

Tempo!

Scholars' Magazine

Introduction from the Chief Executive

Welcome to the Summer issue of Tempo!, the first under our new branding of the *London Music Fund*. As we come to the end of another academic year we celebrate the achievements of our graduating Scholars, bringing them together to City Hall to mark their four years of hard work and commitment to music. I am delighted to be able to share with you in this issue some of their stories and success, and news of all our Scholars across London.

Chrissy Kinsella, Chief Executive

**Music has
the power to
change lives**

Derrick's story

Derrick, who is nearly 13, started learning the double bass aged 8 while at Gallion's Primary School, and showed considerable talent in his school music lessons.

It was clear that he was passionate about the double bass and he was a very dedicated pupil. To further his opportunities and support him and his family with the cost of ongoing music tuition and ensembles, his Primary School Music Coordinator considered him a suitable candidate for the London Music Fund Scholarship.

She told us that he was very passionate about music and would participate in any available opportunities; often coming to the music room to practise during his lunch breaks. With his Scholarship, Derrick was able to have individual music lessons and access the ensembles and music groups which would previously have been out of his reach.

In the last four years Derrick has made remarkable progress. He is working towards his Grade 6, studies at Junior Trinity, regularly takes part in projects with the London Symphony Orchestra and is a part of the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain. We would also like to congratulate Derrick on winning the Jack Petchey Award for his excellence in music.

Following our graduation ceremony at City Hall in July, Chi-chi Nwanoku OBE, a London Music Fund Trustee and Ambassador, invited Derrick to perform with the Chineke! Junior Orchestra on stage at the Royal Festival Hall. This is a fantastic achievement and testament to his talent and hard work.

 **Derrick says:** "I was challenged, when I joined the orchestra for rehearsals and the concert. Most of the other musicians in my section (double bass) were more advanced than me, so I tried very hard to play at the same level as them. I felt good, and privileged while playing with them. We played music that you wouldn't expect children our age to play. I enjoyed playing with the Chineke Junior Orchestra very much, eagerly looking forward to our next performance."

 **Derrick's Mum says:** 'The Scholarship has made a huge impact on Derrick's music and other activities. It has also opened a door of opportunities for him. He is a lead member of his school's music team. My son has decided to study music at the university, all thanks to the London Music Fund. He is no more the shy little boy, but a confident young musician.'



Derrick

**Newham Music Hub
2013-2017**



Recent exam successes

Congratulations to the following Scholars who have all had recent exam success:

🎵 **Jaisha Chowdhury**, Barking & Dagenham
Clarinet ★ *Grade 1 (Pass)*

🎵 **Mindalin Sjöholm**, Croydon
Violin ★ *Grade 1 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Jaden Gengadoo**, Enfield
Violin ★ *Grade 1 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Erida Rexhepi**, Bexley
Viola ★ *Grade 2 (Pass)*

🎵 **Konah Gange**, Greenwich
Trumpet ★ *Grade 2 (Pass)*

🎵 **Saimur Rahman**, Newham
Violin ★ *Grade 2 (Merit)*

🎵 **Thais Payne Sanchez**, Bromley
Violin ★ *Grade 3 (Pass)*

🎵 **Yehoshua Ben Haniel**, Croydon
Cello ★ *Grade 3 (Pass)*

🎵 **Isabella Amankwah Antepim**, Croydon
Clarinet ★ *Grade 3 (Pass)*

🎵 **Nathan Oriakhi**, Newham
Drumkit ★ *Grade 3 (Merit)*

🎵 **Hannah Mitchell**, Bromley
Clarinet ★ *Grade 3 (Merit)*

🎵 **Shannon Mahoney**, Greenwich
Trumpet ★ *Grade 3 (Merit)*

🎵 **Francis Arthur Masubay**, Camden
Violin ★ *Grade 3 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Saira Ahmed**, Camden
Violin ★ *Grade 3 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Maegan Affonso**, Croydon
Cello ★ *Grade 4 (Merit)*

🎵 **Peter Cross**, Bromley
Trombone ★ *Grade 4 (Merit)*

🎵 **Igli Lico**, Croydon
Cello ★ *Grade 4 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Isabelle Nduba-Darcheville**, Haringey
Guitar ★ *Grade 4 (Merit)*

🎵 **Georgina Lekka**, Enfield
Violin ★ *Grade 5 (Pass)*

🎵 **Marlon Dero**, Hillingdon
Trumpet ★ *Grade 5 (Pass)*

🎵 **Tamsin Dickinson**, Hillingdon
Trumpet ★ *Grade 5 (Merit)*

🎵 **Aoife Cullen**, Tri-Borough
Flute ★ *Grade 5 (Merit)*

🎵 **Amy Smith**, Bromley
Double Bass ★ *Grade 5 (Distinction)*



Rebecca

Sutton Music Service

Rebecca graduated from her Scholarship in 2016, and still plays an important role as one of our alumni. Earlier this year, she kindly came back to showcase how far she has come since the beginning of her Scholarship by performing in front of the Mayor of London and special guests at our Celebratory Lunch at May Fair Hotel. Rebecca has had a fantastic year, performing at St John Smith's Square, the Royal Albert Hall and Westminster Cathedral. She is currently preparing for her Grade 8 in both trumpet and piano and has been awarded a place at the Junior Guildhall School of Music and Drama from September. Many congratulations to Rebecca for all her hard work this year.

Scholar of the month

Every month on our website we celebrate the achievements of our Scholars with a 'Scholar of the Month' feature. Rebecca featured in June.

What made you want play the violin?

Ever since I was a young girl I loved watching the orchestras play in theatres, it was so awe-inspiring and really made me want to play the violin. The thing that makes the violin different from any other instrument is that it's yours to play. No one can play exactly like you; you play your own way and you are the source of the sound rather than the violin or the make of the bow. What matters is how much you enjoy it. Once you know how much you love playing it and are able to play it well, the violin is all yours. The violin is all yours for you to make music in your own style.

Why did you decide to play the trumpet?

A family friend, a couple of years older than me, played the trumpet and I thought it looked very cool. I couldn't wait to try it myself but I was still in the Infants School at that point so I had to wait until I joined the juniors in Year 3. Once at my new school I started lessons with Roger Willey and things progressed from there.

Has your trumpet taken you to some exciting places?

I've been fortunate to have played in a few places but the most significant ones are the Royal Albert Hall, St. John Smith's Square and Westminster Cathedral. I also played with the Royal Grenadier Guards when they performed with Sutton Youth Wind Orchestra (SYWO) last year.

In July I'll be playing with SYWO at the Royal Festival Hall.

What music do you like playing the most?

I like to play a variety of music from classical pieces and jazz to medleys of popular tunes. I enjoy the challenge of tackling more complex pieces which help me to discover different techniques and ways of playing.

If you could perform alongside someone famous who would it be?

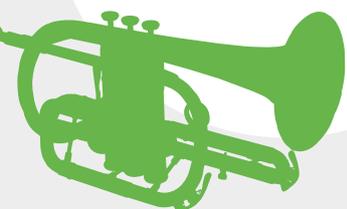
Simon Gardner, who I met at a Brass and Percussion week at the Guildhall last summer. It was inspiring to meet such an experienced and proficient trumpet player. It was fascinating to hear his stories and inspiring to see what level of musicianship can be achieved.

Has the London Music Fund Scholarship enabled you to have new opportunities?

I first found out about the Guildhall School of Music and Drama through a free brass day publicised by the London Music Fund. Without this opportunity I doubt I would have a place to study at the Guildhall next year.

What advice would you give Scholars who have just started their Scholarship?

My advice to Scholars would be to take advantage of every opportunity offered to you – you never know where they might lead – and enjoy every experience.



Joseph



Molly



Scholars' news and recent performance success

Joseph

Wandsworth Schools' Music Service, 2013-17, *Violin*

Joseph visited us at City Hall in July for his Graduation where he put together a fantastic jazz performance of Oye Como Va with the other graduating Scholars. Joseph, who is working towards his Grade 6, performed with his Senior Wandsworth Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall, the Wimbledon Tennis Championships and he will be touring with the orchestra around Spain this summer.

Enya

Redbridge Music Service, 2013-17
Flute

Enya is currently working towards her Grade 7 Flute, which is an excellent achievement. Alongside her flute studies, Enya has been making the most of every musical opportunity that comes her way and this year performed with the United Nations Youth Choir at Horse Guards Parade.

Katie

Tower Hamlets Arts and Music Education Service, 2015-19
Double Bass

Katie's confidence and enthusiasm in her playing is described as an inspiration to the younger pupils in her music group. Katie was recently awarded the Junior Prize at her Saturday Music Centre and with the prize money has bought a new xylophone.

Nathan

Newham Music Hub, 2016-20
Drum-Kit/Percussion

Nathan, aged 9, was a wonderful ambassador for the London Music Fund at ABRSM's 'Shine 2017' at the Barbican in June, where he was interviewed by Classic FM presenter, Margherita Taylor. Nathan only began his Scholarship in September 2016 and is already working towards his Grade 4.

Anna

Brent Music Service, 2014-18
Flute

Anna (age 14), who will soon be taking her Grade 8, is off to Holland with her concert band to compete in the world championships this summer. As if this wasn't enough, she came 2nd in the Brent Junior Young Musician of the Year competition. Congratulations, Anna!



Nathan

Nathan's Mum says "The Scholarship has made a huge difference to Nathan, it makes him work harder, be more focused and disciplined and try to act as a role model to others."

Feedback

We love hearing feedback from our Scholars, their teachers and family on how their music studies are going, their goals and their achievements. Here is a selection of comments we have received in our recent reports:

Abigail

Havering Music School, 2015–19
Flute

Abigail's mother says:

"Over the past year, I have seen her grow in confidence and maturity (both musically and personally). Her transition to secondary school went smoothly and I'm convinced that it was due in part to the solid base that her attendance at Havering Music School gives her. Music provides her with an outlet that nothing else can."

Alex

Hackney Music Service, 2014-18
Guitar

"Playing in Scholarship events has made me feel extremely happy, proud and has increased my confidence. I am enjoying the experience a lot and I am most proud of the solo I had on the second Playing Day I went to."

James

Bexley Music Service, 2016-20
Trumpet

James's teacher says:

"He is much more confident and positive as an individual and responds much better in challenging social situations. Being able to achieve to the level he has done so far has given him a sense of purpose and stronger sense of identity and we are pleased with the impact this continues to have on his emotional wellbeing."

Elicia

Havering Music School, 2016-20
Violin

"Being a Scholar makes me feel happy and proud. Playing my instrument makes me feel confident and less shy about things like going on stage in front of people."



Zaki

Isabelle

Haringey Music Service, 2013-17
Guitar

"I have enjoyed every moment of my Scholarship because it gave me a unique chance to do something I love and expand my knowledge of music with others I have met throughout this time."



2017 Graduation

We had a wonderful celebration for our 2017 graduating Scholars at City Hall in July.

The Scholars worked together under jazz musician Mark Armstrong to create their own version of *Oye Como Va*. This was an impressive piece of work performed to friends, family and guests, which brought their four years with us as London Music Fund Scholars to a close. Thank you to ABRSM for their sponsorship of the evening.

While we are sad to say goodbye to our 2017 Graduates, we are delighted that they now become part of our growing number of alumni and look forward to keeping in touch and following their musical progress. In the meantime, we are getting ready to welcome our latest intake of new Scholars at the **2017 Awards Day** on 25 September – look out for invitations in due course!

**Some names have been changed*

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