



Update for hub partners – May 2014

Big events

In the last newsletter we shared with partners the fantastic success of the March 'Big Sing' events, the last two of which hadn't yet taken place. Well done to Clive Waterman and David Congdon on the two concerts they jointly put on with the Wokingham Area Schools Music Association (WASMA). Entitled 'Way Out West' they brought to life the early history of the USA with some excellent music, dance and drama. An excellent example of Music Hub partnership working.



Learn to Play Day

This innovative initiative seems to have been a great success in the main across Berkshire with many children and adults turning up at music retailers to sample what it is like to play a musical instrument. There appears to be a growing consensus that this is

an initiative that is worth promoting, perhaps next year avoiding school holiday periods? The Music Hub Advisory Board would welcome thoughts and views on this.

Conference 2014

Thursday June 26th at Reading University, London Road Campus. The keynote speaker in the morning will be Robin Hammerton, senior HMI music, who will talk about the new Ofsted Music Report and how hubs should support schools. The programme for the rest of the day will have a number of strands for each of: Early Years; Key Stage 2; Transition into Key Stage 3 and Special Needs and music.

Also in the conference: Gavin Lombos from Readipop leading a session on Arts Award Discover and Explore; Voces8 leading workshops on transforming boys and teenagers singing; BBC Learning launching the Ten Pieces initiative; and of course much more

A full brochure with further information is available from dawngarside@berkshiremaestros.org.uk

Please do book early to guarantee your place, fewer than thirty places still left.

Hot off the press

The Music Hub now has a Strategic Plan for Music Education in Berkshire. At the heart of this plan is an audit of provision in schools, the results of which will be publicised at the conference in June. Every school in Berkshire is allocated a named individual from the Hub as their initial point of contact. The challenge of the task is to support schools to review and improve provision for music education.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Readipop on leading an excellent conference at Reading University in March. Reflections 2014 brought together a wide range of interested groups and individuals to explore issues of common concern and to gain key inputs from a range of guest presenters.

Forthcoming events for school subject leaders

Bracknell Forest music subject leaders are next meeting Thursday 15th May at the Easthampstead Park Centre from 4-00. West Berkshire Secondary Music meeting is at St Barts on Tuesday 20th May at 2-00. The Royal Borough music network meeting is Thursday 19th June at the Dedworth Middle School at 2-30. The Reading area

secondary music meeting is Wednesday 25th June at the JMA. The Wokingham secondary music subject leaders meet at Maiden Erlegh School on Thursday 17th July at 4-00.

Gifted and Talented programme

The Music Hub's programme of specialist extension support for the most gifted and talented young musicians will come to a climax this year with a special event 'A Ticket to the Orchestra' led by our hub partners the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The courses, 18th May and 6th July lead to a concert at the Magnet Leisure Centre, Maidenhead on Sunday 13th July at 6-30.

If you spot a child demonstrating exceptional musical ability in Berkshire, please let us know so that we can ensure that the child receives the best possible support in their music education.



To contact the music hub, please email philipitchfield@berkshiremaestros.org.uk

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