



Tempo!

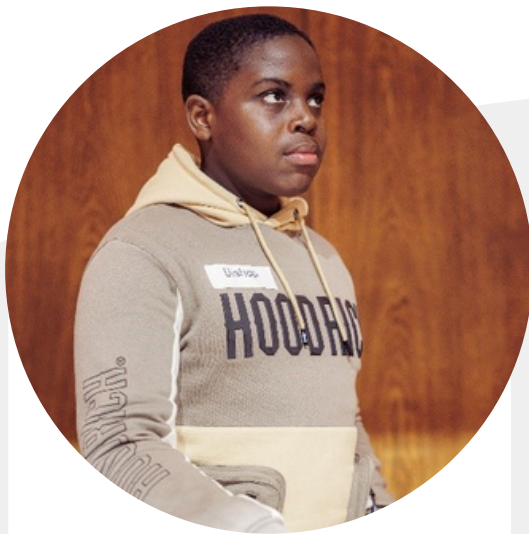
Welcome to the Autumn/Winter issue of Tempo

I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer! Our autumn term is already off to a great start, with a further **100 four-year Scholarships** awarded to children from across London for the second year in a row. We celebrated the musical achievements of our new Scholarship cohort on 18 September 2023 at St John's Smith Square with a fantastic musical workshop led by Lincoln Abbotts, LMF Ambassador Julian Bliss, and musicians from ABRSM, and we are so excited to watch these young musicians develop over the next four years – you can read about one of them in our October Scholar of the Month interview with 10-year-old guitarist Kasòn from Lewisham Music. It also gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the new LMF team.

We hope you enjoy reading about our Scholars and are as impressed by their talent and dedication as we are. Please do get in touch to let us know what you think!

Chrissy Kinsella, Chief Executive

Music has
the power to
change lives



Bishop

Ealing Music Service
2019-23

Bishop's Story

14-year-old Bishop from Ealing graduated from our Scholarship Programme in the summer, taking part in our celebration at the Royal Academy of Music in July, and will be continuing his studies with the support of his music service, school, and church.

Described as having a 'strong electric personality' by his mentor, Bishop's instrumental teachers have been impressed by his musical maturity, commitment to performance activities in his school and borough, and ability to inspire others to take up the drums. He continues to be a role model for other children at school, at his church, and at home, including for his autistic brothers.

Bishop's dedication towards his Scholarship is reflected in his musical progress. When Bishop joined our Scholarship Programme, he was working at pre-grade 1 standard. At the end of his Scholarship, Bishop is reported to be working at grade 8 standard! He is a confident improviser and can play by ear comfortably.

Throughout his Scholarship, he has been working on his music theory knowledge and sight reading, as well as learning about different genres of music.

Bishop is part of his school's 'musical team', who play regularly for school events and showcases, and has performed with Ealing's percussion group, Cadenza; the National Youth Orchestra at Questor Theatre; and plays regularly at his church. In addition, he has attended many of LMF's events, including our 10-year anniversary gala.

🎵 Bishop says: 'I have enjoyed my musical journey through my Scholarship programme. I have built confidence in playing the drums in big congregations, concerts, and church. In addition, music has improved my health and well-being, reducing stress and helping me know how to interact with people. My autistic brothers have enjoyed and learned how to play the drums, which helped calm them down. I have enjoyed every moment of my Scholarship. Thank you so much!'

'Bishop could not have come this far without your great support. He continues to be a role model for the children in our church. Bishop has met great people during his musical journey through his Scholarship programme.'

— Parent of Bishop

Scholars' Awards Day

September 2023

On Monday 18 September, we hosted our 2023 London Music Fund Scholars' Awards Day for our latest cohort of 100 Scholars at the wonderful St John's Smith Square.

The Awards Day provided the often rare opportunity for young people to learn from and perform alongside some of the country's finest musicians. It was a privilege to welcome Lincoln Abbotts, Julian Bliss, and musicians from ABRSM to lead the workshop, who expertly guided our Scholars through the composition of their very own piece of music. The children showed exemplary commitment and enthusiasm throughout the day, and we are so proud of them.



Introducing the new team!

Over the summer, we said a sad goodbye to our Programmes Manager, Georgina Skinner, and our Projects and Relationships Manager, Dorothy Hoskins, who moved on to fantastic new roles in the arts and charity sector after six and four years with LMF respectively. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank them both for the dedication and commitment they gave to LMF during their time with us, and wish them the very best in their new roles. We are now delighted to welcome Kate Kelly and Sophie Mullender to the team! They both bring a huge amount of experience and passion for our work, and we look forward to working with them.



Kate Kelly – Senior Programmes and Operations Manager

Kate studied flute at Trinity College of Music, graduating with First Class Honours and going on to complete a MMus at Guildhall School of Music and Drama. As a creative producer Kate has worked extensively to deliver music events including for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Proms, Serious, Early Opera Company, and Kings Place. From 2012 Kate took up the role of Programme Director: Festivals at Spitalfields Music, delivering bi-annual contemporary and classical music festivals and a diverse programme of work across East London. Most recently whilst living in Seattle, USA, she served as Vice President of LMCS (Seattle's oldest music organisation) and on the Board of Trustees for the Kirkland Arts Centre.



Sophie Mullender – Programmes and Operations Assistant

Sophie Mullender is a first-class music graduate and distinction-awarded postgraduate of King's College London. Previously, she worked as the Fundraiser and Administrator for the Diocese of Leeds Music Department and Coordinator of the National Schools Singing Programme. In this role, she oversaw the development, communications, and administration of a music department that works with 7,500 children in 70 state schools every week. Sophie is a proud advocate for under-represented communities in music: she frequently records interview as an ambassador for young people pursuing creative subjects, and her most recent scholarly research — a postgraduate thesis entitled 'I am a Woman Again: Persona Formation Amongst Female Jazz Musicians in Live Concerts' — draws upon her own experiences as a drummer and explores the potential of musical personae as a tool for activism against gender stereotypes in jazz.



Good news stories

Denis

14, Clarinet, Barking and Dagenham, 2019-23

Denis has had another great year and has worked hard to achieve further progress on his clarinet.

Denis says: 'My favourite part of this Scholarship over the years is the amount of great and talented people I have been able to meet and converse with, and they have been able to inspire me to be the better clarinet player. Music is a form of escapism that has helped me with dealing with stress of daily life and school such as the current exam season'.

Sienna

11, Cello, Lewisham, 2021-25

This year Sienna has attended the LMF playing days, local holiday music courses, and workshops with the LPO and LSO.

Sienna has proven herself to be a natural music leader, and she has taken on roles at school that are further developing her musicianship. She has a positive attitude to learning as well as a natural talent, that are giving her the ability to make the most of all the musical experiences she is able to access.

Eleanor

13, Violin, Lambeth, 2019-23

Eleanor has taken part in regular performances and events, including the LPO Young Artists Day and the NYO Inspire Program. She is working towards her Grade 7 violin.

Her family say that Eleanor's involvement in the Scholarship has not only enhanced her musical abilities but also her personal growth. Eleanor takes immense pride in being a LMF Scholar and aspires to give back by volunteering to help other children and share her musical skills in the future.

Ayomide

12, Drum kit, Newham, 2021-25

Ayomide is a pivotal member of his music service's ensembles and he has made great progress already.

Ayomide's mentor says that his confidence has visibly grown and he clearly loves the social side of playing drums as well as the musical. He has been attending theory lessons to support his reading as well as playing in many ensembles, including Jazz and Bridging Sounds Orchestra. Ayomide was picked out for special mention by the mentors at the Music for Youth event in Birmingham in July, where they spotted his ability.

Georgina

15, Violin, Hillingdon, 2019-23

Georgina recently passed her Grade 6 Violin with Distinction.

Georgina says: 'What music means to me: it is a form of escapism, somewhere to express things that maybe you can't express through words. Also, music is like a time-machine and a magic carpet rolled into one. With my violin, I can go to see the King at the palace of Versailles, or to a Spanish bull fight, or to a pagan Irish folk festival. From our tiny flat, I can just open my violin case, start playing, escape and be free'.

Yavora

11, Oboe, Hounslow, 2021-25

Yavora participates in her local music service's choir and junior wind band, her school choir and orchestra, and has performed in various concerts over the year.

Yavora has been described by her teacher as a 'natural oboist'. Her finger technique and control over the instrument are developing well. Yavora attends every lesson on time and she has been doing notable amounts of practice in her spare time. Last term, Yavora took her grade three oboe exam.

Recent exam successes

🎵 **Lianne**, Brent
Violin, *Grade 3 (merit)*

🎵 **Amber**, Hillingdon
Piano, *Grade 6 (pass)*

🎵 **Raymi**, Islington
Flute, *Grade 7 (distinction)*

🎵 **Mohammed**, Newham
Piano, *Grade 8 (distinction)*

🎵 **Phoenix**, Islington
Flute, *Grade 3 (distinction)*

🎵 **Mia**, Harrow
Trumpet, *Grade 2 (distinction)*

🎵 **Queenie**, Bromley
Cello, *Grade 5 (distinction)*

🎵 **Jemiah**, Lambeth
Violin, *Grade 5 (distinction)*

🎵 **Meloe**, Lewisham
Cello, *Grade 3 (merit)*

🎵 **Liam**, Tri-Borough
Guitar, *Grade 1 (merit)*

🎵 **Divine**, Southwark
Trumpet, *Grade 3 (pass)*

🎵 **Peyton**, Merton
Flute, *Grade 1 (distinction)*

October Scholar of the Month

October's Scholar of the Month is Kasòn from Lewisham Music Service, who has been described by his teacher as their 'most enthusiastic student'! 10-year-old Kasòn started his Scholarship in September 2023, and has already made a fantastic contribution towards LMF's musical activities: at our recent Scholars' Awards Day, Kasòn was invited to perform a solo, on both the voice and guitar, as part of a piece that had been composed by the Scholars during the day. His natural musicality shone through, and we are so excited to follow his progress during his Scholarship.

We asked Kasòn about how he found the Playing Day:

How did you find the experience of singing and playing at our Awards Day?

I was very excited but I wasn't nervous. All I could think about was playing the Canon in C correctly.

What was your favourite moment of the day and why?

My favourite moment was learning the chord sequence with all the other musicians.



November Scholar of the Month

November's Scholar of the Month is Mayukhjrit from Newham Music Hub. 13-year-old Mayukhjrit has had a fantastic few months of music-making, having passed his grade 7 flute exam with distinction, won first prize of the British Flute Society Competition and Stratford Music Festival, and learning under Sir Simon Rattle as part of the London Symphony Orchestra's Next Generation Programme. Alongside his busy performance schedule on both the flute and Indian flute, Mayukhjrit is also one of Newham Music's Youth Ambassador, which gives him the opportunity to mentor other young musicians.

What are you looking forward to most this year?

I am working very hard to achieve ABRSM Grade 8 in Flute and Piano Grade 3 by the end of this year. This year onwards, I am feeling excited to be part of the NYO along with my ongoing LSO sessions.

What has been your favourite moment of your Scholarship so far?

The Scholarship has helped me tremendously in pursuing my musical studies. One of my most cherishable moments is becoming the first prize winner in British Flute Society competition 2023. The next one is undoubtedly working with Sir Simon Rattle for a day-long workshop and performing as part of the London Symphony Orchestra in June, 2023 in Trafalgar Square and in front of 6000 + audiences and Mayor of London. Without the support from LMF, my musical journey could not progress this far.

What are your musical goals for the future?

I am aspiring to be a professional musician. My goal is not only limited to be a flautist but also explore the areas like composing and editing music.



Here's our Q&A with Mayukhjrit