

OPINION

by **Assoc. Prof. Zhan Stefanov Pehlivanov**

Prof. Asen Diamandiev AMDFA - Plovdiv

on the documents submitted by

Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD

Regarding the announced competition: Order No. 128 of 27.09.2024 under item 3, Para 1 of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and decision of the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy/ Protocol No. 5 of 20.09.2024 for occupying the academic position of 'Professor' in the professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art, major 'Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements'.

Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD is the only candidate who submitted documents for this competition. The submitted documents and materials are in order and meet the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Regulations for its implementation.

Biographical data, general presentation:

Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD graduated from the *Lyubomir Pipkov* Secondary School of Music in Sofia in 1989 with a degree in piano. She received her higher education at *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Plovdiv in 1995 with the professional qualifications: solfeggio and piano teacher, music teacher in kindergarten, primary, secondary and upper secondary schools.

In 1998 she completed a two-year postgraduate professional qualification in 'Methodology of Solfeggio Teaching'.

Since 1998 till today Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD has been a lecturer at *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Plovdiv in the disciplines of Solfeggio, Theory of Musical Elements, Methodology of Solfeggio Teaching, Pedagogical Practice in Solfeggio, Methods and Psychotechniques for the Development of Musical Hearing.

Since 2012 she is the secretary-coordinator of the *Young Scientist* Academic Club at the AMDFA, Plovdiv, where she annually manages and participates in research projects.

In 2015 she defended her dissertation thesis on topic 'Solfeggio with Piano Accompaniment' and obtained the degree of **PhD** in Musicology and Musical Art.

Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD is an active participant in music-theoretical forums and conferences. She is a guest lecturer at national and international scientific and cultural centres, where she gives lectures and conducts practical activities demonstrating the theoretical factual knowledge presented in the lectures.

As of **November 2019, she is an Associate Professor** of Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements.

The candidate indicates participation in a series of musical hearing workshops and seminars, the main purpose of which is to improve the qualification of teachers of solfeggio, including: multimedia presentations, modeling of problem situations, joint resolution of the same through observation, analysis and discussion, summarizing and systematizing the results, dialogic communication, independent work on the implementation of a project.

Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD shows striving for her individual style and teaching approach. She is the author of a number of scientific articles and reports in the field of the methodology of musical listening training, music history, theory and psychology, which have been published in Bulgarian and foreign scientific journals. She is a proven performer and accompanist, and has participated in numerous concerts as a pianist. She has published 3 monographs:

1. Musical, pedagogical and theoretical views of prof. Zdravko Manolov in the field of musical and hearing education', Plovdiv, 2018 (ISBN: 978-954-2963-35-6).
 2. Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with piano accompaniment - psychotechnique for the development of ear for music', Plovdiv, 2021 (ISBN: 978-954-2963-89-9)
 3. Musical, pedagogical and theoretical views of prof. Asen Diamandiev in the field of musical and hearing education', Plovdiv, 2024 (ISBN: 978-619-7682-38-0).
- 29 scientific publications and 4 articles in art journals are presented.

In the competition for 'professor' in the major of 'Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements' at Prof. Asen Diamandiev AMDFA, Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD participates with:

Group A indicators

Required number of points: 50; Achieved by the candidate: 50

Under indicator 1, Diploma No. 0016 of 16.01.2015 is attached for the awarded educational and scientific degree 'PhD' based on a defended dissertation thesis on the topic: 'Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with Piano Accompaniment - a Means of Optimizing Musical Hearing Training'.

Group B indicators

Required number of points: 100; Achieved by the candidate: 100

Habilitation thesis – 'Musical, pedagogical and theoretical views of Prof. Asen Diamandiev in the field of musical and hearing education', 2024, Plovdiv: Rakursi Ltd., ISBN: 978-619-7682-38-0 ; 160 pages of the publication.

Group Γ indicators

Required number of points: 150; Achieved by the candidate: 190

- Published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree of 'PhD' 'Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with Piano Accompaniment – Psychotechnics for the Development of Musical Hearing', Plovdiv: Rakursi Ltd., 2022, ISBN: 978-954-2963-89-9; 125 pages of the publication.
- **7 pcs: Articles and reports**, published in specialized publications in the field of arts;
- Concert 'In the World of Classical Music' - 17.10.2020 Trakart Gallery, Plovdiv; pianist - accompanist

Group Д indicators

Required number of points: 80; Achieved by the candidate: 170

15 citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review are presented;
2 reviews for realized author's products or creative performances in specialized publications in the field of arts:

- Prof. Velislav Zaimov, PhD – 'Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with piano accompaniment - psychotechnics for the development of musical hearing' by Assoc. Prof. Milena

Bogdanova, PhD', Academic publication 'ARTspecter', issue 56/ December 2021, pp. 38-39.

- PhD student Petya Petrova – 'About the project 'Pass on' with author Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD', Academic publication 'ARTspecter', issue 61/ September 2023, pp. 10-11

Group E indicators

Required number of points: 120; Implemented by the candidate: 120

Indicator 28 presents a total of **6 guided music workshops and studios**.

- 'Formation of a musical hearing perception of a semitone and a whole tone' - held on January 18, 2023 (9.30 a.m.) in room No. 108 at *Dobrin Petkov* NSMD, Plovdiv
 - 'In the Beginning there was Rhythm' - held on April 10, 2023 (11.30 a.m.) at the Museum Music School, Asenovgrad
 - 'The Phenomenon of Syncope' - held on April 13, 2023 (1.30 p.m.) at the Museum Music School, Asenovgrad
 - 'Note Marathon' - held on April 22, 2023 (10.30 a.m.) at the Artium Center at the UCC, Nesebar
 - 'Initial Forms of a Sense of Two-voice – Synthesis of Separately Perceived Voices' – held on April 24, 2023 (8.30 a.m.) at *Prof. Pancho Vladigerov* National School of Music and Stage Art in Burgas.
 - 'Synthesizing Separately Perceived Voices – Psychotechnics for Developing a Sense of Polyphony' – held on May 4, 2023 (11.30 a.m.) at *Dobrin Petkov* NSMD in Plovdiv.

It is evident that for her participation in the competition for 'Professor' Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD not only meets the national scientific metric requirements but also exceeds them.

The professional biography in the field of academic, teaching and artistic-creative activity of the candidate is highly respectable with proven authority, recognition, long teaching practice, bright achievements and a large number of successfully realized high school and university students.

All mentioned so far gives me a reason to appreciate the contributory character of the presented materials, the fulfilled minimum scientific-metric indicators to the teaching, scientific-theoretical and artistic-creative activity for the acquisition of the academic position of 'Professor'.

I consider that the candidature fully complies with the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and its Implementing Regulations.

On the basis of the above-mentioned rich artistic, creative and scientific activity at a high level, **I give my positive assessment and propose to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury of the competition for professor to elect Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD to the academic position of 'Professor' in the professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art, major: 'Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements' at the Department of 'Musical Pedagogy and Conducting', Faculty of 'Musical Pedagogy' at *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv.**

Date: November 17, 2024

Assoc. Prof. Zhan Pehlivanov, PhD