UNIVERSITY MEMBERSHIP · 2026–27

Become a member of Seven Sisters Conservatoire

A proportionate partnership in music education, performance and research for the universities of North East India.

Associate · ₹5 lakh	Partner · ₹7.5 lakh	Founding Partner · ₹10 lakh

PREPARED FOR

Universities of North East India

Founding membership invitation

The Vice-Chancellor

Dear Vice-Chancellor,

Invitation to membership of Seven Sisters Conservatoire

In October 2026, the Seven Sisters International Music Workshop brought UK conservatoire faculty to Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra in Guwahati to mentor young musicians from across the Northeast, and to perform Assamese repertoire with them. It confirmed what many of us have long believed: the region has exceptional musical talent, and too few pathways for it. The workshop was covered by DD Assam, Prag News and News 365; links are at the foot of this letter.

Seven Sisters Conservatoire is building those pathways — a curriculum from Grade 1 to postgraduate level, benchmarked to Trinity College London, with the music of Assam and the Northeast studied, notated and performed at every stage.

We are inviting a small number of universities in North East India to join us as members from the outset. Membership gives students, faculty and researchers at your university direct access to this work, at a level that suits the institution: Associate (₹5 lakh), Partner (₹7.5 lakh) or Founding Partner (₹10 lakh) a year, plus GST as applicable.

This proposal sets out what each level includes and how membership would work. We have kept the first year deliberately focused, so that every commitment is one we can deliver well and build on together.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss it with you and your colleagues.

Yours faithfully,

Mondweep Chakravorty

Mondweep Chakravorty
Founder, Seven Sisters Conservatoire

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SEVEN SISTERS CONSERVATOIRE IN THE MEDIA

DD Assam
Watch on YouTube

Prag News
Watch report 1
Watch report 2

News 365
Watch report

FOLLOW US

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LinkedIn: Seven Sisters Conservatoire · X: @sevensisterscon · sevensistersconservatoire.org

SEVEN SISTERS CONSERVATOIRE

World-class music education, rooted in our own music

We are building a conservatoire for Assam and the Northeast: international standards of teaching and qualification, with the region's classical, folk and popular music at the centre rather than the margins.

26–31 Oct 2026

Seven Sisters International Music Workshop at Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Guwahati — up to 100 musicians mentored, culminating in a public performance.

UK faculty

Andrew Bernardi (violin and viola, director), Matthew McCombie (piano), Jonathan Few (cello) and Anando Mukerjee (tenor and vocals).

One ladder, from first lesson to postgraduate

Western study is benchmarked to Trinity College London, an internationally recognised exam board regulated by Ofqual in England. Indian and Northeast instruments are certified by Seven Sisters Conservatoire on the same graded framework.

Grades 1–8	Voice, piano, strings and guitar, with further instruments on demand; theory in both Western and Indian systems	Trinity graded exams
Diploma	Performance or Teaching pathway	ATCL (Practical) / AMusTCL (Theory)
Higher Diploma	Advanced recital, arranging and pedagogy	LTCL (Practical) / LMusTCL (Theory)
Graduate and Postgraduate	Degrees with a university partner; PG Diploma in Ethnomusicology	FTCL at postgraduate level

Ethnomusicology at every stage

Learners and faculty document, notate and perform the music of Assam and the Seven Sisters states — building graded anthologies, a public dual-notation guide (staff and sargam) and a music archive made with the consent of the communities whose music it holds.

Our beloved Zubeen Garg wanted to study at Trinity Laban. We want the next generation of the Northeast's musicians to find that pathway at home.

WHAT MEMBERSHIP OFFERS YOUR UNIVERSITY

A partnership that serves students, faculty and research

Membership connects a university to an international music programme in its own region, without the cost and risk of building one alone.

Opportunities for students

Places at the annual International Music Workshop, masterclasses with visiting faculty, and a clear route to internationally recognised Trinity qualifications.

Faculty development

Development days for music and performing arts faculty, and guidance on teaching to an international benchmark.

Curriculum support

Access to the Seven Sisters Conservatoire Curriculum Framework, and help to design music courses that fit NEP 2020's emphasis on arts and multidisciplinary learning.

Research in Northeast music

Student and faculty involvement in ethnomusicology and fieldwork — a distinctive research area rooted in the region.

Performance on campus

Concerts and showcases that bring international and regional musicians to the university and its community.

Cultural leadership

Recognition as a member of an initiative working with Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra and, for its visiting faculty, supported by the Government of Assam and the Government of India.

Proportionate by design

Each level adds services in proportion to the fee, and the first year focuses on what can be delivered well: workshop places, masterclasses, faculty development and curriculum advice. Larger commitments — certificate and diploma pathways, research collaboration and degree discussions — sit with the higher levels and grow as the conservatoire grows.

Three levels, one annual fee

Fees are per 12-month membership year, plus GST as applicable. Each level builds on the one before it.

	Associate ₹5,00,000 per year + GST	Partner ₹7,50,000 per year + GST	Founding Partner ₹10,00,000 per year + GST
STUDENTS			
Places at the annual Seven Sisters International Music Workshop	5	10	15
Online masterclasses, including visiting international faculty	2 a year	4 a year	6 a year
On-campus masterclass visit by conservatoire faculty	—	1 day	2 days
Trinity College London exam pathway guidance for students	1 briefing	1 briefing + 1 clinic	1 briefing + 2 clinics
Students may audition for the workshop's final public performance	✓	✓	✓
FACULTY AND CURRICULUM			
Faculty development days	1	2	3
Access to the Curriculum Framework and syllabus materials	✓	✓	✓
Curriculum advice	1 alignment session	Design of a value-added certificate course	Co-design of certificate and diploma pathway
Guidance for faculty toward Trinity's Level 4 Certificate for Music Educators	—	—	Up to 2 faculty
RESEARCH			
Student places in ethnomusicology and fieldwork projects	—	✓	✓
Joint research on Northeast music; named contributor to anthologies and archive	—	—	✓
PERFORMANCE AND RECOGNITION			
Co-branded concert or showcase on campus	—	1 a year	1 a year, with faculty performing
Recognition on the conservatoire website and materials	Member listing	Listing with logo	Founding Partner credit, logo on major materials
Seat on the Seven Sisters Conservatoire Academic Advisory Board	—	—	✓
First discussion on future degree partnership (BMus / MMus)	—	—	✓

Workshop places cover the participation fee. Sessions and places are scheduled with the university and used within the membership year. Arrangements for on-campus visits are agreed in the membership agreement.

HOW MEMBERSHIP WORKS

Simple to join, clear to manage

Term and fees

- Membership runs for 12 months and is renewable each year.
- The annual fee is invoiced on joining, plus GST as applicable.
- A university may move to a higher level at renewal.

What we provide

- A named contact at Seven Sisters Conservatoire.
- An agreed annual plan within 30 days of joining.
- A short report at the end of the year on what was delivered.

What the university provides

- A coordinator to work with us on scheduling.
- A suitable room for on-campus sessions.
- Help identifying and supporting student participants.

Founding members

Universities that join in the first year shape the conservatoire's programmes from the start and are recognised as founding members in its materials.

Next steps

1. **A conversation** with the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar or the relevant Dean or Head of Department.
2. **Choose a level** and agree the first-year priorities.
3. **Sign the membership agreement**, which sets out services, schedule and payment terms.
4. **Begin** with a joint planning session and the annual plan.

This proposal is indicative. The final scope of each membership is set out in the membership agreement.

CONTACT

We would be glad to discuss membership with your university.

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