

Tempo!

Scholars' Magazine

Introduction from the Chief Executive

Welcome to the Autumn issue of Tempo! We have had a very busy few months, saying goodbye to our graduating Scholars over the summer, and welcoming our newest cohort to City Hall back in September. We are thrilled once again to be sharing all our Scholars' news with you, and hope that you enjoy reading their stories.

Chrissy Kinsella, Chief Executive

**Music has
the power to
change lives**

Yehoshua's story

11-year-old Yehoshua has been learning the cello for four years and has shown excellent commitment and maturity in his musical studies.

Yehoshua first got involved with music by learning the ukulele as part of a wider opportunity first access programme. He exceeded the programme's targets and advanced very quickly due to his commitment to practicing at home. Prior to starting his Scholarship he was playing the cello at Grade 2 level but needed individual lessons to enable him to progress at a faster rate. His school nominated him for a London Music Fund Scholarship for this reason and to take the financial pressure off of his mother.

As a Scholar, Yehoshua works very hard in his cello lessons and passed his Grade 3 exam in February 2017. His cello teacher says he plays with a good sense of style and contributes positively to his Saturday music centre. He has also taken the opportunity to showcase his cello skills in several performances including termly concerts with Croydon Young Musicians and Croydon Schools Music Association.

The London Music Fund's music education consultant, Annie Cartwright, observed Yehoshua in the first year of his Scholarship

and was struck by his enjoyment and enthusiasm for music when she spoke to him. We are so pleased that Yehoshua is having such a great time and look forward to following his progress further as he enters his third year as a Scholar.

🎵 In his end of year report, Yehoshua told us: "I really enjoy all the Scholarship sessions, because I manage to learn things that I have never learned before. I really enjoy the performances, because we get to show our level of music. I feel more confidence in everything."

🎵 His parents agree: "The year has been great! Yehoshua achieved his first Grade (3) for his music. He demonstrated dedication and commitment during the time leading to the examination. The night before, Yehoshua stayed up practising till 12am for the next day. He understands that it is a great opportunity that the Scholarship has given him. Yehoshua is constantly making music using apps in combination with his cello. He is composing beats and shares these at school. Music has grown to be a major part of his life."



Yehoshua

**Croydon Music
and Arts
2015-2019**



Recent exam successes

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

🎵 **Chiara Lecca**, Harrow
Violin ★ *Grade 1 (Merit)*

🎵 **Jedida Goodwin**, Lewisham
Violin ★ *Grade 2 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Maxwell Harrison-Obefami**, Lambeth
Violin ★ *Grade 2 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Princetta Akulla Ebong**, Lewisham
Flute ★ *Grade 2 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Luna Trumpiskyte**, Tower Hamlets
Flute ★ *Grade 2 (Merit)*

🎵 **Jenade Martin**, Lewisham
Alto Sax ★ *Grade 3 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Alexandra Cardoso**, Kingston
Violin ★ *Grade 3 (Merit)*

🎵 **Victoria Forbes**, Barnet
Cello ★ *Grade 3 (Merit)*

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

🎵 **Abigail Smith**, Havering
Flute ★ *Grade 4 (Merit)*

🎵 **Claudia Buchanan**, Lambeth
Cello ★ *Grade 4 (Merit)*

🎵 **Leonardo Vizan**, Richmond
Cello ★ *Grade 4 (Merit)*

🎵 **Adrianna Forbes-Dorant**, Lambeth
Violin ★ *Grade 5 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Andrei Gheorghe**, Redbridge
Violin ★ *Grade 5 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Chun Hei Lau**, Redbridge
Trumpet ★ *Grade 5 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Aimee Dart**, Havering
Violin ★ *Grade 5 (Merit)*

🎵 **Derrick Nwabueze Iroanusi**, Newham
Double Bass ★ *Grade 6 (Merit)*

🎵 **Anna Sinko Uribe**, Brent
Flute ★ *Grade 8 (Merit)*



Alexandra Kingston Music Service

14 year old Alexandra from Kingston has been playing the violin for four years. She recently passed her Grade 3 exam and plays a large part in her school's musical community.

Alexandra's mum says: "Music has given Alexandra the confidence of knowing an extra ability and that enables her to be committed and proud of her capacities. All of that is just possible because of her Scholarship."

Scholar of the month

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

Why did you decide to play the Violin?

My primary school was part of the wider opportunities program so in year 4 we started learning string instruments and I picked the violin. I was interested in the violin before I had the opportunity to learn it at school. My friend played it and I sometimes watched him practice and since then I loved the idea of playing such an elegant instrument. So of course, when I was given the opportunity, I grabbed it with both hands. I then continued playing it after year 4.

Has your music taken you to some cool places? If so, where?

I joined the Kingston training orchestra which was my first experience in playing alongside different instruments. This helped me learn to play not only as an individual but as a team. I then moved on to the Kingston youth orchestra which is filled with so much talent. Playing more challenging music helped me gain confidence in my violin playing as an individual. Since joining these orchestras I've played in many musical clubs, concerts and performances in theatres and churches. I have also gone to trips with my orchestra such as PGL and the Lion King west end theatre.

What music do you like playing the most?

I love playing classical music because of how many emotions can be expressed in a single piece of music. I also find playing blues/ jazz really fun as it is different to

what I usually play.

If you could perform alongside someone famous who would it be? Or what musician do you look up to?

I have three main artists that I look up to: The first one is Bon Jovi. I love how much passion he puts in his music and I would love to be able to express that much passion in my playing.

The second one is Edward Elgar. I find his pieces so beautiful and I don't get tired of playing or listening to them over and over again because of how well composed they are.

The third one is Beethoven not only for how far he got to with his music but for how he dodged the obstacles in his life to achieve greatness. Even though he was deaf, he was able to become one of the most talented and famous artists in the history of music.

Has the Scholarship enabled you to have new opportunities?

The Scholarship was the reason I was able to join the orchestras I did which helped me evolve in my playing.

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

You must dive into every opportunity you get because many others would wish to have what you have got – so don't waste it.

Adrianna



Scholars' news and recent performance success

Aliyah

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

Recent graduate Aliyah Nelson has been awarded a Fledgling Award from Future Talent after sending in a recording of her playing. She has since transferred on to Oboe lessons with Wandsworth Music Service at the Music Academy and is making fantastic progress.

Isabelle

Haringey Music Service, 2013-17, *Guitar*

Isabelle graduated in July. She recently gained a Grade 4 Distinction in Classical Guitar and is now taking GCSE music at school. She also continues to be a member of Haringey's Senior Guitar Ensemble and will be taking her musical skills abroad when she goes to Hungary on their next tour in April 2018!

Jake

Brent Music Service, 2013-17 *Violin*

Jake took part in the Ealing Festival in May. He played a Grade 7 Vivaldi piece beautifully and was praised by the judges. As a result he was rewarded with Commended in Class.

Adrianna

Lambeth, 2014-18 *Violin*

Violinist Adrianna was putting her musical skills into practice on both Saturday and Sunday of the Remembrance weekend; she played Bach's Sarabande on her violin at the Imperial War Museum's November 2017 Remembrance Ceremonies.

Anna

Brent Music Service, 2014-18 *Flute*

Anna is doing incredibly well in her flute studies, recently passing her Grade 8 exam with Merit. If that wasn't enough Anna has also taken part in a World Music Contest in Holland with her concert band.

Nathan

Enfield, 2014-18 *Violin*

We're very proud of our Scholar Nathan who has set up his own music club at school with a friend. They meet once a week at lunchtimes and work on their own compositions.

How our new Scholars feel about starting their Scholarships...

"I am excited and it makes me feel proud because of what I have achieved"

Afwevun, Hounslow, Clarinet

"I am excited about starting my Scholarship. At first I was really nervous but then my confidence built up when we started"

Eloise, Brent, Violin

"I am excited about starting my Scholarship as I love playing my beloved violin"

Luke, Bromley, Violin

"It makes me feel excited because it will be really fun to include myself in different musical activities"

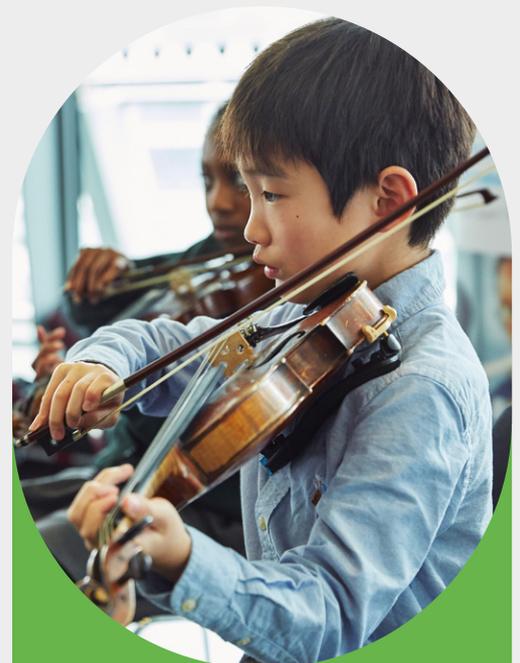
Sarah, Bexley, Violin

"It makes me feel ecstatic because it will open up many opportunities for me"

Tyrique, Lewisham, Percussion

"I have learnt to sing and play various parts of a song that are linked to a story"

Shreya, Harrow, Flute



Luke

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:

Julia

Merton Music Foundation, 2014–18
Flute

"I am definitely enjoying my Scholarship. It has given me the opportunity to play the flute, which is, by far, one of the best things in my life. Playing the flute makes me feel, not only happy and excited, but also free and relaxed. I am very happy to be able to say that I am Grade 4 flute, with 135 points out of 150. I am very proud of myself. As I play in a couple of ensembles, playing the flutes requires me to work in a team with other children in the ensemble, which is usually the highlight of my week."

Maxwell

Lambeth Music Service, 2016-20
Violin

"Being a Scholar makes me proud of myself. It also gives me the confidence to strive on and succeed more in life. So far, my Scholarship has been an amazing experience for me. All the lessons I have been given have really improved my Violin skills. Being able to play the Violin and playing it makes me feel joyful. Thanks a lot for the experience."

Saimur

Newham Music, 2014-18
Keyboard

"This year I have been really motivated to work towards my exam and I'm really proud of myself for passing my exam. I've enjoyed my music lessons at school this year and like to play the keyboard for more upbeat songs. I think my listening and theory skills have improved this year and it was good to play with other students in the school orchestra. Correct positioning is still a big challenge for me but I hope to get better next year."

Oliver

Tower Hamlets, 2014-18
Instrument

Oliver's Head Teacher says:

"Oliver is becoming more confident and outgoing as a result of his increasing musical prowess as he heads to his new secondary school. He is excited to share his talents with a wider audience, until now he has just shared it with St. Agnes via talent shows and assemblies."



Naum

Wandsworth, 2016-20
Instrument

Naum's Head Teacher says:

"This opportunity has had a clear and positive impact on Naum's overall achievement in school, not least because of an increase in his self-confidence. He has always been a well-liked pupil; now his peers look up to him as well and wish to emulate his success... this is a wonderful thing for him to feel!"



**Some names have been changed*

2017 Awards Day

We had a wonderful celebration for our new 2017 Scholars at City Hall in September.

The Scholars worked together with musicians from ABRSM to tell the story of *The Silk Road*. This was an engaging piece of work performed to friends, family and guests, which got the children's London Music Fund Scholarship off to a great start. Thank you to ABRSM for their sponsorship of the morning, and to Oscar-winning composer and London Music Fund Ambassador Rachel Portman for inspiring our young musicians by talking about her own musical journey.

We wish all of our new Scholars the best of luck with their musical journeys and look forward to hearing about their progress!

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