and depth of students' knowledge and skills.

The interdisciplinarity of the study process and cooperation between students from different sub-programmes are also noteworthy. For example, the Department of Composition focuses on linking the creative tasks of the study course *Composition* with students of other specialisations at the JVLAM, collaborating with them in performances of their works; linking with professional collectives, creating joint cooperation projects aimed at early establishment of mutual contacts, creating recognition of future composers as they enter the labour market; linking with the Composers' Union, introducing potential future members of the Union. Also involvement in the *DeciBels* Festival masterclasses and concerts. Thus, the Department of Composition ensures that the study programme content is up-to-date with the current art processes and the changing needs of society. Students from other specialisations who study composition and arranging are often involved in these processes and participate in the creative projects of the department, such as composition concerts and competitions, recommending quality arrangements suitable for music schools for publication in *Musica Baltica*.

The content of the study programme courses is regularly updated in accordance with the proposals of the heads of music and choreography professional groups, boards of non-governmental professional organisations and associations, as well as students and graduates, and current developments in the field. For example, the Department of Choral Conducting actively cooperates with the LNKČ in updating the content of study courses, taking into account the circulation of information on conductor vacancies, as well as information from school heads on the level of preparation of graduates. The content and quality of delivery of study courses are systematically evaluated through surveys and discussions. In the light of the proposals received, the relevant units assess their relevance and appropriateness, consider the impact of the proposals on the cost of the study programme, as well as the relevance to professional competences. In case of a positive decision, the changes in the content of the study programmes are submitted to the JVLAM Senate for approval. The latest changes to the study plan of the Professional Master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* were approved by the JVLAM Senate at its meeting on 16.11.2022.

The regular updating of the content of study courses is largely facilitated by the fact that most of the course docents are leading experts in their field, whose professional daily work requires constant improvement of the study content and teaching methods and keeping up with the latest global trends in their field.

Taking into consideration the fact that the purpose of this Professional Master's study programme is to ensure the preparation of professional musicians, music researchers and performing arts specialists of the highest level for the cultural and social demands of the state, offering the broadening or deepening of knowledge, skills and competences related to music and performing arts, the content of the study programme has been developed in accordance with the requirements

of the respective professional fields and the labour market. The involvement of the Latvian leading music researchers and academicians in the processes of programme development and implementation guarantees the inclusion and constant revision of the latest scientific findings within the study content of the theory courses. The study plan of the Professional Master's programme includes such courses as *Artistic Research Methods* and *Preparation and Development of Diploma Thesis*, where, in collaboration with the academic staff members of the Musicology Department, the respective specialised departments, and the researchers of the JVLAM Scientific Research Centre, the postgraduate students develop and defend research papers in their field in accordance with the latest scientific developments.

During the reporting period, not only the content of the courses and the methods used were updated to meet the needs of the industry and the labour market, but also the distance learning process was adapted to the epidemiological constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic. In all departments, changes were made during the reporting period to adapt study courses to distance learning. Given the specific nature of the study programme, these solutions have often been challenging and creative, but successful solutions have also been found, some of which have been retained in the return to "in-presence" study. For example, as the greatest challenge and innovation of the recent years, the Department of Conducting mentions the development of the model remote training in conducting an orchestra which has resulted in the revelations of the new methodology findings. Motivation to develop the remote training model within the learning of the study course *Orchestra* has arisen in perspective.

Within the framework of the study programme, the student-centered approach regularly adapts the content of many courses to the combination of the individual abilities, character, interests and the docent's belief in the development needed by that particular student. For example, in the study course *Academic Singing* of the Vocal Department, a new repertoire is acquired each academic year, which is adapted to the abilities and growth rate of each individual student, trying to make it as diverse as possible in terms of style and genre, also using the widest possible range of foreign languages (Italian, English, German, French, Russian, Spanish, etc.). The aim is to give students as wide an insight as possible into the vocal creations of different styles and composers and to equip them with skills that will be useful in their future professional career and enable them to compete in the job market. During the reporting period, changes had to be made to the content of the course, as the number of "in-presence" contact hours decreased sharply. In the course *Innovations in Opera/Chamber Singing Methodology*, the content is adapted each year to the specific group, diagnosing the students' gaps in knowledge.

There are courses of study, for example in the Organ Class, where the content of the course is based on the superlatives accumulated over the years. The content of the courses has been validated over many years and meets international industry requirements. However, also in these courses, during the reporting period, the forms and methods of study were updated, new technologies were mastered, the usual academic study environment was expanded with innovations and new practices, such as regular audio and video recordings and online concerts.

In the Department of Music Technology, the topicality and relevance of the study programme content to the needs of the industry and the labour market depend on the structure and content of the study programme itself, as well as on the adequacy of the available technical resources to meet modern requirements. The specialisation of the Master's study programme *Sound Recording* is currently developed as a continuation of the sub-programme *Sound Recording* of the Professional Bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, with artistic development of the content parts that were already covered in the Bachelor's programme.

Many departments have a strategy to produce excellent professionals for the labour market, and

therefore update the content of their courses regularly. Not only the content of study courses, but also the content of independent work, assessment methods and the reading list are reviewed. The docents of the JVLAM keep abreast of the latest developments, including by attending relevant professional development events, as well as by working in the field on a daily basis - for example, in Latvian professional symphony orchestras and music education institutions. JVLAM docents themselves attend masterclasses, seminars and festivals, expanding and improving their knowledge and passing it on to students through updated study courses. During their studies, students acquire knowledge and develop skills necessary for the labour market, which is also confirmed by the high employment rate of JVLAM graduates.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

The Master's degree in *Music or Choreography* is awarded upon completion of the relevant *Music or Choreography* sub-programme of the Master's programme *Music and Performing Arts*, and is based on the achievements and insights of the respective field of artistic creativity.

According to the *Regulations on the National Standard for Second Level Professional Higher Education* (Cabinet Regulations No 512, approved on 26 August, 2014) and the *Regulations on State Examinations and State Examination Commissions in Professional Bachelor's and Professional Master's Study Programmes* approved by the JVLAM Senate, the study programme concludes with state examinations, which is the final stage of the study work, where the competences acquired by the student during the study programme are assessed in relation to the planned study result of the study programme - skills, competences and attitudes to be acquired as a result of the study programme, which comply with the 7th level of the Latvian Qualification Framework (LQF) and are necessary for the successful performance of the tasks of the relevant profession. The content of the state examinations includes the theoretical knowledge and skills tests in the study courses, which, according to the study plan, culminate in the diploma examinations (which are parts of the state examinations).

The examination of knowledge for the acquisition of the professional degree is carried out in writing and orally, through the elaboration and defense of the Master's thesis in accordance with the *Methodological Guidelines for the elaboration of academic theses of the JVLAM*, observing the principles of academic integrity. The skills corresponding to the professional specialisation are tested in artistic-creative expressions in accordance with the requirements of the study programme in the forms of concert examination and/or practical work - conducting a lesson, working with an orchestra / choir / ensemble, etc.

The content of the state examination (including the part of the state examination - the diploma examination), the methods of the examination, the type of the examination, the assessment criteria, the order of the examination, the duration of the examination, the requirements for the venue and the necessary equipment are described in the course description of the relevant study course, which is used by the diploma examination commission as a reference source for assessing the knowledge, skills and competence of the student in relation to the expected outcomes. The content and programme of the examinations are developed on the basis of the achievements and

insights of the relevant field of artistic creativity. The content of the national examinations shall be in accordance with the level of the final requirements of the course of study, as well as in accordance with the achievements and knowledge of the relevant field of science or artistic creativity, and shall be ensured by the head of the specialisation department, in agreement with the content of the department, as well as with the relevant section. The topics of the Master's thesis for each Master's student, based on the relevant field of science and artistic creativity, are approved by the Vice-Rector for Research and Creative Work by ordinance, while the content of the other topics for concert programmes/performances etc. is approved by the Vice-Rector for Academic Work.

The Professional Master's degree is awarded by the JVLAM State Examination Commission (hereinafter - SEC), which consists of the Chairman of the Commission and at least four members of the Commission. The Rector shall approve the SEC by an ordinance for each academic year in accordance with the Rules approved by the JVLAM Senate. The Chairman of SEC and at least half of its members shall be professional employers or representatives of the sector. The decision to award a professional degree is taken by the SEC on the basis of the DE Committee's records in the state examination protocols and the information provided in the study records. The SEC shall take a decision on the award of the professional degree and the Professional Master's diploma if the student who has completed the study programme has obtained a grade of at least 4 (almost average) in all the state examinations provided for in the study programme.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The tasks and requirements for studying the Professional Master's study programme courses are varied and differ from one course of study to another and from one specialisation to another. The methods of implementation of the study process, methods of competence assessment, types and requirements are specified in the description of each study course. Master's students learn the content of the study through contact hours and independent work. Contact hours are organized through sessions of flows and groups and individual sessions. According to the study course description, lecturers structure flow and group classes in the form of lectures, seminars, colloquia, and individual classes in the form of practical work. Respecting the desire of the students of the Professional Master's programme to engage in artistic or pedagogical practice during their studies and integrate into the future working environment, as well as analysing the work planning of cultural institutions and cultural education institutions, the JVLAM implements the study process according to the best practice of student-centered education - it uses different approaches to programme learning, individualizes the content of study courses and methods of course learning, adapts learning paths, regularly evaluates and improves teaching methods and methods, as well as prioritizes student autonomy, while providing lecturers with support in the study process in the form of counselling.

The implementation of the study programme is ensured by several academic units

(departments/classes), with each unit following international best practice principles. The methods of course implementation are chosen in such a way as to facilitate the development of transferable skills in the study process. Student-centered work at JVLAM is related to the choice of docents organized for students at the very beginning of the study process, respecting the students' wishes for maximum quality education. The units involved in the implementation of the study process take into account the principles of student-centered education in both individual and group classes - taking into account the different needs of students, an individual approach is applied to each student according to the existing possibilities, depending on the individual's skills, abilities and preferences. The lesson plan is regularly reviewed and adapted to the students' needs, skills and level, using a communicative approach to programme selection and learning. Equal attention is paid to working together in class and working independently. The number of students in specialisation groups is planned as far as possible to allow for maximum individualization in the lectures. Students' autonomy is promoted through a mutually respectful student-staff relationship, with guidance and support from the teaching staff.

Individual study courses always take into account each student's previous experience and knowledge, allowing for a variety of teaching methods. Students themselves are actively involved in the study process. Students receive regular feedback, which, if necessary, provides guidance on the learning process. For example, the lecturers of the Department of Concert Masters, who work with more than 80% of the students of the programme, do not directly participate in the evaluation of the student, but regularly evaluate, discuss and analyze the performance together with the student in individual conversations after tests, concerts, competitions, etc. This individual, personal communication, conversation - the concertmaster's thoughts and opinion (on the result of the work - evaluation of the performance, comments, suggestions) is very important for the student.

For working students, their workload is taken into account as far as possible, and individual lessons and consultations are arranged at times that are convenient for them. In group classes, the principles of student-centered learning guide the application of content to specific students, choosing the most appropriate learning pathways. In general, all departments work on the principle that only a deep individualized immersion in the student's interests, aptitudes, creative aspirations and actual abilities can support the development of the creative personality of the future professional.

A few selected examples of the study methods used in the implementation of the Master's study programme in the sub-programmes of *Music* and *Choreography*, which contribute to the achievement of the study programme's aim and learning outcomes, are presented:

The study course *Piano Play* of the Department of Piano successfully provides a creative approach to the development of technique and hearing, depending on the individuality of the student. It emphasizes in-depth study and understanding of musical texts, the development of physical and mental freedom, and the development of listening and creative initiative. Concert activities are given greater attention. The inclusion of contemporary works in the repertoire is a must. The students' horizons are broadened by the development of historical, literary and philosophical thought, as well as by the theory of interpretation, which allows them to become aware of the strengths and areas for improvement of their game.

In the Master's degree course *Dance Composition* of the Department of Choreography, students develop their skills as choreographers, both by practicing traditional methods of choreographic work and by learning and practicing innovative methods of choreographic creation, with an emphasis on the development of creativity. The Master's study courses *Dance Art Styles and Interpretation*, *Dance Theory*, *Innovations in Dance Research* improve the young choreographer's knowledge of dance theory, dance analysis, the possibilities of using choreographic means of

artistic expression, choreographic working methods, dance research methods.

By adding English as a language of implementation to the study programme, it is planned to use the methods of study course delivery that have been used and approved in the study process so far, and which allow for successful achievement of the study outcomes. The docents' experience in working with students, based on the principles of student-centered education, adapting the study content to the individual needs of students, will enable them to successfully provide studies also for foreign students. This is also demonstrated out by our successful experience with incoming exchange students.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The main principle of high-quality acquisition of the study programme content is the unity of study and practice. The organisation of internship work is determined by the *Regulations on the Organization of Internship Work in Art Study Programmes of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music* (attached as an appendix to the self-assessment report). The Regulations regulate the procedure for students of second-level professional higher education programmes of the JVLAM to acquire practical skills.

The main types of internships within the study programme are:

- professional specialisation internship, including artistic and creative internship (see the study plan for the names of the internships corresponding to the specialisations);
- assistantship.

The division of the study placement into individual placement units (study courses) has been developed taking into account the needs of each specialisation. For Master's students, the study plan includes internships such as the *Assistantship* and *Masterclass*, as well as specialisation-specific internships. For example, the internship part of the *Music* sub-programme for the *Instrumental Music* specialisation - *Wind Instrument / Percussion Instrument Practice* includes the *Concert Practice* and *Orchestra Practice* courses; for the *Vocal Music* specialisation - *Early Music Profile - Early Music Singing / Performance Project / Concert Practice* and *Early Music Ensemble*; for the sub-programme *Choreography* - *Dance Composition, Ballet Pedagogy Composition and Practice* and *Contemporary Dance*; for the specialisation *Music and Education* for the profile *Music Teaching - Teaching Lessons, Working with Choir/Ensemble, Systems of Musical Hearing Development and Training and Developmental Aspects of Music Perception*.

The amount of internship in credits, as well as their distribution by semesters according to each specialisation, is specified in the study plan. The content of the internship, as well as the criteria and forms of assessment of competence, are specified in the course descriptions attached as an annex to the self-assessment report, as well as in the internship work programmes developed in accordance with the course descriptions. The heads of the departments in charge of the

implementation of the study course are responsible for the organisation and proceedings of internship work. The respective heads of departments and / or the tutors of the study course assist the postgraduate students in finding and selecting the internship opportunities. Opportunities to participate in masterclasses and internships abroad are also provided to the students – this process is governed by the Foreign Affairs Department of the JVLAM. Internships can be carried out at the JVLAM or outside the JVLAM - at other cultural institutions or educational institutions with which agreements have been concluded for the implementation of the internship.

The assistantship continues the development of students' pedagogical skills begun at the Bachelor's level. If Bachelor's students study methodology and carry out pedagogical internship in schools in order to obtain the right to teach, then Master's students study the *Didactics of Music Universities* in the theoretical part of the programme and apply the theoretical knowledge acquired in the practical part in assistantship with Bachelor's students according to the course descriptions and the assistantship work programme developed by the practice supervisor for each Master's student for the respective semester. The assistantship is mainly implemented at the JVLAM. The assistantship allows to involve Master's students in the study process and helps to prepare the future JVLAM teaching staff.

Artistic and creative internship is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the course description. The responsible department draws up an artistic and creative practice plan as part of the department's work plan. The specific dates of the internship plan shall be coordinated by the head of department with:

- 1) the Creative Projects Unit of the JVLAM, if the internship takes place at the JVLAM. The Creative Projects Unit registers the planned internship events in the Concert Register Book, advertises the internship events, receives and distributes the programme of the internship event from the head of department and organizes the event. Programmes and other promotional materials are stored in the Creative Projects Unit of the JVLAM and, in accordance with the requirements of the JVLAM Case Nomenclature, are deposited in the archives of the University;
- 2) cultural or educational institutions, if the internship takes place outside the JVLAM. Such a creative practice is organised by the head of the department in collaboration with the person in charge of the institution. The information and promotional materials of the practice are handed over by the Head of the Creative Projects Unit, which keeps records of the practice. The results of creative practice work are discussed and evaluated in the meetings of the relevant department. The responsible lecturer shall record the results of the student's practice work (mark) in the student's report.

During the period under review, students of all specialisations were actively involved in artistic, creative and research activities, which resulted in laurels and other awards in various competitions, as well as other forms of public recognition. Heads of departments and the teaching staff agree that practices are the main driving force for performing artists, motivating students to master their course and practice to improve their practical performance, which is an important task of vocational studies. Thus, practice forms an essential and integral part of studies. Each practice concert stimulates an inner motivation to prepare a given programme in the quality of a public performance. Concert practice outside the Academy always gives more motivation to prepare, because the audience is a very important part of the performance. That's why lecturers try to organise student concerts in schools, churches, nursing homes, etc. For example, in the Department of Orchestral Conducting, professional orchestral conducting practice has been carried out in concerts and rehearsals with the brass band "Rīga", the Staff Orchestra of the National Armed Forces, string quartets and wind chamber ensembles of the JVLAM, symphony orchestra of the PIKC NMV EDMVS, Liepāja Symphony Orchestra and other ensembles.

The Department of Choreography operates according to the premise that the choreographer as a professional and dance as a discipline absolutely require a physical presence (choreographer — dancer(s)), because this is the only way to turn theoretical knowledge into practical skills. The practice of young choreographers is also implemented in creative projects, which are often organised in collaboration with students from other departments or other universities.

In many cases, practice takes the form of practice concerts, competitions and projects with bands. Master's practice concerts, competitions and festivals provide an opportunity for students to test the skills acquired during their studies in practice. Analysis of video recordings of performances facilitates critical and objective assessment of knowledge and skills. The practice gives the opportunity to prepare the student for the stage in depth, to support and encourage creative development, to help in the choice of repertoire, to work on the psychological factor that is only possible when actually performing on stage. For example, in the Vocal Department, vocational practice is undoubtedly one of the most important elements for successful completion of the study programme. Only by being on stage in a real concert with an audience, with concert costumes, with the preparation before the concert, it is possible to feel and understand what it means to be a professional singer. Any public performance promotes professional independence. It is also an invaluable opportunity to feel and understand one's own level of stress and how to cope with it. Also, the only way to gain full experience of working with colleagues and stage partners is through vocational practice.

A variety of practice opportunities encourages students to think independently. A student who has already started working in a music school as a teacher or concertmaster, or who starts working in a professional ensemble during their studies, is making visible progress in his or her professionalism with rapid growth of self-analysis skills, critical thinking, and reasoned judgement.

In the study courses provided by the Department of Choral Conducting, practice opportunities are invaluable and extremely necessary, so that the knowledge acquired in lectures and contact lessons can be *tested by* the student in real practice and the student can identify for himself which of the acquired knowledge is most useful, as well as to identify topics and fields where the knowledge should be supplemented. Without a real practice — both working and singing in a choir, as well as a pedagogical or assistant practice — it is impossible to fully master the study programme, as the student may encounter problems when entering the labour market. Every academic year these practice opportunities are sought and increasingly found by the head of the department, lecturers and the students themselves (here I should mention both the work with the training choir and the involvement of several students in other collectives outside the JVLAM). Practically all the students of the Department of Choral Conducting work in parallel with their studies as choir conductors and choirmasters in Latvian amateur choirs, comprehensive schools and music schools. There is also cooperation with the chamber choir AVE SOL and the Vidzeme Chamber Orchestra.

With the launch of the study programme in English, foreign students will also be provided with a study practice. Taking into account that professional specialisation practice, including artistic and creative practice, does not require specific language skills, the implementation of study practice for foreigners is planned to be carried out in the same way as for students of the JVLAM — both at the JVLAM and outside it in cooperation with cultural institutions. The heads of the specialisation departments and lecturers will also support foreign students in organising practice. Given that the incoming *Erasmus* foreign students have so far successfully participated in the practice part of the courses, no obstacles are perceived to successful achievement of the study results of these courses by the foreign students. As to the assistantship - foreign students, as well as master students from Latvia will be able to do it by assisting the teaching staff of the departments in providing the study courses implemented within the JVLAM bachelor's study programme in English in accordance with

the tasks of the practice.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

Completion of the study programme is concluded with a state examination — the final result of the student's competence assessment, obtained on the basis of the mark of completion of the study course content in the diploma examinations (DE) specified in the description of the study programme. It is the final stage of the study work, where the skills, theoretical knowledge and competences that meet the requirements of the study programme and are necessary for the successful performance of the tasks of the chosen specialisation profession are tested. The procedure for DE is determined by the head of the department of the relevant course of study. The content of the DE programme skills assessment is in line with the objectives and tasks set out in the description of the study programme and the final requirements set out in the course description. The DE programme/repertoire is drawn up together with the student by the course lecturer. The programme is agreed at a departmental meeting, and the content of the diploma examination is approved by the Vice-Rector for Academic Work.

Students' knowledge and skills are evaluated on a 10-point scale by a DE commission nominated by the state examination commission according to the criteria set out in the course description. In order to facilitate an impartial assessment of the knowledge, skills and competences presented in the examination, the DE commission, along with the teaching staff of the JVLAM, includes also leading specialists of the relevant area from Latvian and/or foreign institutions. During the period under review, the State Examination Commission, together with the teaching staff of the JVLAM, has included representatives of employers and professional organisations such as Atvars Lakstīgala (Conductor of performances and concerts at the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Principal Conductor at the Liepāja Symphony Orchestra), Artūrs Cingujevs (Director of Bolderāja School of Music and Art), Uldis Lipskis (Board Member of the Liepāja Symphony Orchestra), Timurs Tomsons (Chairman of the Board at the LLC (SIA “Lielais dzintars”), Kaspars Putniņš (Conductor of the Latvian Radio Choir, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir and the Swedish Radio Choir), Valdis Butāns (Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the brass band “Rīga”), Normunds Slava (Sound Engineer, Latvian Radio, record company “Skani”) and other representatives of professional organisations. During the period under review, the DE commissions included also representatives of music universities from other countries, such as Peeter Sarapuu (Head of the Department of Wind Instruments, Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, bassoonist at the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra), Rūta Lipinaitytė (Head of the String Instruments Department at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre), Arvo Leibur (Head of the String Instruments Department at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre), Mārtiņš Viļums (Lecturer

of Composition Unit at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, member of the Latvian Composers Union), Paulien Van Schaik (Head of Jazz Unit at the Tilburg Conservatory), Lembit Orgse (Head of Instrumental and Vocal Pedagogy Unit at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, Professor, Chairman of the Estonian Piano Teachers Association, Member of the Estonian Association of Professional Musicians), Aiste Bružaite (Head of Folk Instrument Unit at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, Assistant Professor of kankle playing) and others.

At the end of the DE, the commission shall decide on mark of the student's competence. Marks in competence of the master students during the period under review are very high, with the most frequent DE assessments in the vocational master study programme in the period under review being 9 (excellent) and 10 (outstanding), as evidenced by the DE Commission's records in the minutes of state examinations. Similarly, to the Bachelor's studies, the trend in the marks of final thesis of master's students is that the DE related to specialisation subjects and artistic skills received the highest marks. For example, during the period under review, the average mark for Master of *Composition* students in the *elaboration and defense of the Diploma Thesis* was 9.7 points, in *DE Instrumentation* — 9 points, and in the *elaboration and defense of the Diploma Thesis (diploma report)* — 8.8 points; during the period under review, Master of *Sound Engineering* students received an average mark 9.4 points in the *Diploma Examination in Sound Engineering* and 7.6 points in the *elaboration and defense of the Diploma Thesis*; during the period under review, Master of *Choreography* students received an average mark 9 points in the *elaboration and defense of the Diploma Thesis* and 8.6 points in the *elaboration and defense of the Diploma Thesis*.

When evaluating the results of the final examinations of the Master's students during the period under review, a very high professional level is noted, DE concert programmes and concert performances are diverse, the level of complexity of content corresponds to the Latvian and European Qualification Framework Level 7. Participation of professional organisations and foreign university staff in the final examination commissions shows that the high marks in competence of the Master's students are impartial and indicate the high competitiveness of the graduates of the study programme in the labour market. Overall, the marks of the final theses at vocational master's level were higher than those at bachelor's level during the period under review. This is due to the fact that the most capable and motivated graduates usually choose to continue their studies at a higher level, as well as to the successful achievement of the study programme's objective, where master students acquire in-depth and broadened knowledge, skills and competences related to music and performing arts.

The programme and content of the master students' artistic examinations are relevant and appropriate to each sub-programme, specialisation and profile of the study programme, with performances and productions covering a wide range of genres and eras, according to the interests of the master students and the specialisations of the study programme represented. For example, the diploma concert exam programme for the specialisation *Instrumental Music*, profile *Ancient Music*, includes works composed several centuries ago (e.g. by *Nicolas Matteis, ~1670 - ~1699/ Arias for violin. Book I (1676); Tunes for the Canary Bird from The Birds Fancier's Delight (1717), published by John Walsh, etc.*). Master students of other specialisations/profiles perform repertoire from various periods, including contemporary repertoire, and, inter alia, we can mention also examples where master students have included works by their fellow students in the concert exam programme, for example, in the academic year 2021/2022, a master student of the specialisation *Vocal Music* performed in the diploma concert exam programme of the specialisation *Composition* the chamber opera "*Contact*" by E. Machen, a master student of the specialisation *Composition*. The Diploma Examinations are a striking example of collaboration between master students of different specialisations. Students actively participate in the preparation and performance of DE of their own and those of students of other specialities, both, as performers, composers and sound engineers.

For a large part of the master students, a concert programme is prepared for DE, and its process is organised at the JVLAM or outside the academy. For example, in the academic year 2021/2022, DE of master students took place also take place at the Riga Dome, the Great Guild, the Small Guild, the VEF Culture Palace, the St. Gertrude New Church is a Lutheran church in Riga, Church of St. Magdalena, Ģertrūde Street Theatre, Riga History and Shipping Museum, etc.

According to the types of state examinations specified in the study plan and course descriptions for each specialisation, DE is also organised in other formats. For example, in the specialisation *Music and Education*, DE has been organised as a problem-oriented lecture, combined open lecture or lecture/discussion. These examinations also select topics relevant to the field of study, e.g., in the academic year 2021/2022, one of the topics of the DE lectures for master students was "*Performance Stress Management Techniques for Musicians*".

One of the vocational master's study programme DE in the state examination group is the elaboration and defense of a master's thesis. In accordance with the *JVLAM Methodological Guidelines for the Elaboration and Submission of Academic Theses*, the *Master's Thesis* demonstrates the master student's ability to creatively solve a problem relevant to the sub-discipline in question, reflects in-depth knowledge in the chosen field, includes elements of independent scientific research and reasoned conclusions. The State Examination Commission's marks granted to the theses show that master students are performing well in this field. Master's theses in the period under review generally received very high marks (e.g., in the academic year 2021/2022, 53% of the defended theses received 10 (excellent), 25% — 9 (excellent), 14% — 8 (very good), 4% — 7 (good) and 4% — 6 (almost good)).

In general, it can be concluded that the master students are interested in various — both historical and current — topics in their chosen speciality — biographies of professionals, analyses of the interpretation of compositions, compositional techniques, innovative teaching methods. In order to give you an insight into the most successful themes researched by master students, here are the themes of theses having received 'excellent' mark in the academic year 2021/2022: "*Baltic Sea Philharmonic Orchestra and its Role in the Professional Growth of Young Musicians*", "*Factors Influencing Phonetic Adaptation for Professional Singers After Dental Prosthetics*", "*Specific Features of Breathing Technique in the 19th Century Opera: Issues and Solutions in the Experience of the JVLAM Vocal Department*", "*Text Painting in Modest Mussorgsky's Vocal Cycle Songs and Dances of Death: the Composer's Intention and Some Performance Alternatives*", "*Orchestral Competition Repertoire for Violin in the Example Practice of Latvian Symphonic Music*", "*The Interplay of Poetry and Music in Robert Schumann's Cycle A Woman's Love and Life: a Performing Artist's Point of View*", "*Fernando Obradors' Canciones Clásicas Españolas (Collection 1): Music, Poetry and Interpretation*", "*The Role of Harmony in the Dramaturgy of John Adams's Harmonielehre*", "*Interpretations of Cadence of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Oboe Concerto No. 1*", "*Latvian Jazz Music Albums released by the Melodija Recording Studio*", "*Organ Music by Aivars Kalējs in the Context of His Life Story*", "*Two Versions of Luciano Berio's Sequenza for Solo Flute I*", "*Curvature of Spine and Its Impact on Posture and Singing*", "*Cellist and Pedagogue Ligita Zemberga: Guidelines for Creative Activity*", "*Ģirts Pāže — Soloist, Chamber Musician and Pedagogue*".

Taking into account the specific characters of vocational studies in the Music and Performing Arts group of educational programmes, it should be noted that successful achievement of study results is evidenced not only by the marks of final theses and their relevance in the field, but also by the achievements of students' artistic creativity during the studies. During the reporting period, the students of the JVLAM have achieved remarkable success both in Latvia and internationally. During their studies, several JVLAM students have already received the *Great Music Award*, which is the highest annual Latvian state award in music. JVLAM students have also received numerous awards

in international competitions during the reporting period. For more information and specific examples of student achievements, see the description of Criterion 2.4.5 of the study field characteristics.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The available resources of the JVLAM are used for the implementation of the study programme, as described in Criteria 2.3.1-2.3.3 of the description of the study field in the self-evaluation report. The provision meets the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and contributes to the achievement of the study results.

As the study programme deepens and extends the knowledge, skills and competences acquired at the level of vocational bachelor studies, the same study and informational base, as well as the material and technical base used for the implementation of the vocational bachelor study programme *Music and Performing Arts* are used for the implementation of the study programme: classrooms equipped with musical instruments, audio and video playback facilities, informational resources, sports complex, student and lecturer lounge, canteen, cloakroom, etc.

Compared to studies at the bachelor's level, the vocational master's level of studies pays more attention to the development of research skills, and therefore makes greater use of information resources in the study programme acquisition process. The JVLAM library provides students with access to the main electronic databases that support students in their research work (elaboration of master's thesis) — *Science Direct, Oxford Music Online, Letonika.lv, Naxos Music Library, Naxos Music Library Jazz, JSTOR, SCOPUS and Web of Science*, open access resources and databases created by the JVLAM library are also used.

The resources available at the JVLAM Library are sufficient to implement the study programme both in Latvian, and in English language. Access is provided for foreign students during their study process to numerous subscribed databases, musical scores and publications (1853 English titles, 2184 items), ensuring the availability of information required for successful studies.

The technical and material base is regularly upgraded and renewed. During the period under review, the demand for high-quality and modern technology-compatible material and technical base for the quality implementation of study courses increased significantly during the distance learning sessions, which was improved as far as possible.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

Financial year of the academy corresponds to the calendar year, therefore the budget processes and its development take place in autumn, when the JVLAM unit of the unit JVLAM plans and budgets activities for the following financial year. The main source of income for the study process is the funding of state budget for studies. In addition to the state budget, the study programme is also supported by project funding from the European Structural Funds and mobility programmes.

It is planned to implement the study programme as funded by the state budget; however, it is planned to offer studies for a fee to those applicants that have not passed the competition for studies in the state budget group. For these applicants individual cost estimates will be prepared that fully covers the costs of the studies. The average number of students funding their studies from personal means is available in section 3.1.4 of the report. By adding English language as a second language of implementation of this study programme, it is intended to attract foreign students who will study for a fee, covering the costs of their studies according to prepared individual cost estimates.

The optimal financing of the study programme is calculated, based on the historical average total number of students in the programme, i.e. 85 full time students per year. The calculation accounts for individual costs of each student (individual contact lessons, costs of accompanists, administrative costs, etc.), as well as the costs of student groups. The programme was developed with the aim to make financially viable studies in select specializations (rare musical instruments, highly specialized performance styles, etc.) even with one student per specialization, however, since in the field of performing arts the number of individual lessons available to each student are of paramount importance, the grouping of 85 full-time students and the subsequent reduction of costs permit flexible allocation of funding in collaboration with the specialized departments and the student union per each consecutive academic year, with the aim of improving the quality of studies, following the examples of foreign HEIs and the principles of student-centred learning.

85 students are planned per programme in all semesters (years) in total and in Latvian / English language groups, that is – for example, on September 1 of the academic year 2024/2025 there would be 85 students in total. The optimum financing for the study programme is calculated for the average of 85 state budget study places per year for studies in Latvian, with part of the study content implemented in English language. In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, Paragraph 56 (3): “(3) The study programmes of higher education institutions and colleges shall be implemented in the official language. In a study programme which is implemented in the official language, not more than one-fifth of the credit point amount of the study programme may be implemented in other official languages of the European Union [...]” Since the contribution

from internationally recognized academic staff members is very important in respective study programme, the calculations take into account the additional costs that may potentially be created by the management of individual and group study courses in English language (that is, the students that undertake courses in English in frames of the Law of the Higher Education Institutions). The calculations also take into account various additional resources (books, periodicals, etc.) that are required to implement such study courses, as well as the equipment and material resources that may be required to ensure successful mobility of students in frames of Erasmus+ programme.

The financial calculations of the study programme are made by multiplying the base funding by the coefficient of the thematic field of education and the coefficient of the study programme level specified in the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 994 (12.12.2006) "Procedures for Financing Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges from the Funds of the State Budget".

Base funding	Thematic field coef.	Programme level coef.	Funding per student
EUR 1,630.11	3.9	1.5	EUR 8,802.59

Due to the high proportion of individual contact hours in the study programme, typical for the field of studies, proportions of distribution of the funding recommended in the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers for academic work, general staff costs and maintenance costs have been redistributed by increasing the proportion of funding for academic work to 60% (EUR 5,281.56), by allocating 25% (EUR 2,200.65) for general staff costs instead of 34% and retaining the recommended proportion for the programme maintenance costs of 15% (EUR 1,320.39).

Within the framework of the study programme, costs in various specialisations per student are calculated with the weighted average rate of payment for academic position, annually from the viewpoint of costs, as well as from the viewpoint of quality of studies, by assessing the proportion of lecturer positions providing study courses against the proportion recommended by experts in the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers:

Academic position:	Average number of positions per programme:	Recommended ratio of positions (the Cabinet):	Ratio of JVLAM:	Monthly salary rate:	Costs (EUR):
Professor	15	15%	13%	1,800.00	27,000
Emeritus Professor	9		8%	1,800.00	16,200
Associated Professor	20	15%	17%	1,440.00	28,800
Assistant Professor	42	30%	36%	1,155.00	48,510
Lecturer	25	25%	21%	925.00	23,125
Assistant	6	15%	5%	735.00	4,410
Weighted average rate:					1,265.00

Costs of study plans for different specialisations within a study programme vary due to the different additional resources required (concertmaster services, maintenance costs of academic collectives

providing study practice, specific character of technologies and methodological materials). Costs of the study specialisations are calculated separately for each specialisation, with support staff being funded at the rate of the costs for academic work and material-specific funding at the rate of maintenance costs. Expenses related to payments to the academic staff of the study programme take into account the occupancy rate of the groups according to the expected number of students for each specialisation. As the proportion of individual contact hours of the study programme is high and was initially taken into account in the cost calculations of the study programme, the cost-effectiveness of the study programme remains high even in the event of a 50% or higher decrease in the number of students.

The funding allocated for maintenance costs is apportioned taking into account the use of the wide range of equipment (instrumentation, etc.) and facilities (sound consoles, acoustic equipment, etc.) specific to the field of studies. The maintenance costs in proportion to the subsidy per student are as follows:

Payment for services:	33%
Materials, energy, water and inventory:	27%
Purchase of books and magazines:	10%
Cost of purchase and upgrade of equipment	26%
Sports and health:	1%
Business trips and official travel costs:	3%

Taking into account good international practices in the respective field of studies, the JVLAM has calculated the costs of study programmes according to the respective base funding and the coefficient of the respective field in such a way that the study process is viable with one student in the respective profile, specialization or subprogramme. This is related to the high number of unique specializations and profiles (rare orchestra instruments, specific early music instruments, etc.), the education for which in Latvia is only provided by the JVLAM. The optimization of study costs with the current available funding was one of the main factors taken into account whilst revising the master's study programme structure and study plan in the reporting period. As a result of this process, the compatibility of subprogrammes and specializations was improved, enabling the introduction of several group courses for students of different subprogrammes and thereby reducing the fragmentation of the programme, as well as addressing the insufficient number of students per a number of subprogrammes and specializations.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the

learning outcomes.

Qualifications of the lecturers involved in the implementation of the study programme and each sub-programme meet the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of the regulatory enactments, ensure the achievement of the objectives and study results of the study programme and the relevant corresponding study courses. Each study programme sub-programme, specialisation and profile has lecturers with relevant education and professional experience as responsible teaching staff. In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, academic staff carries out artistic creativity, scientific research and participates in the education of students. Election of academic staff to academic positions at the JVLAM shall be carried out in accordance with the regulatory enactments. For the election of academic staff, there are common criteria to be assessed, the most important of which are international success in music professional artistic activity.

In order to provide the opportunity to acquire practical skills and knowledge relevant to the specialisation, guest lecturers are also invited to work in the departments for the implementation of the study programmes. The JVLAM uses various opportunities to attract internationally renowned specialists. Attracting guest lecturers on the basis of artistic and professional performance enhances favourable competition, promotes diversity in study methods, and ensures innovation in study content. Structure of the staff of the JVLAM is based on the tasks of the JVLAM and may vary by specialisation. In accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions, taking into account the need to acquire practical skills and knowledge, the work of experienced practitioners who have sufficient practical work experience relevant to the subject to be taught, but who do not hold a doctoral degree, is also used in the profile subjects of the vocational study programme.

The level of Latvian language skills of the academic staff of the study programme complies with the conditions required for the implementation of the study programme. Latvian language is the primary language for the majority of the academic staff members. Foreign tutors are invited on regular basis by the JVLAM to teach selected study courses and / or their sections, thereby providing a part of the study content in English, in accordance with the Law on Higher Education Institutions. Whilst preparing to add the English language to the list of programme implementation languages, the English language skills of the involved academic staff members were evaluated, reaching the conclusion that in all departments a sufficient number of academic staff members have English language skills of the required level (B2 and higher), permitting the implementation of the programme in English. Taking into account that the implementation of the programme in English language could begin in 2024/2025 at the soonest, the JVLAM plans to appoint academic staff members with sufficient language skills to the study courses in English language, to provide systematic language training to the tutors with currently insufficient language skills, as well as to attract new academic staff members for the purpose of teaching the study courses in English language, simultaneously facilitating the internationalization processes of the JVLAM.

The departments and classes established for the performance of study, scientific, creative, artistic, methodological and practice work, representing certain sub-programmes/specialisations or profiles, are headed by the JVLAM staff with appropriate academic and/or professional experience. Heads of departments and classes together with heads of units (study programme directors) assess the content relevant to the specialisation and bring together the most appropriate teaching staff in the departments to provide it — both those elected to academic positions at the JVLAM and guest lecturers. As the specialisations of the vocational master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* of the field of *Art* deepen and extend the knowledge, skills and competences acquired in the

vocational bachelor's study programmes of the JVLAM, implementation of the study programme is mostly carried out by the same departments and classes as the implementation of the vocational bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*. In accordance with the objective and the achievable results of the master's study programme, implementation of the study programme courses is carried out by lecturers with appropriate qualifications elected by the departments and invited lecturers.

Taking into account the wide number of specialisations represented in the vocational master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* and the diversity of knowledge and skills required by the students, approximately 110 members of teaching staff are involved in the implementation of the study programme, including both staff elected to academic positions at the JVLAM and external lecturers (see information in the Annex to the self-evaluation report). At the time of submitting the self-evaluation report, 73 teaching staff members that are elected to JVLAM academic positions, and 28 teaching staff members with a PhD are involved in the implementation of the study programme. These lecturers are also involved in the implementation of the vocational bachelor's study programme. This allows to successfully ensure continuity of knowledge in study courses without duplication of study content, but to deepen and broaden the knowledge, skills and competences acquired at the previous educational level, as well as in vocational experience, in accordance with the objective of the study programme. In accordance with the principles of student-centred education at the JVLAM, students of the Master's programme, upon commencement of studies, choose the lecturers under whose guidance to acquire the specialisation courses. In many cases, students who continue their studies under the master's programme after graduating from the JVLAM bachelor's studies, choose to continue their studies with their previous lecturer of specialisation. This reflects a successfully established cooperation and assessment of the work of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme. Master students also have the option to choose a different lecturer if they wish to develop their skills under the guidance of another lecturer during their master's studies. For more information and examples of the qualifications of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme, please refer to the description of the Vocational Bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* in the Self-evaluation Report, criterion 3.4.1.

Taking into account that this is a vocational master's study programme in the thematic field *Arts*, group of educational programmes *Music and Performing Arts*, when assessing the qualifications of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme, their professional experience and achievements of the lecturers, including artistic activities that are actively carried out every year, are of particular importance. The active involvement of the teaching staff in both Latvian and international music and choreography events also ensures the integration of current events in the field into the study process. Information on the involvement of teaching staff in artistic creativity at both national and international level during the period under review is summarised in the annexes to the self-evaluation report.

The creative activity and artistic activities of the lecturers make a significant contribution to the study process, especially considering that the lecturers often involve their students in these activities, creating opportunities for students to actively participate in diverse musical events both inside and outside the JVLAM during their studies. The active artistic activity of the lecturers of the departments of the Performing Arts Unit gives students the opportunity to gain concert experience, participate in various competitions, festivals and masterclasses. The lecturers of the Musicology, Composition and Technology Units also offer practice opportunities to the master students of their respective specialisations, which are provided by their personal professional activity, for example, lecturers of the Music Technology Department invite students to passive and active sound practice in case of a concert in Latvia or abroad. The active connection of the lecturers of the Department of

Composition with the Latvian and international market provides students with information about the latest trends and opportunities in the field of composition, as the lecturers are in close contact with composition students. This advantage of the JVLAM students was also highlighted by international *MusiQuE* experts in their assessment opinion. The active artistic activity and involvement of lecturers in the current developments of their specialisation, involving also students, contribute to the achievement of the study programme results related to the ability to *independently use theory, various methods and skills to perform artistic activity and highly qualified professional functions related to music and performing arts*, as well as to *implement innovations in the field of music or choreography of their specialisation, to perform professional work related to music and performing arts*. In addition to professional skills, the vocational master's programme results also include results related to the development of skills and competences in research. This is facilitated by the study courses *Artistic Research Methods, Elaboration of Diploma Thesis*, as well as the assignments included in the content of other study courses. For the development of research-related skills and competences in the implementation of study courses, the vocational master's study programme involves highly qualified lecturers from the Department of Musicology holding doctoral degrees, such as Professor Guntars Prānis, Professor Anda Beitāne, Professor Valdis Bernhofs, etc. (see also criterion 3.4.1 of the characteristics of the academic master's study programme *Music* for more details on the qualifications of lecturers).

The high qualification of the JVLAM lecturers clearly contributes significantly to the achievement of the study programme results. In the *MusiQuE* international expert evaluation conducted during the period under review, the experts have pointed out that both the programme's teaching staff and students are important participants in the Latvian music scene, as well as in the creation of new Latvian music repertoire, making a significant contribution to the development of national culture. This demonstrates the essential role of the qualifications and artistic activity of the teaching staff and the successful connection with the study process at the JVLAM.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

Taking into account the fact that implementation of the vocational master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* and vocational bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* (approximately half of the lecturers involved in the bachelor's programme) is related to the same teaching staff, see criterion 3.4.2 of the characteristics of the vocational bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* for more details on the changes in the composition of the teaching staff during the period under review.

Composition of the teaching staff in the study programme is based on an analysis of the academic staff policies of the top-ranked music and performing arts higher education institutions, as well as taking into account the social and economic specific characters typical for Latvia and the Baltic region. Completion of the JVLAM is ensured by the highest-ranking academic staff consisting of a core — professors and associate professors, as well as qualified teaching staff (docents) and a reserve for academic renewal — guest lecturers.

The composition of the study programme is based on the JVLAM's tasks and thus varies between specialisations. In order to ensure that the content of the programme can be continuously adapted to the latest labour market requirements, a flexible recruitment policy has been promoted at the JVLAM during the period. In addition to the work of elected professors, associate professors and

assistant professors, guest lecturers from various fields — both Latvian and foreign specialists — have been attracted to teach specialised study courses, creating favourable conditions for competition and promoting diversity of study methods, as well as offering innovations in study content. In order to ensure the cost-effectiveness of the programme and to motivate the elected teaching staff to hold the core position at the academy, a decision has been taken to consolidate the workloads in 2021 by reducing the number of guest lecturers and to focus more on broadening the professional competences of the elected teaching staff.

When assessing the changes in the composition of the teaching staff in the period under review, it is worth mentioning the structural changes in the master's study programme in 2016, when the previously separately implemented study programmes *Music* and *Choreography* were merged into the vocational master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*, resulting in the merger of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of both study programmes and the expansion of the overall composition of the study programme's teaching staff. Since the study programme provides education in a wide range of narrow specialisations (e.g., playing certain instruments, vocal education in certain voice groups, specific fields of dance, etc.), a great deal of attention has been paid to improve the qualifications and professional skills of the existing JVLAM teaching staff.

During the period under review, both new lecturers and lecturers who have already proved themselves as guest lecturers with a highly professional and creative approach at the JVLAM were elected to academic positions. During the period under review, the programme managed to successfully balance tradition and innovation, maintaining working relations with respected professionals in the field as Emeritus Professors (e.g., cello specialist Agne Sprūdža, flute specialist Imants Sneibis, conductor Imants Resnis, music historian, ethnomusicologist Boriss Avramecs), at the same time attracting young artists who have recently gained international recognition and higher education diplomas from world-leading music and performing arts universities to work in the study programme. For example, in the academic year 2021/2022, a successful collaboration was commenced with composer Kristis Auznieks, who holds a Bachelor's Degree from the Royal Conservatory in The Hague (The Netherlands), Master's and Doctoral Degree from Yale University (USA), where he also received awards for the best Doctoral Dissertation, best large-scale work and best use of counterpoint. K. Auznieks has taught at Yale University, Montclair State University, the New York Philharmonic Young Composers Program and the Sitka Arts Summer Program in Alaska, and has guest lectured at the *Manhattan School of Music*, Florida State University, State University of New York at Stony Brook and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The composer has received numerous international awards. The opportunity to attract highly qualified lecturers is positively perceived by both colleagues and students, who are very interested and motivated to attend the lectures of the attracted lecturers.

To ensure the diversity of the study content in the various specialisations of the study programme, lecturers on course basis and temporary lecturers from other artistic institutions (including LNSO, LNOB, Latvian Radio, etc.) have been hired. Since short-term forms of academic work (masterclasses, workshops, intensive projects, etc.) are very important for the specific character of music and performing arts study programmes in international practice, in the last decade, the content of the study courses implemented by the programme lecturers has been actively supplemented and enriched by various short-term activities (guest professors' master classes, seminars, lectures), short-term student and lecturer exchanges, various intensive events (concerts, competitions, festivals, conferences, individual research). During the period under review, the study programme has been open to international cooperation on a global scale and closely integrated into the European music education system to be able to promote exchange of students and teachers and ensure high quality in music and performing arts education. Student and lecturer exchanges have mainly taken place within the ERASMUS+ and NORDPLUS programmes, and lecturers have

also been hired through the US *Fulbright* programme.

Overall, changes in the composition of the teaching staff during the period under review have had a positive impact on the quality of studies. Staff elected to academic positions has taken advantage of various opportunities to upgrade their qualifications, including the opportunity to be elected to higher academic positions. Guest lecturers from various fields — both Latvian and foreign specialists — are attracted to teach specialised study courses, as well as for short-term academic and artistic activities, creating conditions of favourable competition and promoting diversity of study methods, as well as offering innovations in study content.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

Not applicable.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

As the study programme has several sub-programmes, specialisations and profiles, the number of teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme is large, but it should be noted that the study programme involves core lecturers — mainly lecturers elected to academic positions at the JVLAM — who teach many study courses, as well as guest lecturers who are

specialists in their field and provide implementation of individual narrow specialisation study courses. At the time of submission of the self-evaluation report, the faculty-student ratio in the vocational master's programme is 1.26 teaching staff per student.

Taking into account the fact that implementation of the vocational master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* and vocational bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* (approximately half of the lecturers involved in the bachelor's programme) is related to the same teaching staff, see criterion 3.4.5 of the characteristics of the vocational bachelor's study programme *Music and Performing Arts* for more details on the cooperation of the teaching staff.

For the successful implementation of the study programme, the departments and their substructures-classes, which represent a specific sub-programme/specialisation or profile and bring together the academic staff, guest lecturers and students involved in the implementation of the study courses within the competence of the department, play an important role in ensuring successful study process and cooperation of the teaching staff. Departments are managed by heads of departments, who cooperate with heads of units (study programme directors) and the vice-rector for academic work to ensure the study process. The main task of the departments is to develop the content of the study courses relevant to the objectives and scope of the academy, to ensure quality implementation of the content and to control the development of the study courses within its competence. All the units of the JVLAM - the Performing Arts Unit, the Musicology, Composition and Technology Unit, as well as the Art Pedagogy Unit - are involved in the implementation of the study process of the vocational master's study programme *Music and Performing Arts*.

Cooperation between the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme takes place at several levels - within departments, between different departments and beyond the ensuring of study courses. At all these levels, cooperation of the JVLAM teaching staff should be assessed as successful.

In order to organise the work of the departments and ensure cooperation of the teaching staff, heads of the departments organise regular departmental meetings, during which the content of studies, the process, opportunities for cooperation, etc. are discussed. Issues related to the study programme are discussed not only at departmental sittings, but also at other formal and informal meetings. Lecturers collaborate both in creative activities and in updating the content of the study programme, taking into account the need to ensure mutual connection of study courses. Cooperation among lecturers in many departments within the framework of the department should be characterised as professional, open and productive.

Interdepartmental cooperation between the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme is also an important aspect, which should also be assessed as positive. Interdepartmental cooperation between the staff of the JVLAM takes place both formally, e.g. regular meetings of the heads of departments organised by the Vice-Rector of Academic Work of the JVLAM, as well as by inviting other participants to the meetings of the heads of departments, such as the Rector of the University, representatives of the Council, the head of the study direction, heads of units and heads of other structural units to ensure the most effective information flow and opportunities for cooperation. Cooperation of teaching staff also takes place through participation in various collegial institutions (e.g., the JVLAM Senate, the Constitutional Assembly), implementation of study courses, joint artistic projects, as well as informally.

In order to ensure that the study courses included in the study programme achieve the study programme results as successfully as possible, cooperation between lecturers also takes place within the study courses, dividing the study course topics according to the lecturers' competences. For example, the study course *Style and Interpretation* included in the curriculum of the vocational

master's study programme is taught by 5 lecturers: Guntars Prānis, Professor of Musicology Department, Andris Vecumnieks, Professor of Composition Department, Māris Kupčs, Associate Professor of Early Music Department, Baiba Kurpniece, Lecturer of Musicology Department, and Kristis Auznieks, guest lecturer of Composition Department, thus, collaboration of the lecturers provides the masters students with in-depth knowledge in various aspects of musical style and interpretation according to the specialisation of each lecturer.

There is regular cooperation between the teaching staff of different departments of the JVLAM both in the study process and in artistic activity. There are also many examples of successful interdepartmental cooperation outside the direct process of course delivery, for example in the creation of joint concerts, masterclasses and other projects. Regular joint public departmental concerts, preparation of students for festival and competition selections, etc. also contribute to the cooperation between teaching staff. It should be noted that interdepartmental cooperation is manifested not only in the cooperation of teaching staff, but also in the cooperation of students facilitated by lecturers in the study process. Teachers from different departments and classes also work together on the final examination assessment boards. In addition, several JVLAM teaching staff are actively involved in the work of more than one department.

Mutual cooperation between the JVLAM teaching staff takes place not only in formal meetings, evaluating the study process, making joint plans, discussing methodological and creative issues, but also in concerts, exams, when evaluating students' performance and exchanging ideas, as well as outside the academy - in concert halls, radio studio, in expert commissions, juries and elsewhere, because the JVLAM teaching staff are very active members of various professional organisations and unions, as well as artistic collectives, creative personalities and high-level experts who regularly participate at both Latvian and international music and performing arts events.

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3_1_2_PMSP_Diploma_samples.zip	3_1_2_PMSP_diplomu_paraugi.zip
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)		
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	3_1_4_PMSP_Students_statistics_.pdf	3_1_4_PMSP_Studenti_statistika_.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	3_2_1_a_PMSP_Compliance_state_stand_MK512_.pdf	3_2_1_a_PMSP_Atbalstiba_valsts_izgl_stand_MK512_.pdf
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	3_2_1_b_PMSP_Mapping_LO_.xlsx	3_2_1_b_PMSP_Kartejums_studiju_rezultati_.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	3_2_1_c_PMSP_Music and Performing Art_Curriculum_.xlsx	3_2_1_c_PMSP_Muzika un skatuves maksla_PLANS_.xlsx
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3_2_1_d_PMSP_course_descriptions_.zip	3_2_1_d_PMSP_studiju_kursu_apraksti_.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	3_2_4_Organisation_of_internship.pdf	3_2_4_Prakses_organizācijas_apraksts.pdf
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		

Arts (51211)

Study field	Arts
ProcedureStudyProgram.Name	Arts
Education classification code	51211
Type of the study programme	Doctoral study programme
Name of the study programme director	Diāna
Surname of the study programme director	Zandberga
E-mail of the study programme director	diana.zandberga@jvlma.lv
Title of the study programme director	Dr. art. (PhD)
Phone of the study programme director	+37126204457
Goal of the study programme	<i>The strategic objective of the study programme is to organise professional studies meeting cultural, public and societal needs, based in artistic creativity and science, as well as applicable in artistic practice, as a result of which skills of creating highly valuable art works based on scientific research are acquired and practical skills in the implementation of unique artistic ideas are developed.</i>
Tasks of the study programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. to provide in-depth theoretical knowledge about contemporary arts, including music and performing arts, visual arts and design, audiovisual arts, theatre and contemporary dance, development trends of their theoretical concepts, interdisciplinary interaction, unity and interaction between artistic and research practice and research-based practice models and methods;</i> <i>2. to acquire skills to independently assess and choose methods suitable for artistic innovation research and to apply the acquired knowledge, by implementing artistic projects of high artistic value, by implementing large-scale original projects, contributing directly to the expansion of knowledge or offering new understanding of existing knowledge;</i> <i>3. to gain the ability to effectively communicate about one's professional artistic and research-based artistic activity with narrow circles of specialists and with broader public;</i> <i>4. in carrying out independent, critical analysis, synthesis and assessment, to gain the ability to resolve relevant issues of the highest level of complexity relating to the area of one's artistic activity and its development;</i> <i>5. to gain the ability to plan, structure and lead projects of artistic innovation of a large scale, including international level.</i>

Results of the study programme	<p><i>Upon completion of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study programme in Arts "Art", the doctoral student:</i></p> <p><i>1) Is able to prove that they know and understand the most relevant scientific theories and concepts, are proficient in research methodology and contemporary research methods in the relevant sector of art or culture or in the professional sector and at the intersection between various spheres.</i></p> <p><i>2) Can independently assess and choose methods adequate for artistic innovation, including research-based innovation, has contributed to expanding the boundaries of knowledge or has attributed new understanding to existing knowledge and their application in practice, by performing creative artistic work, or a large-scale original research, a part of which is done at the level of internationally cited publications.</i></p> <p><i>3) Can communicate both verbally and in writing regarding their respective area of artistic activity with broader professional circles and with society on the whole.</i></p> <p><i>4) Can independently apply professional knowledge in pedagogical, didactic and methodical work at the level of higher education.</i></p> <p><i>5) Can independently improve their professional qualification, implement research-based innovation projects, by reaching achievements meeting international criteria of the specific field, manage research-based innovation or development tasks in companies, establishments and organisations, where vast research-based innovative knowledge and skills are required.</i></p> <p><i>6) Can independently enhance artistically high-value work creation skills and develop practical skills in the implementation of unique international level ideas and artistic creativity.</i></p> <p><i>7) Can, by performing independent critical analysis, synthesis and assessment, perform significant research-based innovation or artistic innovation tasks in areas of artistic activity, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creativity projects, including international projects.</i></p>
Final examination upon the completion of the study programme	<i>A state examination, which includes the development and defense of a doctoral theoretical research and an artistic creative work.</i>

Study programme forms

Full time studies - 3 years - latvian

Study type and form	Full time studies
Duration in full years	3
Duration in month	0

Language	<i>latvian</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>132</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Academic or professional master's degree in social sciences or humanities and arts or equivalent higher education and entrance examination for all applicants</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional doctoral degree in Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

Full time studies - 3 years - english

Study type and form	<i>Full time studies</i>
Duration in full years	<i>3</i>
Duration in month	<i>0</i>
Language	<i>english</i>
Amount (CP)	<i>132</i>
Admission requirements (in English)	<i>Academic or professional master's degree in social sciences or humanities and arts or equivalent higher education and entrance examination for all applicants (for implementation in English language additionally: English language proficiency, at least level B2)</i>
Degree to be acquired or professional qualification, or degree to be acquired and professional qualification (in english)	<i>Professional doctoral degree in Arts</i>
Qualification to be obtained (in english)	-

Places of implementation

Place name	City	Address
Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music	RĪGA	KRIŠJĀŅA BARONA IELA 1, CENTRA RAJONS, RĪGA, LV-1050

3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme

3.1.1. Description and analysis of changes in the parameters of the study programme made since the issuance of the previous accreditation form of the study field or issuance of the study programme license, if the study programme is not included on the accreditation form of the study field, including changes planned within the evaluation procedure of the study field evaluation procedure.

The professional doctoral study programme in Arts (code 5121 1/2/3/4) has been established in cooperation with the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (hereinafter referred to as - JVLAM), the Art Academy of Latvia (hereinafter referred to as - LMA) and the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - LKA).

Licence No. 2020/05K for the right to implement the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" for the Vocational Doctoral Degree in Arts was issued to Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music on 13 October 2020. The first enrolment took place in January 2021, and studies began in the spring semester of 2021. No changes have been made to the formal parameters of the programme since the licence was granted.

On the basis of the "Agreement on the Implementation of the Sub-programmes "Music and Performing Arts", "Visual Arts and Design" and "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in "Arts" in the study field Arts" concluded on 6 September 2019 (see Annex No. 18), the following sub-programmes shall be provided in the study programme of the above educational institutions:

1.The JVLAM implements the sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" (code 51212) - fields of artistic activity: Music, choreography;

2.The LMA implements the sub-programme "Visual Art and Design" (code 5121 1/3/4) - fields of artistic activity: Visual Arts, Audio Visual and Media Arts, Design;

3.LKA implements the sub-programme "Audiovisual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" (code 51213) - artistic fields of Audiovisual Art, Theatre Art, Contemporary Dance Art.

The Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" complies with the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 617 (2 October 2018) "Regulations on the National Standard of the Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedures for Awarding of the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts". Duration of full-time studies is 3 years. In accordance with the requirements of the "Regulations on the National Standard of the Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedures for Awarding of the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts", the programme has 132 CP / 198 ECTS. Credit points are awarded for each course of studies (including practice) completed if the examination mark is positive. Results of the studies are recorded, reflected in the study cards, discussed and analysed at the meetings of the Study Programme Council at the end of each semester, as well as during the semester work process, analysing performances in concerts or other artistic stage or design projects and events.

Upon successful completion of a vocational doctoral study programme in one of the sub-programmes, defense of an artistic newly created work and theoretical study, the State Examination Commission awards Doctoral Degree in Arts.

Submission No. 01/-8/106 and application for licensing were submitted to the Academic Information Centre on 11 June 2020, the AIC experts' joint opinion was received on 25 September 2020, and the decision No. 2020/62-L on the licensing of the study programme was adopted at the meeting of the Study Quality Commission on 30 September 2020. Licence No. 2020/05K for the right to implement the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" for the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts was issued to Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music on 13 October 2020.

3.1.2. Analysis and assessment of the study programme compliance with the study field. Analysis of the interrelation between the code of the study programme, the degree, professional qualification/professional qualification requirements or the degree and professional qualification to be acquired, the aims, objectives, learning outcomes, and the admission requirements. Description of the duration and scope of the implementation of the study programme (including different options of the study programme implementation) and evaluation of its usefulness.

The thematic group *Humanities and Arts* of the Latvian Qualification in Education includes the education programme group *Visual Plastic Arts* (code 51211) included in the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts", administered by the Art Academy of Latvia, *Music and Performing Arts* (code 51212), administered by Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, *Audiovisual and Media Arts* (code 51213), administered by the Latvian Academy of Culture, and *Design* (code 51214), administered by the Art Academy of Latvia. The four sub-programmes correspond to the subject field *Arts* of the Latvian Classification of Education.

The program is licensed in English and Latvian, which promotes international recognition. 2021/2022 in the academic year, the first English speaking doctoral student was admitted to the program, which ensures the operation of the program in both languages.

Professional doctoral studies promote competitiveness of the students of the Latvian institutions of higher education in culture and arts both in Latvia and internationally. Latvian institutions of higher education in culture and arts are able to participate in the activities of the European network of universities on an equal footing with other countries, through joint vocational doctoral study programmes, mobility and cooperation projects, as well as artistic initiatives.

The Professional doctoral study programme in Arts affects the achievement of the objectives and growth priorities of the "Smart Specialisation Strategy", emphasizing the importance of arts and culture in creation of public welfare, integration and education by compiling contents for information and communication technology innovations, development of the creative capital of human resources, creation of added value in creative industries.

The strategic **aim of** the study programme is to provide vocational studies that meet cultural, societal and social needs, are based on artistic creativity and science, and are applicable in artistic practice, resulting in the acquisition of skills to create works of high artistic quality, based on scientific research, and the development of practical skills in the implementation of unique artistic ideas.

Tasks of the programme are:

1. to provide in-depth theoretical knowledge of contemporary arts, including music and performing arts, visual arts and design, audiovisual arts, theatre and contemporary dance, their theoretical conceptual developments, interdisciplinary interactions, the unity and

interaction of artistic and research practices, and models and methods of research-based practices;

2. to acquire the skills to independently evaluate and select appropriate methods for research and artistic creativity and to apply the acquired knowledge in the implementation of artistic projects of high artistic value, in the implementation of original projects of significant scope that contribute directly to the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge or to a new understanding of existing knowledge;
3. to acquire the ability to communicate effectively about their professional artistic and research-based artistic activities to both a narrow range of professionals and broader public;
4. to acquire the ability to address topical issues of the highest level of complexity related to their field of artistic activity and its development through independent, critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation;
5. to acquire the ability to plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creation projects, including at international level.

Study results expected at the end of the study programme:

Study results expected at the end of the study programme:

Knowledge (knowledge and understanding) - a doctoral student, by acquiring the courses of the compulsory part of studies, which provide in-depth acquisition of the latest developments in the theory and practice of the field of artistic activity, including the courses of the joint study module *Innovative and Interdisciplinary International Interaction of the Arts: Interaction and Role of Arts within the Context of the 20th-21st Century Developments* (implemented by JVLAM), *Art of Living on Art* (implemented by JVLAM), *Art and Philosophy* (implemented by LMA), *Contexts of Contemporary Art and Design* (implemented by LMA), *Interdisciplinary Aspects of Culture and Art Studies* (implemented by LKA), *Current Trends in Audiovisual and Performing Arts* (implemented by LKA); research work study courses: *Elaboration of theoretical research*, joint study module *Artistic Research Methodology and Methods*, study courses *Artistic Research in Music* (implemented by JVLAM), *Research Methods in Art and Design*, *Artistic Research Methodology* (implemented by LMA), *Research Methods in Audiovisual and Performing Arts* (implemented by LKA), as well as *Doctoral Research Seminars* and restricted elective courses, are able to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the most up-to-date scientific theories and findings, have a good command of research methodology and contemporary research methods in a given artistic or cultural area or professional field and at the interaction between different fields.

Skills (ability to apply knowledge, communication, general skills) - when acquiring courses of the compulsory part, the restricted part and the practical part of the study courses, a doctoral student **is able to:**

-independently evaluate and select methods appropriate to artistic creativity, including research-based creativity, has contributed to the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge or to a new understanding of existing knowledge and its application in practice, through artistic creativity in artistic fields or original research of significant scope, part of which is at the level of internationally cited publications;

-communicate, both orally and in writing, on his/her field of artistic activity with a broader professional community and the public at large;

-carry out artistic creativity projects of international importance;

-independently upgrade their professional qualifications, carry out research-based creative projects, achieving international benchmarks in their field, manage research-based creative or development tasks in companies, institutions and organisations where extensive research-based innovation

knowledge and skills are required;

-independently enhance their skills in creating works of high artistic value and to develop practical skills in the implementation of unique ideas and artistic creativity at an international level.

Competence (analysis, synthesis and evaluation) - as a result of the study programme, the doctoral student is able, by independent, critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation, to solve significant research-based innovation or artistic creativity tasks in the fields of artistic activity, to independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creativity projects, including international ones.

In full-time studies, not less than 25 per cent of the study programme (excluding the scope intended for artistic practice, the theoretical doctoral research required for the award of the Professional doctoral degree in arts and the elaboration of the artistic creative work) shall consist of contact hours.

The title, degree, qualification, aim, objectives, results of the study programme are mutually coherent, because, in addition to the common theoretical courses in the modules "Innovative and Interdisciplinary International Interaction of the Arts" (Part A_1) and "Methodology and Methods of Artistic Research" (Part A_2), there is an opportunity to acquire in-depth knowledge and skills related to theoretical research and artistic project elaboration in individual study courses (Parts B and C) administered by each institution of higher education separately.

Admission requirements are set by the Senate of each partner institution of higher education, since the existence of the required background knowledge, skills and competences ensures the achievement of the study programme results. Doctoral students in the JVLAM sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" are admitted to an open and equal competition on the basis of a professional aptitude test and a colloquium. Thus, on the basis of the results of the evaluation of the artistic creativity entries, the competition reveals the applicant's creative capacity, ability to balance the artistic intention with the appropriate form of presentation, ability to judge and argue independently, to orient oneself in the issues of one's artistic field.

The aim, tasks, and results of the three subprograms of Joint Professional Doctoral Programme in Arts "Arts" are mutually united, because there is an identical study plan, in which only the Arts' areas of the individual study courses (parts B and C) are different and administered by each institution.

Upon completion of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study programme in Arts "Art" , the doctoral student:

- 1) Is able to prove that they know and understand the most relevant scientific theories and concepts, are proficient in research methodology and contemporary research methods in the relevant sector of art or culture or in the professional sector and at the intersection between various spheres.
- 2) Can independently assess and choose methods adequate for artistic innovation, including research-based innovation, has contributed to expanding the boundaries of knowledge or has attributed new understanding to existing knowledge and their application in practice, by performing creative artistic work, or a large-scale original research, a part of which is done at the level of internationally cited publications;
- 3) Can communicate both verbally and in writing regarding their respective area of artistic activity with broader professional circles and with society on the whole;

- 4) Can independently apply professional knowledge in pedagogical, didactic and methodical work at the level of higher education.
- 5) Can independently improve their professional qualification, implement research-based innovation projects, by reaching achievements meeting international criteria of the specific field, manage research-based innovation or development tasks in companies, establishments and organisations, where vast research-based innovative knowledge and skills are required;
- 6) Can independently enhance artistically high-value work creation skills and develop practical skills in the implementation of unique international level ideas and artistic creativity;
- 7) Can, by performing independent critical analysis, synthesis and assessment, perform significant research-based innovation or artistic innovation tasks in areas of artistic activity, independently propose a research idea, plan, structure and manage large-scale artistic creativity projects, including international projects.

See the attached mapping of study courses/modules results.

3.1.3. Economic and/ or social substantiation of the study programme, analysis of graduates' employment.

Relevance of the Professional doctoral study programme in Latvia has been outlined since at least 2014 both in the strategic planning documentation of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia - for example, in the *"Cultural Education Sector Strategy 2014-2020"* under the section "Cultural Education and Formation of Excellence", the Ministry of Culture's activity - to facilitate the *cooperation of the LMA, JVLAM and LKA in the establishment of a joint vocational doctoral study programme in the arts, and in the development strategies of JVLAM, LMA and LKA*, providing for three levels of higher arts education in all fields of art studies.

Elaboration of the Professional doctoral programme in arts was carried out within the framework of the 2nd stage project "Creation of the Professional Doctoral Programme in Arts" No.

8.2.1.0/18/A/009 of the Specific Support Objective 8.2.1 "Reduce Fragmentation of Study Programmes and Strengthen Resource Sharing" of the Operational Programme "Growth and Employment" in accordance with the development and consolidation plans of the study programmes of the JVLAM, LKA and LMA.

In order to provide as broad and versatile artistic practice opportunities for the students of the study programme, a special four-party cooperation agreement - "On Cooperation in the Implementation of Practice for the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts Doctoral Students" - has been elaborated between the JVLAM, LMA, LKA and an artistic organisation. The agreement was drafted in close cooperation with cultural institutions - potential employers - taking into account their suggestions for a more successful cooperation.

To date, agreements have been concluded with state organisations - Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, State Academic Choir "Latvia", Latvian National Museum of Art, Latvian National Theatre; Latvian creative union organisations - Artists' Union of Latvia, Choreographers' Association; the Music and Art Support Foundation, the design studio "H2E", the Art Gallery "Daugava - MS", the New Theatre Institute of Latvia, the film studios "Vides Filmu Studija" and "Studija Lokomotīve", as well as the animation studio "Atom Art". During the

implementation phase of the programme, this list will be further developed and updated in light of the doctoral students' professional-artistic fields and professional-artistic development and improvement strategy.

Since the first enrolment in the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme “Arts” took place in January 2021, the first graduates are expected in early 2024.

The professional doctoral studies will foster the competitiveness of students of Latvian higher culture and art education establishments both in Latvia and in the international environment: Latvian higher culture and art education establishments will be able, on an equal footing, to engage in activities of European network of higher education institutions, by working on joint mobility and co-operation projects of the professional doctoral study programme, as well as by implementing creative initiatives.

The professional doctoral study programme In Arts will contribute towards the achievement of objectives and growth priorities of “Smart Specialisation Strategy”, emphasising the importance of arts and culture in the formation of public well-being, integration and education, by creating content for innovations of information and communication technologies, development in the creative capital of human resources, creation of value added of creative industries.

3.1.4. Statistical data on the students of the respective study programme, the dynamics of the number of the students, and the factors affecting the changes to the number of the students. The analysis shall be broken down into different study forms, types, and languages.

Three doctoral students started their studies under the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme “Arts”, sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts", administered by the JVLAM, in February 2021, and three more in September 2021, and five in September 2022: four Latvian doctoral students and English-speaking citizen of Sweden, thus launching the programme in English. The number of budget students (3-5) admissible to the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme “Arts”, sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts", administered by the JVLAM, is approved by the Senate of the JVLAM.

A total of 45 doctoral students study in three sub-programmes in the autumn semester of 2022, including 11 students in “Music and Performing Arts”.

A positive dynamic of doctoral students at the sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" can be observed. This is related to the number of available budget places (3-5), which is approved by the JVLAM Senate.

3.1.5. Substantiation of the development of the joint study programme and description and evaluation of the choice of partner universities, including information on the development and implementation of the joint study programme (if applicable).

Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts is awarded in many countries around the world after completing a vocational programme, and is the third level of higher education in most countries

that have joined the Bologna Process or the process of creating a single European higher education area. Until April 2018, Latvia was the only of the Baltic States that did not have such an opportunity - to continue studies in the field of art under a vocational doctoral programme after vocational bachelor's and master's studies are finished.

On 1 April 2018, amendments to the Law on Higher Education of the Republic of Latvia entered into effect^[1], amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation on the Classification of Latvian Education have been elaborated^[2], as well as Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 617 "Regulations on the State Standard of Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedure for Awarding the Vocational Doctoral Degree in Arts",^[3] as a result of which the situation has changed and now Latvian institutions of higher education have the opportunity to launch vocational doctoral study programmes in arts.

[1] <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/297219-grozijumi-augstskolu-likuma>

[2] <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291524#piel4>

[3] <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/301992>

(All links are in Latvian).

The Professional Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts* (code 5121 1/2/3/4) was established in cooperation with the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (hereinafter - JVLAM), the Art Academy of Latvia (hereinafter - LMA) and the Latvian Academy of Culture (hereinafter - LKA).

The creation of programs for each higher education institution of art separately was not possible due to the insufficient number of doctoral students and teaching staff resources, therefore the professional doctoral programme was created in cooperation among three Latvian higher education institutions of art.

On the basis of the "Agreement on the Implementation of the Sub-programmes "Music and Performing Arts", "Visual Arts and Design" and "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in "Arts" in the study field Arts" concluded on 6 September 2019, the following sub-programmes shall be provided in the study programme of the above educational institutions:

- The JVLAM implements the sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" (code 51212) - fields of artistic activity: Music, choreography;
- The LMA implements the sub-programme "Visual Art and Design" (code 5121 1/3/4) - fields of artistic activity: Visual Arts, Audio Visual and Media Arts, Design;
- LKA implements the sub-programme "Audiovisual Art, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" (code 51213) - artistic fields of Audiovisual Art, Theatre Art, Contemporary Dance Art.

Planning of development of the Professional doctoral programme is reflected in the development strategies of all three institutions of higher education involved in the development of the study programme:

1) The development of a Professional doctoral study programme is stipulated in the priorities defined in the "Development Strategy of Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music 2016-2020", Clause 7.5 - "Modernisation of the Study Programme Content": "In 2015, JVLAM has elaborated the Study Programme Development Plan (hereinafter referred to as - the development plan) for the period of 2014-2020 to ensure competitiveness and export capacity. The Development Plan, in parallel with other documents (internal rules and regulations, study programme accreditation documents, etc.), defines the directions, goals, objectives, performance indicators of the study programme development activities and the necessary financial resources for to achieve them.

When elaborating the Strategy, the following priorities defined in the Development Plan were taken into account:

- elaboration and implementation of a Professional doctoral program, taking into account the students' wishes to gain knowledge at all state-defined levels of studies;
- to supplement the lecturer staff of the study programme with persons holding doctoral degree,

as well as updated the achievable objectives, tasks and clarified expected results were further specified."

2) "Long-term Development Strategy of the Art Academy of Latvia", Sub-clause 2.2.3 "Third Level Studies in Art and Design" states that "an essential part of the modernisation plan of the LMA, which is in line with the Visual Arts Sector Strategy 2014-2020, is the provision of third level studies in art and design" (page 61). The strategy was developed at the time when the LMA, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, was working on a set of proposals for the necessary changes in the legal framework to ensure the possibility of obtaining a vocational doctoral degree in arts in Latvia. Accordingly, Sub-clause 2.2.4 of the strategy "Development Plan for the LMA Third Level Studies in Art and Design" states that "with the relevant changes in the regulatory framework for the third cycle of studies, and depending on the exact nature of these new regulatory frameworks, including whether the two proposals of the Ministry of Culture will be taken into account, the first proposal or the second proposal, the further action plan of the Art Academy of Latvia will be prepared, including the assessment of the need to license a new doctoral study programme or to make changes to the existing one, as well as to establish an international doctoral study programme in art and design by obtaining ESF funds."

3) The elaboration of the Professional doctoral study programme "Arts" is in line with the strategic specialisation defined in the Development Strategy of the Latvian Academy of Culture 2015-2020 and its Objective 2 "To develop research-based arts and cultural education, to provide high quality, internationally recognised studies in the areas of culture and arts (performing arts (theatre and dance) and film arts), audiovisual, cultural and creative industries. To develop new study programmes, including interdisciplinary ones, at bachelor and master level, in line with the development and demand of the cultural sector, while continuing to develop the doctoral programme. To develop cooperation with art universities and other partners in the education, culture, arts and new technologies sectors to elaborate interdisciplinary study programmes. To establish joint study programmes in the fields of traditional culture, cultural heritage, creative industries, and audiovisual sector". At the same time, the elaboration of the Professional doctoral study programme "Arts" is also in line with the strategic specialisation of the Latvian Academy of Culture's development strategy 2015-2020, Objective 5 "To develop synergies between research and artistic creativity (especially in theatre, dance, film and audiovisual arts) in the study process".

The work of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme is ensured through the mutual cooperation of three higher education institutions and tripartite course synergy, because all students have the same study courses in part A and partly also in part B. This provides greater opportunities to expand the boundaries of understanding and erudition in various cultural spheres and interaction.

Due to the Covid pandemic, until the spring of 2022, studies were mostly conducted remotely, but in academic year 2022/2023, studies take place in person in the premises of three partner buildings.

3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof

3.2.1. Analysis of the content of the study programme. Assessment of the interrelation between the information included in the study courses/ modules, the intended learning outcomes, the set aims and other indicators with the aims of the study course/ module and the aims and intended outcomes of the study programme. Assessment of the relevance of the content of the study courses/ modules and compliance with the needs of the relevant industry, labour market and with the trends in science on how and whether the content of the study courses/ modules is updated in line with the development trends of the relevant industry, labour market, and science.

Three institutions of higher education - Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (JVLAM), Art Academy of Latvia (LMA) and Latvian Academy of Culture (LKA) - cooperate in the implementation of the study programme. JVLAM implements the sub-programme *Music and Performing Arts*, LMA implements the sub-programme *Visual Arts and Design*, LKA implements the sub-programme *Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance*.

The information, content and goals set in the study courses, as well as the planned results, are related to the study goals and the achievable results, which are included in the study course descriptions and study course maps in the appendix.

Each of the participating institutions of higher education participates in the implementation of the A1 and A2 part of the study programme according to the study plan and the inter-institutional agreement, with the parts B and C of the study programme being implemented by each institution of higher education according to its sub-programme, and the Practice part of the programme is implemented according to the practice agreements.

Implementation of the study programme is carried out in accordance with the procedure set out in the Regulation "Regulations for the Implementation of the Professional Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts*". The Regulations govern the procedure for the elaboration and approval of the study programme, the structure, content and management principles of the study programme. Issues related to the implementation of the study programme, which are not governed by these Regulations, are addressed in other normative documents of the study programme (incl. Regulations on the Organisation of the Work of Artistic Creativity Practice in the Professional Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts*; Regulations of the Council of the Professional Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts*; Regulations on the State Examinations and the State Examination Commission in the Professional Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts*).

The study programme includes all the requirements necessary for obtaining a vocational doctoral degree and is governed by a special document - a description of the study content and implementation, approved by the Senates of all the participating institutions of higher educations (JVLAM, LMA, LKA).

The studies are carried out in accordance with a plan and study content individually prepared for each doctoral student, which is in line with the requirements of the study programme. Doctoral students' individual study plans are controlled by the sub-programme manager.

Study plan is a part of the study programme, in which the content of study courses/modules is planned in a logical sequence, scope and time according to the objectives of the study programme.

The study plan is approved by the Senates of the JVLAM, LMA and LKA.

Doctoral students' individual study plans and reports are prepared by the doctoral student together with the supervisors of the artistic creation work and theoretical research and approved by the head of the sub-programme. Doctoral students' individual study plans, reports and other study documents are stored in doctoral students' study cards, administered by the Directorate of Study Programmes of the JVLAM, the Study Unit of the LMA or the Study Department of the LKA, respectively.

Scope of a programme and study course is expressed in credit points (abbreviated - CP). A credit point is a unit of account corresponding to 40 hours of work of students. Acquisition of the study programme is provided for in 6 semesters in the total amount of 132 LV/ ECTS 198 credits. Credit points are awarded for each course of studies (including practice) completed if the examination mark is positive. Results of the studies are recorded, reflected in the study cards, discussed and analysed at the meetings of the Study Programme Council at the end of each semester, as well as during the semester work process, analysing performances in concerts or other artistic stage or design projects and events.

Parts of the programme

Part A (compulsory) - LV 28 CP/ECTS 42 CP:

Part A1 - LV 12 CP/ECTS 18 CP

The planned study module provides acquisition of the newest developments in the field of the interdisciplinary study of art and culture, an in-depth acquisition of the connection of philosophical theories and artistic processes that have influenced art in the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as in the interaction and role of arts within the context of the 20th-21st century developments, reflects the topical trends in the fields of audiovisual, contemporary dance, theatrical and performing arts, introduces to the contexts of contemporary art and design, as well as explores the role of an educated creative individual in the 21st century, based on the trends and challenges of the modern world.

Part A2 - LV 16 CP/ECTS 24 CP

Provides students with opportunities to acquire applicable knowledge of art and artistic research, artistic research models and methods, their construction, ethical and critical analysis and application. Doctoral Research Seminars provide an opportunity for students to present and critically analyse the elaborated research solutions, their methods, models and achievable results.

Part B (limited choice) - LV 22 CP/ECTS 33 CP

Individual artistic project elaboration - 22 CP: provides the doctoral student with high-quality artistic and creative project development skills and develops practical skills in the implementation of unique artistic ideas, improves the doctoral student's skills in the field of artistic activity, develops a highly professional artist's capacity for independent artistic activity in both the Latvian and international creative industries market.

Artistic creation practice - LV 34 CP/ECTS 51 CP

The study courses included in the practice part provide an opportunity to test the theoretical findings acquired in the study and research work in practice, promote the development of professional skills, and promote the unity of theory and practice.

State examination, which includes the elaboration and defense of a theoretical study and an artistic creative work - LV 40 CP/ECTS 60 CP

The study programme is concluded with a state examination, which includes the elaboration and defense of a doctoral theoretical research and artistic creative work in the field of professional - artistic activity. Requirements for the state examination under each sub-programme are governed in the course description of the relevant study course, as well as in the regulations for the implementation of the study programme.

Part C (free selection) - LV 8 CP/ECTS 12 CP

study courses are courses of artistic creation work or state-of-the-art studies, implemented in semesters 2, 3, 4 and 5. When selecting the offered courses, programme for the acquisition of the course is elaborated by doctoral students together with lecturers, taking into account students' professional preferences for deepening or broadening specific content.

In order to ensure the quality of implementation of all forms of study work (theoretical and practical classes, practices (artistic creation, higher educational institution practices, examinations, independent work) provided for in the study plan, a calendar plan is elaborated for each academic year. The calendar plan is approved by the Vice-Rectors of the JVLAM, LMA, LKA, under whose supervision the respective programme's sub-programme is placed, taking into account the requirements set out in the national education standard and the activities included in the plan of main activities of each higher education institution for the academic year.

Doctoral student's study results are evaluated each semester in accordance with the procedures established by the higher education institution implementing the relevant sub-programme:

1. Results of the individual artistic project are evaluated by the lecturer - the artistic project supervisor and/or the commission in accordance with the course description of the sub-programme;
2. Results of the theoretical research are evaluated by the research supervisor and/or a commission according to the course description of the sub-programme;
3. The results of Part A (compulsory) study courses and Part B (restricted elective) and Part C (free elective) study courses are evaluated by the lecturers of the study courses.

Appeals against the conduct of the state examinations or against the marks of the examinations at other stages of studies shall be examined by the higher education institution which has matriculated the doctoral student concerned in accordance with its internal regulations.

Upon successful completion of a vocational doctoral study programme in one of the sub-programmes, defense of an artistic newly created work and theoretical study, the State Examination Commission awards Doctoral Degree in Arts. The procedure for the establishment and functioning of the State Examination Commission, as well as the planning, organisation and conduct of the state examinations shall be laid down in the "Regulations on State Examinations and the State Examination Commission in the Vocational Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts*".

Examinations in study programme courses and evaluation of acquisition of study course content shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements formulated in the Cabinet Regulation "Regulations on the State Standard of Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedure for Awarding the Vocational Doctoral Degree in Arts", which determine the basic principles and forms of evaluation of acquisition of programme, and the Regulations on Study Programmes approved by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture, the Regulations on Study Procedures approved by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture, as well as the Regulations on Examinations at the Latvian Academy of Culture approved by the Senate of the Latvian Academy of Culture.

Direct involvement of employers in the development of the vocational doctoral programme *in Arts*

has taken place through the elaboration of the *Cooperation Agreement on the Implementation of the Practice*. Dialogue with organisations has allowed us to hear suggestions and views to strengthen successful cooperation. However, it should be noted that this type of programme is unique in Latvia and only when it is launched and we come into contact with specific doctoral students and their ideas, objectives and set tasks, many of the nuances of cooperation will become clear. The elaborated agreement therefore provides for that representatives of the institutions meet regularly to summarize results of the cooperation and to agree on the activity in the future.

Annual surveys conducted by arts universities show that students or graduates often do not have employers in the traditional sense. For example, the 2019 LMA graduate questionnaire showed that 23.9% of LMA graduates qualified as self-employed or an employer. Therefore, along with the traditional involvement of employers in the development of study programmes at the JVLAM, LMA and LKA, representatives of the relevant cultural and creative industries are also involved, who help to forecast the development trends in the sector and improve study programmes within their framework.

The direct involvement of students and graduates in the development of the study programme will be implemented through a range of feedback tools, including a student-centred study process, surveys, programme development workshops, and involvement of students and graduates in programme development processes.

Regulatory enactments of the JVLAM, LMA and LKA stipulate an annual survey of employers and graduates on employers' satisfaction with students' skills, competences and relevance to the industry demand, as well as feedback of the graduates. Results of the surveys are used to make necessary improvements and changes in the content and implementation of study programmes, as well as to elaborate new study programmes, including a vocational doctoral programme *in Arts*. Informal conversations with students during the semester also provide additional information if problems in the study processes are identified.

In terms of students' employability after graduation, it is important to continuously monitor which graduates' skills are relevant to employers or businesses, which courses are relevant and which are becoming irrelevant. In order to motivate lecturers and foster their professional development, it is also important to maintain an objective knowledge of which lecturers are more and less successful in inspiring students.

Surveys of students, employers and graduates will also be carried out within the context of the vocational doctoral study programme in Arts. The obtained data will be analysed and discussed at the meetings of the study programme Council, further used for strategic planning and improvement of the study programme, as well as for joint monitoring of the internal quality of studies at the JVLAM, LMA and LKA.

The curriculum is designed with the involvement of students, graduates, employers and employers' organisations in the sector. The involvement, as justified in the description of the vocational doctoral study programme in arts developed by JVLAM, LMA and LKA, was both direct and indirect - using and analysing data from studies on the effectiveness of Latvian cultural education and the adequacy of human resources to the labour market requirements of the cultural sector and creative industries. The "Study on the Compliance of the Study Programmes of the JVLAM Field of Study "Arts" with the Human Resources Development Forecasts and Requirements of the Professional Standards" developed by SIA Dynamic University in 2019 includes surveys with students, graduates and employers on the study content, the process and the "final product" that enters the labour market, highlighting also the missing elements of the existing study programmes. It is these missing elements that the new study programme aims to introduce in order to promote the modernity of study methods, the clarity of expected outcomes, the development of problem-solving

skills, a sufficiently broad range of pedagogical practice, and others. The most significant recommendations of the graduates for the improvement of the study process and content are related to the monitoring of the quality of studies, supplementing the study content by including management-related study courses (*Art of Living on Art*), as well as improving the university's communication with students. Development of the study programme has also directly involved the employers through the development and signing of Cooperation Agreements on the implementation of practices, as well as listening to suggestions and opinions to strengthen successful cooperation. Both in the above-mentioned characteristics and during the expert visit, several employers have pointed out that people working in the sector need to have cultural background, a broad knowledge of culture and the arts, an understanding of both current cultural processes today and their history and patterns. These employer requirements are to be implemented - in the compulsory Part A of the study plan, in Part B and finally in the artistic creation and university practice. Cross-university cooperation and the tripartite synergy of courses, where all students take part A and part B courses together, provide greater opportunities to expand the boundaries of understanding and expertise in different cultural spheres and interactions. All of the above-mentioned essential aspects have been taken into account in the development of the vocational doctoral programme in arts, but given that this type of programme is unique in Latvia, other directions of development and the nuances of mutual cooperation become clearer only through experience.

3.2.2. In the case of master's and doctoral study programmes, specify and provide the justification as to whether the degrees are awarded in view of the developments and findings in the field of science or artistic creation. In the case of a doctoral study programme, provide a description of the main research roadmaps and the impact of the study programme on research and other education levels (if applicable).

In order to meet the requirements of the Bologna Declaration related to the diploma recognition processes, facilitate student mobility, as well as promote *Erasmus+* exchange study programmes and *Erasmus+* international cooperation projects, including European University projects, during the elaboration of the vocational doctoral study programme, the objectives, tasks and planned results of the study programmes were assessed and compared with similar study programmes implemented by universities abroad, and it was concluded that this study programme was unique, its implementation was of fundamental importance for the sustainable development of the Latvian cultural education system by developing closer interaction between research and creative and artistic activities.

Relevance of the study programme to international trends, description of the programme content and implementation were assessed and opinions were provided by independent experts, including, for the sub-programme *Music and Performing Arts*, implemented by the JVLAM - *Celia Duffy*, Professor at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland; comparison was made with doctoral study programmes at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the Sibelius Academy in Finland.

The performed analysis allows us to conclude that, in general, the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme *in Art* offered by the JVLAM, LMA and LKA has been successfully planned and takes into account the European standards applying to third cycle studies in higher education, both in general, but especially in the field of artistic research. Experts admit that, in its current form, the newly established programme more versatile in terms of content than majority of the programmes compared, as it includes interdisciplinary elements resulting from university cooperation. Experts welcome the inclusion of pedagogy in the programme, as well as the programme's ties to

professional sectoral institutions - concert halls, galleries, museums, etc. to ensure the connection between research and the integration of young PhDs into the labour market. It is recognised that the content and delivery methods of the proposed study programme ensure that the expected study outcomes will make a significant contribution to both the academic environment and art life not only in Latvia, but also internationally.

The development prospects of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts "Arts", which started in 2021, are outlined in the strategic planning documentation of the Latvian cultural policy. The first priority of the hierarchically highest national long-term development planning document, *the Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia 2030*^[1], is the development of Latvia's cultural space and the development of a creative society.

[1] https://www.pkc.gov.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/LIAS_2030_en_1.pdf

The Strategy points out that one of the mechanisms to unleash the unlimited potential of cultural sustainability as an invaluable resource for strengthening the core of each nation's identity is to provide education that stimulates imagination, intuition, emotions, creative ideas, develops critical thinking and is capable of generating new visions and values - thus making creativity a key factor of competitiveness. A strategic factor is therefore to provide a creative environment that directly and indirectly supports experimentation and the creation of new products, thus creating a fertile ground for the development of the cultural and creative industry.

One of the fields identified in the document that brings the country closer to achieving these priority objectives is the promotion of cultural exports and cultural diplomacy. Latvia's outstanding cultural products are already highly exportable and contribute to the country's international recognisability, which shows that the necessary potential exists to develop an exportable culture-based creative industry. But by developing competitive study programmes, Latvia also has good opportunities to export also vocational secondary and higher education in the cultural and creative professions.

The main research fields of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" at the JVLAM sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" are related specifically to artistic research in music and/or choreography, rather than to the academic doctoral research field focusing on systematic musicology, historical musicology and ethnomusicology. Artistic research at the doctoral level continues and deepens the knowledge, skills and competences acquired in the study courses of vocational master's programmes, theoretical research, including the elaboration of diploma reports.

The work of the Professional doctoral study programme will help to develop the field of artistic research in Latvia, which until now has not been among the priorities of researchers.

3.2.3. Assessment of the study programme including the study course/ module implementation methods by indicating what the methods are, and how they contribute to the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study courses and the aims of the study programme. In the case of a joint study programme, or in case the study programme is implemented in a foreign language or in the form of distance learning, describe in detail the methods used to deliver such a study programme. Provide an explanation of how the student-centred principles are taken into account in the implementation of the study process.

The foreign experts involved in the licensing process recognised that the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts* offered by the JVLAM, LMA and LKA is successfully planned for Latvian and English speaking students and takes into account European standards applying to the third cycle studies of the higher education, both in general and especially in the field of artistic research. Thus, the content of the study programme and the ways of its implementation ensure that the expected study results and the vocational doctoral degree in arts will make a significant contribution to both the academic environment and the art life not only in Latvia, but also internationally.

Analysing the objectives, tasks and planned expected study results formulated in the study programme description, the experts found them to be achievable and interrelated. External experts, teaching staff and employers were involved in the curriculum elaboration process. During the process of development of the study programme, the performance indicators of the university, the dynamics and trends of the number of students have been analysed and taken into account. The study programme, which was compared by the independent experts with similar programmes at foreign universities, is broadly in line with the industry trends in the Member States of the European Union. The perspectives for the development of the study programme are analysed and substantiated.

The study content is up-to-date and in line with industry trends, as well as the requirements of relevant laws and regulations: Compliance of study programme with the requirements set for the common study programme - see Annex No. 4; Evaluation of compliance of study programme with the state education standard - see Annex No. 6. Content of the study courses is mutually aligned and ensures the achievement of the study courses and study programme results, as evidenced by the mapping of study programme courses - see Annex No. 8.

Given that the Joint Profesional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" Part A joint group study courses involve the cooperation of three higher education institutions, the implementation mechanism of the study programme ensures the achievement of study results by incorporating the principles of **student-centred** learning for Latvian and English speaking students. The conditions for organising student practices in Latvian and other countries and the support provided to students are defined and integrated in the study programme content according to the profile of the sub-programme administered by each higher education institution.

Due to the epidemiological situation in the spring semester of the academic year 2020/2021 and in the academic year 2021/2022, the group lectures of the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme in Arts were mostly held remotely. However, in the autumn semester of 2021, in cooperation with the JVLAM's information technology specialists, a series of live hybrid lectures were organised on the JVLAM premises in the course *Art of Living on Art*, taught by Anna Rančakovská, Lecturer at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. From June 2022, theoretical seminars for doctoral students were held on-site at the JVLAM, at the same time providing the possibility to connect remotely via the ZOOM platform. From autumn 2022, at the request of doctoral students, the hybrid lecture format is planned to be at least partially maintained in the future. This helps to achieve very high attendance rates, both for doctoral students involved in foreign residencies or projects, and students of the English group.

During the implementation of the study programme, doctoral students are provided with an individual approach to study content acquisition in Latvian and in English - several study courses are acquired in individual classes, certain forms of independent work are set, in which access to modern technologies is provided (library and information technology class). Content acquisition is planned in the form of contact hours and independent work. Contact hours are held in flow, group and individual sessions. According to the course description plan, lecturers structure stream and group classes in the form of lectures and seminars, and individual classes in the form of practical

work. In individual lessons, doctoral students mainly study the content of Part B (restricted elective) and Practice courses, which are related to the development of knowledge, skills and competences in a specific artistic field. Content of the study programme in Latvian and in English is designed in such a way that doctoral students apply the theoretical knowledge gained in artistic practice. This approach allows doctoral students to integrate themselves into the labour market already during their studies. The practice work is organised in cooperation with concert organisations, professional orchestras, choirs, museums, exhibition halls, galleries, theatres, film studios and contemporary dance organisations, companies, including design and creative industry companies, industry and professional associations and public administration institutions and international art and design institutions with which appropriate cooperation agreements have been concluded.

Given the specific nature of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts "Arts", scientific research and artistic creativity are closely linked. This is evident in the course design, which includes the elaboration of both the artistic project and the theoretical research relevant thereto, which is possible in both Latvian and in English languages. Although the programme is due to start in February 2021, the first results are already visible.

Since the launch of the *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programme of the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts" in February 2021, doctoral students have participated in the following conferences:

- 1)** *European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM)* online conference 18-20 March 2021, *Whova*, *Zoom* and *SpatialChat* platforms - Kaspars Ādamsons, Ēriks Ešenvalds and Ilze Urbāne;
- 2)** *4th festival conference "Doctors in Performance"* at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in Tallinn, 1-3 September 2021 - Ilze Urbāne with a concert lecture *"The Phenomenon of Italian Flute School"*;
- 3)** International Conference "Crossroads of Culture" at the Latvian Academy of Culture, 2-5 November 2021 online - Ilze Urbāne with the paper "The Phenomenon of the Italian Flute School" and Liene Denisjuka-Straupe with the paper "Chamber Music by Juris Ābols: Aspects of Artistic Ideas, Style and Interpretation";
- 4)** International Artistic Research Conference **Artistic Research: Various Fields, Approaches, Experiences** (JVLAM, 5-7 May, 2022), all six JVLAM doctoral students of that time read the following papers:

Kaspars Ādamsons - *The First Performance of the Third Chamber Symphony "Sequel" by Anitra Tumševica: Composer's Intention and Conductor's Interpretation*,

Ēriks Ešenvalds - *Double Vision - Imagination and Realization - in Composing the Music for the Ballet The Girl with the Differently Colored Eyes*,

Liene Denisjuka-Straupe - *Chamber Works with Flute by Juris Ābols: Artistic Ideas, Music Stylistic and Interpretative Aspects*,

Jānis Purviņš - *Inspiration_Dance_Celebration*,

Indra Riše - *Cosmology as a Source of Musical Inspiration in Composition Process of "12 Constellations for Organ +"*,

Ilze Urbāne - *Performative Aspects of the Italian Flute School Teaching Methods*.

Doctoral students participating in the sub-programme are involved in concert activities:

- **Kaspars Ādamsons** conducted the opening concert "Continuation" of the JVLAM Symphony Orchestra season on 1 October within the framework of the cycle "New Works by Latvian

Composers for the Latvian Academy of Music", at the JVLAM Great Hall, and the opening concert of the Windstream 2021 Festival Autumn Part "Casanova on Planet Earth" on 2 October at the Great Guild;

- flautist and LNSO artist **Ilze Urbāne** performed along with the orchestral projects at the festival "Vox Angelica" at Dubulti Evangelical Lutheran Church on 1 August 2021 in the concert programme "This Beautiful Time" together with Ligita Sneibe (organ, Latvia / Sweden) and Laura Grecka (mezzo-soprano), at the Ģederts Eliass Jelgava Museum of History and Art on 27 August 2021, together with pianist Diāna Zandberga "*Duo Colore*" chamber music programme "As Summer Goes By...", as well as in Tallinn, at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, on 1 September 2021, together with pianist Diāna Zandberga, performing a concert lecture as part of the conference "*Doctors in Performance*". On 24 January 2022, Ilze Urbāne performed the Italian flute music programme "Novecento" in duet with Diāna Zandberga at the JVLAM Great Hall, which was highly praised on Radio Klasika programme "Post factum". On 11 May, the JVLAM Great Hall hosted Ilze Urbāne's anniversary concert "Night Ballads for Flute", in which she performed Giovanni Battista Viotti's Double Concerto for Flute and other works in duet with Rafael Trevisani and the orchestra *Sinfonia Concertante*, conducted by Andris Vecumnieks. The assistant professor's Italian and Latvian students also took part in the concert performing works by Antonio Vivaldi and Domenico Cimarosa;
- Since February 2021, the music of composer **Ēriks Ešenvalds** has been performed in the USA, Canada, England and Germany, including by the Latvian Radio Choir on concert tours in Spain, the Netherlands and Belgium. In March 2021, the Latvian National record company "Skani" released an album by Ēriks Ešenvalds;
- Since September 2021, music of **Indra Riše** has been performed in Germany, Lithuania, Sweden and Latvia. The composer's anniversary author's concert "Inch above the ground" at the Riga Latvian Society House Golden Hall on 18 September featured soloists Agnese Egliņa, Sandis Šteinbergs, Ivars Bezprozvanovs, Anete Toča, Mārtiņš Circenis, birthday lady Indra Riše, as well as the vocal group "Putni" conducted by Antra Dreģe;
- On 28 August 2021, the premiere of choreographer **Jānis Purviņš'** dance performance "The Werewolf's Heiress" took place in Liepāja (composer Edgars Lipors, libretto by Rasa Bugavičute - Pēce, director and stage designer Reinis Suhanovs, the show included 22 dances, length was 1 hour 20 minutes, and 50 dancers from TDA and VPDK "Līgo" participated), and on 9, 23, 24 and 25 September, the XII Latvian School Youth Song and Dance Festival Latvian stage dance concert "It's Summer!" was filmed at the Ethnographic Open-Air Museum of Latvia, the idea, artistic director and director of which is Jānis Purviņš (premiere on LTV1 scheduled for November 6). Whereas, on 11 June 2022 at 19:00, a modelling concert of the XXVII General Song and XVII Dance Festival, which is also the 1st stage of the artistic project of Jānis Purviņš' doctoral studies, took place on the stage of Alūksne Castle Island open air venue;
- Within the framework of her first artistic project, on 21 April 2022 at 19:00, the flautist **Liene Denisjuka-Straupe** performed together with her peers at the Riga Reformed Church playing the concert programme "Carnival with Birds", written by Juris Ābols.

Along with the work of the vocational doctoral studies, cooperation is being established with related educational institutions abroad, including the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in Tallinn, the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, and the University of Washington in Seattle (USA). This is evidenced by the foreign experts involved in the vocational doctoral programme entrance examinations - in July 2021, Professor PhD. *Margus Pärtlas* from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in Tallinn, and in July 2022 Professor DMus. *Anu Vehviläinen* from the *Sibelius Academy of the University of the Arts* in Helsinki, Finland. In the autumn semester of 2022, in the A-1 module

course "The Interaction and Role of the Arts Within the Context of the 20th-21st Century", along with the Finnish colleagues, Professor DMus *Heather MacLaughlin Garbes* from the University of Washington in Seattle was invited.

3.2.4. If the study programme envisages an internship, describe the internship opportunities offered to students, provision and work organization, including whether the higher education institution/ college helps students to find an internship place. If the study programme is implemented in a foreign language, provide information on how internship opportunities are provided in a foreign language, including for foreign students. To provide analysis and evaluation of the connection of the tasks set for students during the internship included in the study programme with the learning outcomes of the study programme (if applicable).

The *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programme includes:

- *Creative practice* - within the framework of the study course, the doctoral student and the supervisor of the individual artistic project elaborate for each semester a programme of study work and creative practice that corresponds to the aims of the study course and the target learning outcomes. *Creative practice* (concerts, masterclasses and other artistic projects) is implemented as independent work. The PhD student reflects on these in the *Creative Practice Report*, which is submitted to the supervisor of the individual artistic project at the end of the semester and evaluated. JVLMA helps to provide opportunities for Creative Practice by attracting mentoring organizations that match the artistic field of the doctoral student.
- *HEI Traineeship* - the doctoral student applies the acquired theoretical knowledge in academic work, performing the duties of a lecturer or lecturer-assistant. The doctoral student elaborates the *HEI Traineeship* programme for each semester together with the supervisor of the individual artistic project. The practice is implemented with students of the JVLAM Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes or in cooperation with other Latvian or foreign partner universities. Progress of the practice is recorded in the *HEI Traineeship report*, which the doctoral student submits to the supervisor of the individual artistic project at the end of each semester and receives a mark. Taking into account that JVLMA's bachelor's and master's programs are studied by foreign students, doctoral students are provided with the opportunity to learn *HEI Traineeship* in English.

In order to provide as broad and versatile artistic practice opportunities for the students of the study programme, a special four-party cooperation agreement - "On Cooperation in the Implementation of Practice for the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts Doctoral Students" - has been elaborated between the JVLAM, LMA, LKA and an artistic organisation. The agreement was elaborated in close cooperation with cultural institutions - potential employers - taking into account their suggestions for a more successful cooperation. These traineeship agreements also apply to foreign students.

To date, agreements have been concluded with state organisations - Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, State Academic Choir "Latvija", Latvian National Museum of Art, Latvian National Theatre; Latvian creative union organisations - Latvian Artists Union, Association of Choreographers; as well as the organisations - Music and Art Support Foundation, design studio "H2E", "Mākslas galerija Daugava - MS", the New Theatre Institute of Latvia, the film studios "Vides Filmu Studija" and "Studija Lokomotive", as well as the animation

studio "Atom Art". During the implementation phase of the programme, this list is updated and expanded, taking into account the professional-artistic fields of the doctoral students and the professional-artistic development and improvement strategy.

Taking into account the fact that, from the autumn semester of 2022, the study programme is also offered in English, international lecturers have been engaged to promote international cooperation and exchange of experience, both in the study courses *Interaction and Role of Arts Within the Context of the 20th-21st Century Developments* and *Art of Living on Art* administered by the JVLAM; and within the context of various special events (lectures, master classes). Doctoral students' creative practice is supported by study mobility programmes (ERASMUS+, NORDPLUS), artistic creativity development networks (Sibelius, NordOpera, NordTrad, KUNO, CIRBUS, UNESCO, etc.), as well as creative practice opportunities offered by various other international projects. Promotion of international cooperation and participation in multilateral thematic research and networks, as well as the introduction and promotion of international pedagogical activities ensure the enhancement of the prestige of the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme in Arts at national and international level, as well as the exchange of experiences.

An excellent example of international creative practice was the international artistic research conference **Artistic Research**, organised by the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music in collaboration with the Art Academy of Latvia, the Latvian Academy of Culture, the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia and the National Library of Latvia on 5-7 May, 2022 in the fields of music, visual arts, design, film, theatre, contemporary dance and choreography: **Various Fields, Approaches, Experiences**, in which all six students of the JVLAM vocational doctoral programme read their papers thus presenting their research and artistic achievements in front of an international audience.

In total, the conference hosted 70 presentations, bringing together in person and online 96 artists or various sectors - representatives of 25 countries from the EU Member States, the UK, the USA, Canada, Mexico, India and China, including teaching staff and PhD students from the three Latvian art universities JVLAM, LKA and LMA, who wish to develop their creative work by exploring and recognising the broad interdisciplinary context and potential of the Joint Vocational Doctoral Programme in Arts established in 2020.

The wide range of artistic research topics was highlighted by four invited lecturers - pianist Anu Vehvilainen from the Sibelius Academy in Finland, art historian Till Ansgar Baumhauer from Dresden University of the Arts, film director Dāvis Sīmanis from the Latvian Academy of Culture and Anda Boluža, curator of exhibitions at the National Library of Latvia. There were 16 concert lectures or performances, 47 readings, a roundtable discussion hosted by participants from the USA, India, Greece and Italy, as well as two parallel closing seminars in the fields of music and visual arts respectively.

The conference was organised in four sessions:

1. Artistic research in music;
2. Artistic research in visual arts and design research;
3. Artistic research in the performing arts (theatre, choreography and contemporary dance);
4. Artistic research in audiovisual arts (cinema, media arts, etc.).

Within the framework of the conference, on 5 May, the JVLAM vocational doctoral concert "Inch Above Ground" took place featuring performances or compositions by all doctoral students of the sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" and the director of the study programme Diāna Zandberga.

The conference is a part of the National Research Programme "Latvian Culture - a Resource for National Development 2020-2022", project "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia"/CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003). The project is funded by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia. The National Research Programme is administered by the Latvian Council of Science. The conference was held with the support of the project "Ensuring Good Governance at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music" (No. 8.2.3.0/18/A/013) funded by the European Social Fund. The Programme and Organising Committee was chaired by the Director of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme, *Dr. art. Diāna Zandberga*.

3.2.5. Evaluation and description of the promotion opportunities and the promotion process provided to the students of the doctoral study programme (if applicable).

The promotion process refers to the academic doctoral study programme, upon completion of which a Doctor of Science degree is awarded.

Upon successful completion of a Professional doctoral study programme in one of the sub-programmes, defense of an artistic newly created work and theoretical study, the State Examination Commission awards Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts. The partner university administering each sub-programme is entitled to set up a state examination commission, as according to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation (No. 617 "Regulations on the State Standard of Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedure for Awarding the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts", Paragraph 26, 02.10.2018), universities are entitled to set up a state examination commission for each field of artistic activity. The procedure for the establishment and operation of the State Examination Commission, as well as the procedure for the planning, organisation and conduct of the state examinations are laid down in the *Regulations on State Examinations and the State Examination Commission in the Vocational Doctoral Study Programme in Arts, Sub-programme Music and Performing Arts* (approved by the JVLAM Senate at its meeting on 28 October 2019, Minutes No. 7), the first clause of which describes the requirements for the state examinations:

1.1 Acquisition of the vocational doctoral study programme in *Arts* concludes with state examinations and obtaining of the vocational doctoral degree. State examinations are taken:

- 1) by defending the work of artistic creativity elaborated during the study process,
- 2) by defending the theoretical research related to the work of artistic creativity elaborated during the study process.

1.2 The vocational doctoral degree in arts is awarded to a person upon completion of an accredited vocational doctoral study programme in *Arts* and the elaboration and defense of a doctoral theoretical study and a thesis of artistic creativity.

In accordance with Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 617 "Regulations on the State Standard of Professional Higher Education for the Doctoral Degree and the Procedure for Awarding the Professional Doctoral Degree in Arts" and the "Regulations on State Examinations and the State Examination Commission in the Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts" approved by the JVLAM, LMA and LKA Senates, the members of the State Examination Commission shall consist of commission members holding doctoral degree in arts, as well as representatives of professional institutions who are engaged in artistic creativity that corresponds to the contemporary level (the most promising development trends in the respective field or in the related fields of culture and

creative industries). The Commission shall include at least one person who holds a Professional doctoral degree in arts abroad or at least one representative of a foreign professional organisation who is engaged in artistic creation of a contemporary standard. The evaluation and opinion with justification that will be received from the representatives of professional institutions in Latvia and abroad after the evaluation of the state examinations of the study programme is another source of information to be taken into account in the development of the study programme.

3.2.6. Analysis and assessment of the topics of the final theses of the students, their relevance in the respective field, including the labour market, and the marks of the final theses.

Not applicable as the first graduates are expected in 2024.

3.3. Resources and Provision of the Study Programme

3.3.1. Assessment of the compliance of the resources and provision (study provision, scientific support (if applicable), informative provision (including libraries), material and technical provision, and financial provision) with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the learning outcomes to be achieved by providing the respective examples.

The resources and provision are adequate for the implementation of the Professional Doctoral Study Programme *In Arts* and for the achievement of the study results.

Assessment of the required study base for the *Music and Performing Arts* sub-programme of the Profesional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts at the JVLAM

No.	Name of the materials (by type)	Quantity (per number of students)
1	Classrooms with equipment - video equipment, audio equipment, computer equipment, projectors, whiteboards, window dimmers, pianos	3 classrooms for 15-20 students; 1 classroom for 60 students; 4 classrooms for 10-15 students
2	Individual classrooms with appropriate equipment for professional courses (one or two pianos, music stands, conductor's podium, mirror, audio/video equipment)	15 classrooms for individual or small group work
3	Information technology equipment	Computer lab with 16 workstations

4	Library (professional and methodological literature, reference materials and handouts)	Library with reading room - books and sheet music section
5	Audio, recorded music, video and recorded video equipment	Audiovisual Recordings Unit
6	Concert Hall	At least 200 seats
7	Ballet hall	For at least 16 students
8	Sound recording studio	At least 4 places of work
JVLAM structural units involved in the implementation of study courses		

Structural unit	Study courses
1 Department of Musicology	Interaction and Role of Arts Within the Context of the 20th-21st Century Developments
	Elaboration of the theoretical study
	Elaboration and defense of the theoretical study
	Artistic research in music
	Doctoral Research Seminars
2 Department of General Studies	<i>Art of Living on Art</i>

3 Department of Piano, Chamber Ensemble and Piano Accompaniment, Department of String Instruments, Department of Wind Instruments, Department of Jazz Music	Elaboration of individual artistic project
Department of Early Music, Department of Choral Conducting, Department of Orchestral Conducting, Department of Composition, Vocal Department,	Elaboration and defense of an artistic creative work
Department of Choreography, Department of Music Technology	Creative practice
University practice	

The Scientific Research Centre of the JVLAM provides links between education and science, preservation of national cultural heritage, research, inclusion of lecturers in the research of dance development and interdisciplinary aspects.

The JVLAM Library plays an important role in providing methodological and reference literature. In cooperation with the heads of departments and lecturers of study courses, the library renews, supplements and accumulates all the necessary teaching resources to enable students and lecturers to implement study programmes in good quality, including books, sheet music, digital teaching resources and resources (electronic publications and resources containing the content necessary for the implementation of the study programme).

The library's visitors have access to the subscribed databases - *Grove Music*, *Letonika* and *Berliner Philharmoniker Digital Concert Hall*, as well as to *SCOPUS* and *Science Direct* databases, which Latvian universities received within the Academic Network. Library users have the opportunity to try out various databases in cooperation with the Cultural Information Systems Centre. The databases are available within the IP address range of the JVLAM.

For the implementation of the *Arts* programme, the library has the following available:

Collections of the Music and Books Unit: sheet music, books on music, humanities literature, encyclopaedias and reference literature - about 150,000 items in total. Majority of the Library's collection consists of sheet music.

The book section offers the largest music encyclopaedias: *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*; *MGG - Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart*; *The Garland Encyclopaedia of World Music*. For music studies and scientific work, our Library has literature in Latvian, Russian, English, German and French. The collection includes a significant amount of research in the fields of music theory and music history, as well as recent books in music philosophy, music sociology, music psychology and other humanities - art history, linguistics.

Reference literature - dictionaries, encyclopaedias: Latvian and foreign popular periodicals in the field of music and art: *Mūzikas Saule*, *Māksla Plus*, *Studija*, *Opera*, *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*,

Opernwelt. Das internationale Opernmagazin, Das Orchester Zeitschrift für Orchesterkultur & Rundfunk & Chorwesen, Музыкальная Академия etc.

The reading room is modern and equipped with computerised places of work and free access to the internet, electronic catalogues and subscription databases.

Audio and visual collection and listening rooms: The library boasts about a unique collection of sound recordings and videos. It currently holds more than 54,000 sound recordings and videos. The opportunities for interpretation researchers are particularly wide, as many of the works are in 3-50 or more interpretations. In this respect, the JVLAM's collection of sound recordings is the most extensive and richest in Latvia. Video recordings of ballets, concerts, documentaries about musicians, and documentation of various historical events enrich the Library's collection of music materials. Visitors of library use listening rooms equipped with good equipment for playing LP records, cassettes and CDs.

The Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music's computer network has the largest electronic full-text music reference database **GROVE MUSIC ONLINE**. Students, teaching staff and employees can use it from all computers managed by the JVLAM.

The **EBSCO** database of full-text publications is also available on the JVLAM network.

At the Arts Academy of Latvia a vast modern range of technological equipment provided with ICT functionalities, which include 3D printers, programmable laser engraving machine, programmable digital loom, along with a vast range of digital technologies, computer software and devices are at the LMA students' disposal.

The LMA Library plays an important part in ensuring the study process and accumulation and transfer of knowledge; it co-operates with programme directors and heads of structural units to updated, supplement and accumulate teaching materials necessary for implementing study courses, including monographs, study literature, methodical materials (methodical recommendations and other learning publications intended for teaching staff needs), periodicals, digital learning means and resources (electronic publications and resources, which include contents necessary for the implementation of the study programme) and LMA diploma papers.

The LKA National Film School (LKA NFS) ensures contemporary infrastructure and technical base for audiovisual art education, but also produces creative work within the study process, publishes theoretical, empirical and methodological studies in the area of audiovisual art, as well as organises various audiovisual art events. The NFS is also in charge of archiving audiovisual works created during the study process, ensuring access to them and opportunities of public showing in various shows and film festivals in Latvia and abroad.

Scientific research activity at LKA is supported, organised and coordinated by the LKA Scientific Research Centre (LKA SRC), which unites scientists with the best achievements of scientific activity and whose main directions of research include also the research of the areas of performing art, culture and creative industries, film art and audiovisual field. The choice of research topics is made in close connection with the interests of culture sectors, art sectors (theatre, dance and film art) and creative industries. Since it is possible to engage also the potential students of the professional doctoral study programme "In Arts" in projects implemented by the LKA SRC researchers, the LKA SRC will be promoting interaction of artistic practice and research of students of the professional doctoral programme. Furthermore, the Centre implements also internal competitions of LKA research projects, which are available to students, too. The student conference "ZinātMāksla" (*Art of Knowing*) organised by the Centre serves as a platform for students to present their research and creative projects. Whereas, in the subsequent research process, the international scientific conference "Kultūras Krustpunkti" (*Crossroads of Culture*) is an important platform involving all

topics covered in LKA study programmes.

The LKA Creative Activity Centre, LKA Riga Cinema Museum and LKA Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum ensure students' research and artistic creativity base and add traineeship opportunities for the students. During the studies, the LKA Creative Activity Centre provides support to students in organising various events, as well as offers to visit presentations of LKA creative works.

The LKA Library plays an important part in ensuring the LKA study process, and its resources are regularly supplemented by procuring books, subscribing to databases, which will be very useful for students not only in the professional doctoral study programme "In Arts", but also for other LKA students. The LKA Library offers a vast range of literature in the arts, humanities and social sciences. The Library's collection consists of literature in such sectors as philosophy, culturology, linguistics, history, literature sciences, sociology, politics, drama, theatre, cinema, art and folklore, as well as fiction — translated and originals in various languages. In building the collection, it is made sure that at least one copy of the most important and necessary information resources of each accredited study programme is available. Purchase of books, keeping track of study course needs, planned at least twice a year. The collection is regularly supplemented by donations of students, departments, tutors etc. Furthermore, the use of electronic resources is also increasing, alongside the increased use of EBSCO database, and the number of purchased e-books and their use are increasing, too.

The co-operation contract between LKA and the Latvian National Library (LNL) prescribes that LK offers its students premises that are adequately equipped, along with hardware with professional computer graphics, photo processing, sound, audio file processing software at the LNL audiovisual reading room and sound recording studio. The LNL also offers the most recent books and films.

LKA has a Cinematheque which is situated in the LKA National Film School (17 Elijas Street, Riga), with more than 2500 various films, videos, recordings of theatre performances, obtained from foreign HEI of a similar profile, from the LKA Riga Cinema Museum, Latvian Television Filmoteque, Latvian National Archive's structural unit Latvian State Archive of cinematic, photo, phono documents and procurements. The Cinematheque also performs the function of an archive of the artistic innovation work of LKA students.

LKA structural units — LKA Eduards Smiļģis Theatre Museum and LKA Riga Cinema Museum — are an important resource in the implementation of the professional doctoral study programme "In Arts" as a practical source of reference and a study base for students, as well as a source of research and creative tasks, and venues for the study process.

3.3.2. Assessment of the study provision and scientific base support, including the resources provided within the framework of cooperation with other science institutes and higher education institutions (applicable to doctoral study programmes) (if applicable).

Doctoral students of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts", sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" administered by the JVLAM, have access to the study bases of the sub-programmes "Visual Arts and Design" and "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" administered by the LMA and LKA, as well as the structural units involved in the implementation of the joint study courses.

The study and scientific bases, including the provision of available resources within the framework

of cooperation with other scientific institutions, are adequate for the implementation of the Professional Doctoral Study Program in Arts and the achievement of study results.

The LMA and LKA Libraries provide students and lecturers with study aids and information necessary for the acquisition of study programme content, which is especially relevant in the context of JVLMA doctoral students, for example, Regina Kaupuža's research on the creation of new choreography and stage costumes. interdisciplinary research. The Information Technology Departments of the LMA and the LKA ensure that the necessary electronic technologies and information are available for the relevant study courses.

Within their respective competences, the LMA Doctoral Studies and the LMA Study Division, as well as the LKA Study Department plan, coordinate and control the joint study programme implementation process, create, maintain and analyse the information base on students, study programmes and study programme acquisition achievements.

The role of the LMA Department of Art Science and the LMA Institute of Art History is to implement the LMA Research Strategy in the field of fundamental (basic) research, and the planned LMA Long-Term Collaboration Platform between researchers and entrepreneurs, which aims to promote industrial (applied) research and experimental elaboration and the transfer of technological and non-technological innovations. This is particularly important in the context of the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme's interdisciplinary research and art projects.

For example, in JVLMA sub-program doctoral student Jānis Purvinē's research on the history of dance festivals and the creation of choreography, LMA lecturer Rihardas Gulbja's part C course on 3D modeling of square drawings (using LMA study base resources), which will help plan and predict the nuances of the dance festival, was very important.

3.3.3. Indicate data on the available funding for the corresponding study programme, its funding sources and their use for the development of the study programme. Provide information on the costs per one student within this study programme, indicating the items included in the cost calculation and the percentage distribution of funding between the specified items. The minimum number of students in the study programme in order to ensure the profitability of the study programme (indicating separately the information on each language, type and form of the study programme implementation).

The JVLAM, the LMA and the LKA have agreed on the principles of financing the study programme stipulated in Clause 8 - "Financing of the Joint Study Programme" of the mutually concluded cooperation agreement "Agreement on the Implementation of the study field's sub-programmes "Music and Performing Arts", "Visual Arts and Design" and "Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance" of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts".

The funding of the study programme is also stipulated in Clause 5 of the "Regulations on the Implementation of the Professional Doctoral Study Programme in Arts" approved by the Senates of the JVLAM, LMA and LKA - "Funding of the Vocational Doctoral Study Programme".

In order to ensure quality study process within the study programme, the preliminary number of students per academic year planned by the universities is as follows: in sub-programme *Music and Performing Arts* - 3-5; in sub-programme *Visual Arts and Design* - 8-9; in sub-programme *Audiovisual Arts, Theatre and Contemporary Dance* - 3-4. This proportion has already been implemented in three admission processes - in the spring and autumn semesters of 2021 and in the

autumn semester of 2022. In 2021, admission took place twice due to the Kovid pandemic situation. From now on, admission is planned once a year - in the fall semester.

The minimum number of students studying in English in the JVLMA-administered sub-program "Music and Performing Arts" is one doctoral student, but in Latvian - three students, which is implemented in academic year 2022/2023.

Costs of the study programme have been calculated on the basis of the Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations: Regulation No. 445 of 5 July 2016 "Regulations Regarding Remuneration of Teachers" and the annex Calculation of the Base Costs of a Study Place attached to the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation "Procedures for Financing Institutions of Higher Education and Colleges from the Funds of the State Budget", euro - T_{b2019}..

Total costs of Professional doctoral programme in *Arts* in the sub-programme *Music and Performing Arts* **in Latvian or in English per student per year: EUR 20,506.23.**

Base per student is EUR 1,518.98; bachelor study programme costs EUR 1,518.98 x coeffic. 4.5 = EUR 6,835.41; bachelor costs EUR 6,835.41 x doctoral coeff. 3 = EUR 20,506.23, **of which:**

1) Academic staff salaries + MSSIC 24.09% - **EUR 7,323.08** - 36% on average;^[1]

[1] Costs are calculated at the JVLAM professor's rate + 24.09% MSSIC.

Study programme part	Costs EURO per year
Part A1 (compulsory common study courses) Study courses providing in-depth acquisition of the latest developments in the theory and practice of professional activity in the field of art	759.6
A2 (compulsory common study courses) research work study courses	1,392.6.
Part B (limited choice) study courses of artistic, creative and design work	673.58
Artistic creative practice	1,455.9
State examinations	2,532
Part C (free choice courses)	506.4

2) General staff salaries + MSSIC 24.09 - **EUR 6,916.24** - 34% on average;

3) Social compensations - **EUR 164.34;**

4) Percentage costs of the equipment and maintenance - **EUR 6,102.57** - represent 30% on average.

The proportion recommended by the Cabinet (51%, 34%, 15%) is redistributed, with 15% redirected from academic staff costs to maintenance costs, thus raising maintenance costs to 30% of the total grant. The reason for this distribution is the planned mobility of the JVLAM and guest lecturers, as well as the mobility of students in Latvia and abroad, as well as expenses related to artistic practice activities (lease, contracts with artistic collectives, the need to purchase special research and professional literature, database subscriptions, set of instruments, etc.). The practice courses planned in the study programme are implemented by the structural units of each university in cooperation with Latvian and foreign partners, providing practice opportunities in both local and foreign universities, including planning the mobility of students and lecturers according to the plan

for the elaboration of the individual artistic project and theoretical research.

Currently, all doctoral students in JVLMA study on budget funds.

3.4. Teaching Staff

3.4.1. Assessment of the compliance of the qualification of the teaching staff members (academic staff members, visiting professors, visiting associate professors, visiting docents, visiting lecturers, and visiting assistants) involved in the implementation of the study programme with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the provisions set out in the respective regulatory enactments. Provide information on how the qualification of the teaching staff members contributes to the achievement of the learning outcomes.

Among the teaching staff elected by JVLMA 14 persons are involved in the implementation of the program (professor, Dr. art. Anda Beitāne, professor, Dr. art. Valdis Bernhofs, professor, Dr. phil. Mārtiņš Boiko, professor, Dr. art. Jānis Kudiņš, professor, Dr. art. Andris Vecumnieks, professor Selga Mence, professor Vita Kalnciema, professor Aldis Liepiņš, associate professor Dr. Baiba Jaunslaviete, associate professor Jānis Puriņš, associate professor Mārtiņš Ozoliņš, assistant professor Aira Birziņa, lecturer Baiba Kurpniece, lecturer Dr. Art. Diāna Zandberga).

On the other hand, 13 persons from the teaching staff involved in the program have a doctoral degree (professor, Dr. art. Anda Beitāne; professor, Dr. art. Valdis Bernhofs; professor, Dr. phil. Mārtiņš Boiko; professor, Dr. art. Jānis Kudiņš, professor, Dr. art. Andris Vecumnieks; associate professor Dr. Art. Baiba Jaunslaviete, lecturer, Dr. Art. Diāna Zandberga; invited lecturer DMA Kristis Auznieks; invited lecturer PhD Kārlis Vērdiņš; invited lecturer Dr. Associate Professor Gunta Bāliņa, invited lecturer Dr. Art. Ieva Pigozne, invited lecturer DMus Anu Vehvilainen, invited lecturer DMA Heather MacLaughlin Garbes).

The number of foreign teaching staff involved in the program does not affect the fulfillment of the conditions of the Higher Education Law, as the proportion of study courses conducted in English does not reach a fifth of the program's credit points.

Criteria for assessing the suitability of the qualifications of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the study programme are set out in the following documents: JVLAM "Regulations on Academic Positions at Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music", LMA "Regulations on Academic Positions at the Art Academy of Latvia" and LKA "Regulations on Academic Positions at the Latvian Academy of Culture", which have been elaborated on the basis of the following requirements set out in the external regulatory enactments:

- JVLAM, LMA and LKA Constitutions;
- Law on Higher Education Institutions;
- Law on Scientific Activity;
- Education Law;
- Regulation No. 49 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia "Regulations on Latvian Science Sectors and Sub-sectors";
- Regulation No. 391 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia "Procedures for

Evaluating the Scientific and Teaching Qualifications or Results of Artistic Creation Work of an Applicant for the Position of Professor or Associate Professor and of a Professor or Associate Professor Holding the Position";

- Decision of the Council of Higher Education on sectoral professors' councils;
- "Recommendations on Procedures for the Election of Professors and Associate Professors and on the Criteria for Assessing the Qualifications of Candidates" of the Council of Higher Education (04.04.2001), including its Annex No. 1 "Criteria for the Conformity of a Candidate for Professor's Position to the International Assessment", which also includes references to criteria in the art sectors;
- Regulation No. 994 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia "Procedures for Financing Institutions of Higher Education from the Funds of the State Budget".

The Regulations specify the requirements set out in the above-mentioned legal acts, applying them to the objectives and tasks of the activities set out in the Constitutions of the JVLAM, LMA and LKA.

The education required for academic staff for the implementation of study courses under the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme *in Arts* has been set as follows:

-Qualifications of academic staff of the compulsory Part A courses: lecturers holding a doctoral or master's degree in the relevant scientific discipline or sub-discipline, relevant professional qualifications and further training on innovations in the higher education system or in university didactics;

-Qualifications of academic staff determined in the study programme for restricted elective study courses, practice, state examinations, free elective courses: lecturers holding a doctoral or master's degree, professional work experience, further education on innovations in the higher education system or university didactics. The State Examination Commission includes at least one person holding a vocational or scientific doctoral degree in arts obtained abroad or at least one representative of a foreign professional organisation or higher education institution who is performing an artistic creative work that corresponds to contemporary level (the most perspective development trends in the relevant area or related cultural and creative industries).

In the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme "Arts", the selection is based on the assessment of the artistic creativity, scientific and pedagogical biographies of the teaching staff, election process and results, self-evaluation reports of the academic staff, performance of the students and feedback of the students. Operating in a freely competitive market of education and academic services, the JVLAM, LMA and LKA promote a flexible recruitment policy and confirm that the qualifications of the academic staff fully comply with the conditions for the implementation of the study programme and the requirements of the regulatory enactments.. Implementation of the programme involves leading Latvian artists and art researchers. Persons involved in the implementation of the programme have extensive experience in the implementation of artistic and scientific projects. All the lecturers have at least B2 level of English. The Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme in arts is implemented by highly qualified academic staff, selected on the basis of an assessment of the teaching staff's artistic creativity, scientific and pedagogical biographies, CVs, election process and results, self-evaluation reports of the academic staff, performance of the students and feedback of the students. Staff of the universities involved have ample opportunities for professional development. The universities' activities are focused on the development of international cooperation on a global scale, integration into the European system of music, dance and arts education, and the development of scientific potential at the universities.

The specific nature of the study programme determines that it involves both academic lecturers and a large number of specialists with many years of empirical and practical experience and authority.

The following criteria played a key role in the selection of the teaching staff to be involved in the implementation of the study programme: relevance of academic, artistic creativity and scientific competences to the study programme and academic excellence, excellence in creativity combined with academic experience. According to these criteria, the following teaching staff has been selected within the programme:

In the sub-programme *Music and Performing Arts*:

1) relevance of academic and scientific competences to the study programme and academic excellence:

- Professor, *Dr. art.* Anda Beitāne;
- Associate Professor, *Dr. art.* Valdis Bernhofs;
- Professor, *Dr. phil.* Mārtiņš Boiko;
- Professor *Dr. art.* Jānis Kudiņš;
- Associate Professor, *Dr. art.* Baiba Jaunslaviete.

2) excellence in creative activity combined with academic experience:

- Professor *Dr. art.* Andris Vecumnieks;
- Guest lecturer DMA Kristis Auznieks;
- *Guest lecturer* Kārlis Vērdiņš, PhD;
- Professor (LKA), *Dr. paed.* Gunta Bāliņa;
- Lecturer *Dr. art.* Diāna Zandberga;
- Guest lecturer *Dr.art.* Ieva Pīgozne.

3) Practical work in the performing arts combined with academic experience:

- Professor, *Mag. art.* Selga Mence;
- Professor, *Mag. art.* Vita Kalnciema;
- Professor, *Mag. art.* Aldis Liepiņš;
- Associate Professor, *Mag. art.* Mārtiņš Ozoliņš;
- Associate Professor, *Mag. art.* Jānis Puriņš;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Arturs Maskats;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Aivars Leimanis;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Rihards Gulbis;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Raffaele Trevisani;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Samuel Coles;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Helen Bledsoe;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Piia Komsis;
- Guest lecturer *Mag. art.* Maret Mursa Tormis.

During the process of selection of teaching staff, previous cooperation and integration into the university in question, support for a student-centred study environment, previous involvement in the development of the study programme, as well as evaluation in student questionnaires have also been taken into account.

Guest lecturers involved in the implementation of the study programme - choreographers *Mag. art.* Ilze Mažāne and *Mag. art.* Ramona Galkina, as well as foreign specialists. For example, *Anna Maria Ranczakowska-Ljutjuk*, Lecturer of the Cultural Management course "*Art of Living on Art*", coordinator of the Master of Cultural Management programme at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, Lecturer of the Creative Entrepreneurship module and the Master of Cultural Management programme, *Raffaele Trevisani*, doctoral student in Cultural Anthropology at the Tallinn University School of Humanities, recognised as one of the finest Italian flautists of his

generation for his distinctive playing style and excellent technique, Professor at the Milan International School (*Civica Scuola di Musica Claudio Abbado - Fondazione Milano*), as well as Samuel Coles, one of the leading flautists in Great Britain, who holds the positions of concert master of the London Philharmonic Flute Group and Professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Whereas, the internationally renowned flautist Helen Bledsoe is active as a soloist, chamber musician, pedagogue, improviser, author and performer of experimental electronic works, as well as conducts master classes around the world. As a soloist of the famous Cologne Ensemble Musikfabrik, she has collaborated with and premiered works by many composers, such as Karlheinz Stockhausen and Brian Ferneyhough.

In the autumn semester of 2022, in the A-1 module study course for the 4th semester doctoral students titled "The Interaction and Role of Arts Within the Context of the 20th-21st Century Developments", the following teaching staff has been invited to read lectures alongside the JVLAM teachers *Dr.art.* Diāna Zandberga, *DMus* Kristis Auznieks and Professor *Dr.art.* Andris Vecumnieks: researcher at the UoL, expert in literature, *PhD* Kārlis Vērdiņš, pianists and researchers from the Sibelius Academy of the University of the Arts Helsinki *DMus* Anu Vehviläinen and *DMus* Eveliina Sumelius-Lindblom, researcher and choreographer at the University of Helsinki *DA (Doctor in Dance)* Kirsi Heimonen, as well as Professor *DMus* Heather MacLaughlin Garbes from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Additionally, within the framework of Erasmus+ mobility, Nordplus scholarship programme and other programmes, periodic involvement of other foreign guest lecturers in the implementation of all the sub-programmes of the study programme is planned.

The research and artistic creative activity of the teaching staff involved in the implementation of the programme is high - the most knowledgeable and leading professionals, experts and researchers in their fields are involved in this programme, under whose guidance a number of scientific publications, including monographs and articles in collective monographs, articles in peer-reviewed collections of scientific articles, etc., have been produced. Within the joint study programme, in the sub-programmes, administered by the LMA and LKA, 15 elected LMA professors and associate professors, as well as 9 elected LKA professors and associate professors work as teachers.

The lecturers involved in the study programme also participate in fundamental and applied research projects implemented by the JVLAM, LMA and LKA, as well as in State research programmes, etc. The artistic creativity of the lecturers involved in the study programme is evidenced by their creative achievements - concerts, participation in international cultural and art projects, exhibitions, films, staged theatre performances, contemporary dance performances, performances and other artistic creativity projects.

All the teaching staff is involved in relevant academic and research or creative activity, and has relevant experience and publications.

To ensure the quality of the academic staff of the JVLAM, LMA and LKA, criteria have been set for staff elections with differentiated assessment of the achievements presented. Adherence to the qualification criteria for the election of academic staff (in particular professors and associate professors) is assessed, and recommendations are provided by involved neutral experts. This approach is essential for the recruitment and renewal of quality academic staff. For the maintenance of quality of the study work, including the process of competition, it is planned to invite lecturers on course basis and temporary lecturers from other artistic institutions.

During the formation of the composition of lecturers, work is being done on the application of criteria that contribute to the renewal of the composition, stability of the number of academic

positions and staff, uniformity of load distribution, and closer cooperation with professional institutions, including employers.

The optimal structure of the academic staff of a study programme is based on the set operational tasks of the study programme and may vary, and varies by sub-programme and artistic field. Operating in a freely competitive market for education and academic services, the JVLAM, LMA and LKA promote a flexible and attractive recruitment policy.

The attraction of guest professors is growing, offering these positions first of all to the most outstanding professionals in their field - both Latvian and foreign pedagogues, the conformity of whose qualification to the respective title is determined in accordance with the internal regulatory enactments of the JVLAM, LMA and LKA.

3.4.2. Analysis and assessment of the changes to the composition of the teaching staff over the reporting period and their impact on the study quality.

The programme has been running since February 2021, so the gradual increase in the number of teaching staff is linked to the increase in the number of doctoral students.

For example, in the first semester of the implementation of the JVLMA sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" from February 2021, one foreign lecturer was involved (Italian flautist Raffaele Trevisani - Ilze Urbāne's artistic project development and practice study courses). 2021/2022 in the academic year, he was joined by the French flautist Samuel Coles (in the Liene Denisjuka-Straupe's artistic project development and practice study courses) and Anna Ranczakowska (group lecture course - Life on Living on Art). On the other hand, in 2022/2023 three more foreign teaching staff joined - the American flautist Helen Bledsoe (in the development and practice study courses of Liene Dobičina's artistic project), the Finnish singer Piia Komsa (in the development and practice study courses of Viktorija Pakalniece's artistic project), as well as the Estonian musician Maret Mursa Tormis (in Liene Denisjuka -Straupe's C course "Alexander technique").

With the involvement of highly qualified and internationally recognized teaching staff, the continuity and high quality of the study process is ensured.

3.4.3. Information on the number of the scientific publications of the academic staff members, involved in the implementation of doctoral study programme, as published during the reporting period by listing the most significant publications published in Scopus or WoS CC indexed journals. As for the social sciences, humanitarian sciences, and the science of art, the scientific publications published in ERIH+ indexed journals or peer-reviewed monographs may be additionally specified. Information on the teaching staff included in the database of experts of the Latvian Council of Science in the relevant field of science (total number, name of the lecturer, field of science in which the teaching staff has the status of an expert and expiration date of the Latvian Council of Science expert) (if applicable).

During the reporting period, 74 scientific publications of the lecturers of the JVLMA sub-programme of Professional doctoral programme were published, incl. publications in JVLMA Academy of Music

Proceedings.

In the recent years, the JVLAM has achieved significant results in promoting scientific research activities, as well as in cooperation in international projects. Under the leadership of the Associate Professor *Dr.art.* Valdis Bernhofs, the project "Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction" was implemented until 2021. V. Bernhofs is also involved as a member of the project group in the scientific project "*Neuronale Grundlagen der Klangwahrnehmung und musikalisches Lernen*", funded by the Neurology Clinic at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) and the German government, group "*Music and Brain*", implemented in cooperation with the Universities of Graz and Basel. Participation in international projects results in publications of relevance to the area, included in international databases such as: Serrallach B., Gross C., Bernhofs V., Engelmann D., Benner J., Gündert N., Blatow M., Wengenroth M., Seitz A., Brunner M., Seither S., Parncutt R., Schneider P. and Seither-Preisler A. (2016). Neural biomarkers for dyslexia, ADHD and ADD in the auditory cortex of children. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 10 (324), pp. 1-23^[1].

[1] <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnins.2016.00324/full>(Available in English)

The publication of Prof. M. Boiko's section "*Latvia: history, culture, and geography of music*" (2019) in the internationally recognized encyclopaedic edition "*The Sage International Encyclopaedia of Music and Culture*" (Vol. 3) is significant.

In ethnomusicology, gradually promoting new international collaboration, contribution of the researcher, *Dr.art.* Anda Beitāne is significant. Since 2017, in collaboration with the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, the international project "*European Voices: Audiovisuals.*" is under implementation. Book and double album "*Notes from Latvia: Multipart Music in the Field*", a study of traditional multipart music in Latvia, prepared by Prof. Beitāne, was published within the framework of the project in 2018. In collaboration with the JVLAM, the second publication in the series "*European Voices: Audiovisuals.*" - "*Jashar and Idajet Sejdiu. Our songs are indulged.*" by Ardian Ahmedaja, Senior Researcher at the Institute of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna and Visiting Professor at the JVLAM, has been released.

A significant contribution to the history of Latvian music has been made by a number of scientific monographs elaborated by a number of teachers involved in the study programme. For example, the work of the Professor *Dr.art.* Baiba Jaunslaviete (compiler and author of chapters and articles) "*Maija Einfelde in Life and Music*" (2016), scientific monograph prepared by the Professor *Dr.art.* Jānis Kudiņš "*Oskars Stroks. Legacy of the King of Tango*" (2019), monograph of the Lecturer *Dr.art.* Diāna Zandberga "*Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music Piano Department 1919-2019*" (2020).

From 2020-2022 Professor Jānis Kudiņš, in collaboration with the Latvian Academy of Culture (leading partner), the Art Academy of Latvia, the National Library of Latvia and the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia, was administrator of the JVLAM project within the National Research Programme Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia/CARD. No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003 with two sub-projects: (1) *Music Culture in Latvia in the 1920s-1930s and in the Second Half of the 20th Century: Understudied Processes, Issues, Problems* and (2) *Music in Latvia in the 17th-19th Century: Creative Processes in Cultural Contexts*, within the framework of which several collections of scientific articles were published.

The lecturers of the Performing Arts Department involved in the study programme actively participate in international projects, promote cooperation and exchange of experience in performing arts and choreography, regularly give solo concerts, participate in chamber music projects and premieres of new works, as well as CD recordings, thus combining research and analytical activities of both local and international significance with advanced artistic and creative

activity of the highest level in their fields.

To give a few examples:

-choral music written by the composer Selga Mence is performed at numerous professional and amateur choir concerts, competitions and festivals in Latvia (including the Song Festival), as well as in Europe, Asia and America. In 2020, Professor Selga Mence was awarded the Order of the Three Stars.

-Mārtiņš Ozoliņš, Associate Professor at the JVLAM, is the Principal Conductor at the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, regularly conducting the main repertoire performances.

-In 2016, label of the Latvian national record company SKANI released the album of piano music "Sounds and Echoes" written by Dace Aperāne, performed by Diāna Zandberga, in 2021 - the album of piano music "Some other traveler's phantasy" by Imants Zemzars, and in 2022 - the album "Latvian Piano Landscapes" containing piano music written by 13 Latvian composers, including eight new works.

The lecturers of the Academy of Music have gained great popularity and have proven themselves as high-class masters of their artistic field, which is evidenced by the repeated invitations of the lecturers, received appreciations and excellent feedback for their work contributed at partner universities. The high artistic level and pedagogical professionalism of the lecturers have contributed to attracting foreign students to study at the JVLAM.

According to the information available on the website of the Latvian Council of Science (Available in Latvian) <https://sciencelatvia.lv/#/pub/eksperti/list> The academic staff of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts "Arts", sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" consists of two experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science.

1. Valdis Bernhofs: Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, until 06.07.2025.
2. Jānis Kudiņš: Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture, until 06.04.2025.

Total number during the reporting period: five experts

No.	Name, Surname	Sector	Term
1.	Valdis Bernhofs	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	22.11.2014 - 20.11.2017 07.07.2022 - 06.07.2025
2.	Anda Beitāne	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	22.11.2014 - 20.11.2017 26.11.2016 - 25.11.2019
3.	Mārtiņš Boiko	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	19.11.2019 - 18.11.2022
4.	Baiba Jaunslaviete	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	23.01.2016 - 21.01.2019 20.02.2020 - 19.02.2023
5.	Jānis Kudiņš	Humanities and Arts - Music, Visual Arts and Architecture	24.04.2019 - 23.04.2022 07.04.2022 - 06.04.2025

3.4.4. Information on the participation of the academic staff, involved in the implementation of the doctoral study programme, in scientific projects as project

managers or prime contractors/ subproject managers/ leading researchers by specifying the name of the relevant project, as well as the source and the amount of the funding. Provide information on the reporting period (if applicable).

Teaching staff of the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts", sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" - professor *Dr. art.* Jānis Kudiņš, professor *Dr. art.* Anda Beitane, professor *Dr. philol.* Mārtiņš Boiko, assoc. prof. *Dr. art.* Baiba Jaunslaviete and lecturer *Dr. art.* Diana Zandberga participated in three sub-projects of the state research programme project CARD (Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia)^[1] (from September 2020 to September 2022) with a total funding of 228,614.60 EUR:

1. [1] The project "Cultural Capital as a Resource for Sustainable Development of Latvia"/CARD (No. VPP-KM-LKRVA-2020/1-0003) was funded by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia within the framework of the national research programme "Latvian Culture - Resource for National Development" (2020-2022). The National Research Programme was administered by the Latvian Council of Science.
2. Project funding: EUR 1,000,035.00, project partners: Latvian Academy of Culture (LKA), Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music (JVLAM), Art Academy of Latvia (LMA), Latvian National Library (LNB), Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art at the University of Latvia (LU LFMI).

1) "Music in Latvia in the 17th-19th centuries: creative processes in cultural contexts" - chief performer, Professor, Researcher, *phil.* Mārtiņš Boiko; Chief Executive, Associate Professor, Researcher, *Dr. art.* Baiba Jaunslaviete; Chief Executive (until 30 September 2021), Professor, Researcher, *Dr. art.* Jānis Kudiņš.

2) "Music Culture in Latvia in the 1920s-1930s and the Second Half of the 20th Century: Understudied Processes, Issues, Problems" - principal executor, scientific sub-project supervisor, Professor, Researcher, *Dr. art.* Jānis Kudiņš.

3) Sub-project "Specifics and Development of Research Methodology for Artistic Creativity and Cultural Heritage" - JVLAM representative-performer in the sub-project: ZPC Researcher, Director of the Joint Vocational Doctoral Study Programme, *Dr.art.* Diāna Zandberga.

Professor, *Dr.art.* Anda Beitāne has been Latvia's representative in the international research project *European Voices*, funded by the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, since 2017: *Audiovisuals. Series of the Research Centre for European Multipart Music (EMM) at the Department for Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology of the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, Austria.*

Professor, *Dr.art.* From 2019 to 2022, Valdis Bernhofs was the scientific supervisor of the Latvian – Lithuanian – Taiwanese scientific cooperation support fund project *Brain-Computer Music Interfacing for Embodied Musical Interaction* (65 289.97 EUR) at the JVLAM.

3.4.5. Assessment of the cooperation between the teaching staff members by specifying the mechanisms used to promote the cooperation and ensure the interrelation between the study programme and study courses/ modules. Specify also the proportion of the number of the students and the teaching staff within the study programme (at the moment of the submission of the Self-Assessment Report).

In the autumn semester of 2022, 11 doctoral students are studying in the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts titled "Arts", sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts", while compulsory Part A and restricted elective Part B courses are provided by 16 lecturers.

Thus, the ratio of the number of teaching staff to students in the JVLMA Professional Doctoral Studies sub-program "Music and Performing Arts" is on average 3:2 with a tendency for the number of teaching staff to exceed the number of students. At the same time, the specifics of doctoral studies do not allow accurate calculation of the specifics of the number of students and teaching staff, as the study process is inextricably linked to the artistic research process, including the individual free-choice Part C courses, which increase the number of conditional teaching staff.

All the supervisors of the theoretical research and artistic projects - all the lecturers of the programme participate in the theoretical seminars of the doctoral students at the end of each semester, thus fostering mutual cooperation. Thus, teaching staff is informed about the specific character of direction of other study courses and research, which promotes mutually complementary and non-duplicative work of the study programme.

Although the Joint Professional Doctoral Study Programme in arts "Arts", sub-programme "Music and Performing Arts" started in the study process in 2021, trends of international cooperation are already clear. This is evidenced by the number of foreign experts involved in the entrance examinations - in January 2021, Professor *DMus. Päivi Järviö* from the Sibelius Academy of the University of the Arts in Helsinki, Finland and in July 2021 - Professor *PhD Margus Pärtlas* from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in Tallinn, but in July 2022 - Professor *DMus Anu Vehviläinen* from the Sibelius Academy of the University of the Arts in Helsinki, Finland, and the foreign teaching staff involved in the study process - lecturer of the cultural management course "Art of Living on Art", *Mag. art.*

Anna Maria Ranczakowska-Ljutjuk from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, supervisor of the artistic project of the 4th semester doctoral student Ilze Urbāne, *Mag. art.* Raffaele Trevisani, supervisor of the artistic project of the 3rd semester doctoral student Liene Denisjuka-Straupe, *Mag. art.* Samuel Coles, supervisor of the artistic project of the 1st semester doctoral student Liene Dobičina, *Mag. art.* Helen Bledsoe etc.

In the autumn semester 2022, in the module A-1 course "Interaction and Role of Arts Within the Context of the 20th-21st Century Developments", the following teaching staff has been invited to read lectures alongside the JVLAM teachers: researcher at the UoL, expert in literature, *PhD Kārlis Vērdiņš*, pianists and researchers from the Sibelius Academy of the University of the Arts Helsinki *DMus Anu Vehviläinen* and *Eveliina Sumelius-Lindblom*, researcher and choreographer at the University of Helsinki, DA (Doctor in Dance), *DMus Kirsi Heimonen*, as well as Professor *DMus Heather MacLaughlin Garbes* from the University of Washington in Seattle.

New horizons and opportunities for collaboration will be offered by the 2023 CMS International Conference, organised by the Society of American Music Universities, to be taking place on 5-7 July 2023.^[1] More than 150 CMS participants (teaching staff of the US universities) and teaching staff and doctoral students of the JVLAM vocational doctoral programme will participate in the Scientific Artistic Research Conference with presentations and music performances. (Available in English)

[1]https://www.music.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3333&Itemid=6111

Annexes

III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.1. Indicators Describing the Study Programme		
Sample of the diploma and its supplement to be issued for completing the study programme	3.1.PD_Diploma_pielikums.pdf	3.1.PD-Diploma_paraugs.pdf
For academic study programmes - Opinion of the Council of Higher Education in accordance with Section 55, Paragraph two of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		
Compliance of the joint study programme with the provisions of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (table) (if applicable)	3.1 Compliance of joint study programme.doc	3.1 Kopīgas programmas atbilstība AL.doc
Statistics on the students in the reporting period	PD_Statistic on students.docx	PD_Statistika par studējošajiem.docx
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.2. The Content of Studies and Implementation Thereof		
Compliance with the study programme with the State Education Standard	6.Compliance with national education standard.doc	6.Studiju programmas atbilstība valsts izglītības standartam.doc
Compliance of the qualification to be acquired upon completion of the study programme with the professional standard or the requirements for professional qualification (if applicable)		
Compliance of the study programme with the specific regulatory framework applicable to the relevant field (if applicable)		
Mapping of the study courses/ modules for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the study programme	PD_Arts_mapping on study results.xlsx	PD_Mākslas_kartējums pret studiju rezultātiem.xlsx
The curriculum of the study programme (for each type and form of the implementation of the study programme)	9.PD_Study plan.docx	9.PD_Studiju plāns.doc
Descriptions of the study courses/ modules	3.2.Study course descriptions_PD.zip	3.2.Studiju kursu apraksti_PD.zip
Description of the organisation of the internship of the students (if applicable)	3.2 Regulation on Traineeship.doc	3.2 Prakses nolikums.doc
III - Description of the Study Programme - 3.4. Teaching Staff		
Confirmation that the academic staff of the doctoral study programme includes not less than five doctors, of which at least three are experts approved by the Latvian Council of Science in the branch or sub-branch of science in which the study programme intends to award a scientific degree (if applicable)	PD_Confirmation.edoc	PD_Apliecinājums.edoc
Confirmation that the academic staff of the academic study programme complies with the requirements specified in Section 55, Paragraph one, Clause 3 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions (if applicable)		