

Name: Tom Gravlíe

Article: Building sustainable music activities in deprived rural areas:
The North Norwegian experience

After World War 2 the northern part of Norway was totally destroyed. During the rebuilding process inclusion of culture was an important element. Three national agencies for promoting live arts were established: a national touring theater, a national concert touring agency and a national art exhibition agency. Outreach programs for the disadvantaged areas were produced and people in the districts could experience live arts in their home areas.

In the seventies governmental and regional authorities joined forces concentrating on how to create a viable music sector in north Norway. A plan for the three northern counties was elaborated and regional coordinators were employed. Jobs for professional musicians were created, school concerts for all children in primary school started, music schools open for everyone were opened, music festivals started and chamber music orchestras were formed.

Personal Information

Mr. Tom Gravlíe is the Director of International Department in Concerts Norway. He has long experience of promoting music for young audiences and has special competence in the field of presenting world music having started Oslo World Music Festival (www.osloworld.no) and conducted "The Resonant Community" – a research program on the effects of music as a tool in the fight against racism among children and youth.

Mr. Gravlíe has also written many books for music education in primary schools.