

Statement from the BAKE Committee on Justice and Equity, 6/10/2020

Black lives matter: black students, educators, composers, musicians, and scholars matter and are worthy of celebration. We recognize that music education has historically been used and continues to be used to support systemic racism, and that BAKE and OAKE have a long way to go on our journey to become truly anti-racist organizations. We must include diverse voices to learn and grow which is why we look forward to working with current and prospective BAKE members on the following action steps:

- Create professional spaces where your voices, experiences, and perspectives are heard and included, especially for members of color
- Educate ourselves and each other while being mindful of the emotional labor lift for members of color
- Engage in anti-racist work and becoming a better ally; we acknowledge this as an active place of constant growth and becoming
- Uphold the belonging and celebration of members' and students' expressions of identity including race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, religion, creed, sexual orientation, and economic status
- Decenter Euro-centric and white supremacist traditions in music curricula to instead center the music-making traditions of all peoples, especially people of color

We acknowledge that we will make mistakes in this work, but we pledge to learn from you and each other to be better. We welcome your thoughts and extend this invitation especially to music educators of color. We are asking for your feedback to let us know what else we can do to support you in your work. [Click here to give your response.](#)

Sincerely,

The BAKE Committee on Justice and Equity: Katie Bach, Charlyn Bethell, Sharon Hamel, Tricia Kammerer, Isun Malekghassemi, and Adam McLean