

Tempo!

Scholars' Magazine

Introduction from the Chief Executive

Welcome to the 2018 Autumn/Winter issue of Tempo! Here at the London Music Fund we have been very busy welcoming a new cohort of Scholars to City Hall to receive their awards, and bidding farewell to our 2014-18 graduates. We had a very successful workshop in July for these graduates with Mark Armstrong and members of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra, as you can see on page 3. Then in September we were delighted to welcome Yolanda Brown to our Awards Day where she gave an incredibly inspiring speech to our new Scholars. More recently we have been enjoying reading the 2018 end of year reports and were overwhelmed with the abundance of good news stories we came across. We hope you enjoy reading the selection in this edition, as well as features on two of our fantastic Scholars, Ali and Luke. Make sure you read until the end for some exciting news on our 2019 Playing Days!

Chrissy Kinsella, Chief Executive

**Music has
the power to
change lives**

Ali's story

10 year old Ali has always been a committed young musician. Prior to his Scholarship he always took his clarinet home to practise which enabled him to develop his skills. Ali's passion and dedication to his clarinet studies was noticed by his school and Hounslow Music Service who put him forward for a London Music Fund Scholarship in 2015.

During his Scholarship Ali has made excellent progress and has greatly improved his technical ability on the clarinet. He is currently working at around Grade 4 level and hopes to take his exam in 2019. Ali is a dedicated member of Hounslow Junior Wind Band and regularly plays in end of term concerts with the group.

As well as playing the clarinet Ali enjoys singing and is a member of Hounslow Youth Choir so is a rather well-rounded musician! We are incredibly proud of Ali and think his dedication to his instrumental studies is inspiring.

Despite challenges in his life he has persevered and made fantastic progress on the clarinet. We hope he enjoys his final year as a Scholar and look forward to seeing what he decides to do with his music once he has graduated.

🎵 **Ali told us:** "Thank you for giving me my Scholarship on my clarinet. It has really changed my life. It has also given me a chance to think about being in a band when I am older. I really like to practise with my teacher, Mr Ashton, and he has done a lot of great things to make me get better on my clarinet."

🎵 **Ali's mum told us:** "The Scholarship has made Ali more confident and a very happy child."



Ali

**Hounslow Music
Service
2015-2019**

Recent exam successes

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

🎵 **Jaisha Chowdhury**, Barking & Dagenham
Clarinet ★ *Grade 2 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Sé Nolan O'Toole**, Barnet
Clarinet ★ *Grade 4 (Distinction)*

🎵 **Logan White**, Croydon
Oboe ★ *Grade 1 (Merit)*

🎵 **Igli Lico**, Croydon
Cello ★ *Grade 5 (Merit)*

🎵 **Demba Boly**, Lambeth
Trumpet ★ *Grade 2 (Merit)*

🎵 **Ahdia Khan**, Redbridge
Violin ★ *Grade 1 (Merit)*

🎵 **Luke Yang**, Bromley
Violin ★ *Grade 5 (Merit)*

🎵 **Mindalin Sjöholm**, Croydon
Violin ★ *Grade 2 (Merit)*

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

🎵 **Maegan Affonso**, Croydon
Cello ★ *Grade 5 (Pass)*



Luke

Sutton Music Service

Luke's mum says: "We are very proud of Luke and his sister. Neither of us can play any instrument at all, and we are so glad to have the support of the Sutton Music Service and the London Music Fund."

Luke's Music Service Mentor told us:

"Luke is a valued member of the Sutton Youth Symphonic Band and is currently one of seven horn players within this band! He shows huge potential at a young age – I look forward to seeing where the next year shall take him. Well done Luke!"

Scholar of the month

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

11 year old Luke from Sutton is in the final year of his Scholarship and has had a great four years. He recently took his Grade 4 French horn exam and especially enjoyed playing *Nessun Dorma*, as it was played at a previous World Cup being a keen football fan! His French horn teacher told us that he has a good range, technique and exhibits a keen sense of enjoyment of the pieces he plays. We're really proud of the hard work Luke has put into his four year Scholarship and hope he enjoys his final year with the London Music Fund!

Why did you decide to play the French horn?

I went to see my older sister playing her trombone in the Sutton Training Band. I saw a tuba for the first time in my life and wanted to play it. I was only 5 and it was bigger than me. Lewis, my mentor in Sutton, who showed me a shiny French horn, said perhaps one day I could play that when my fingers could reach the valves. I had a try right then, and they reached, so I started lessons that term.

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

Yes. Last summer I played at the Royal Festival Hall. I loved it as we played in such a large auditorium where all our pieces sounded even better than they had before. I've been able to go to several residential weekends at High Ashurst, where we learn pieces in two days and then perform to our families on the Sunday. This year, it really was cool: there was snow on the ground! We were still able to do lots of team building activities, play games and watch films.

What music do you like playing the most?

My favourite band piece is *Moment for Morricone* because we had a French horn solo in it! On my own, my favourite piece is *633 Squadron*.

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

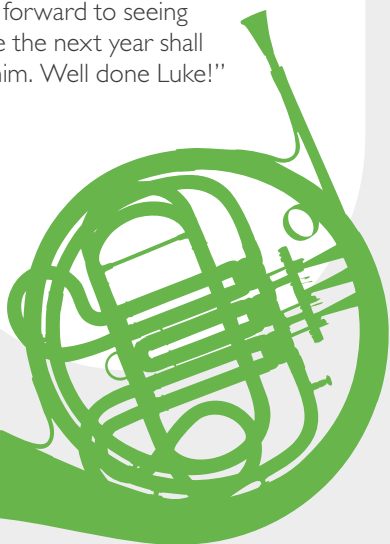
I admire musicians who compose and play. It would be great to play in a band with George Ezra.

Has the Scholarship enabled you to have new opportunities?

Yes. I had played at school and at the Sutton bands before, but the Scholarship Playing Days are really enjoyable. It's great working with the musicians and other Scholars there. I love the improvisation and the ways we come together to create music. My favourite was at City Hall.

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

Stick with your instrument. You can enjoy making music and making new friends.



Good news stories from Scholars' 2018 end-of-year reports



Adrianna

Lambeth Music Service, 2014-18, *Violin*

Recent graduate Adrianna has had a great four years as a London Music Fund Scholar. Earlier this year she successfully auditioned for a place to study at Trinity Laban Junior conservatoire for piano and violin as a second study. Now in her second term at Trinity, Adrianna is currently preparing for Grade 8 violin and piano. If that wasn't enough she will also be singing in the children's chorus in Carmen at the Royal Opera House from 27 November – 22 December! We are so proud of all that Adrianna has achieved and look forward to even more exciting updates from her!

Chun

Redbridge Music Service, 2015-19, *Trumpet*

Chun's musical ability has impressed during his time as a Scholar so far. He has just passed his Grade 6 trumpet exam which is a great achievement. His instrumental tutor told us that he works well, with a high degree of determination and enthusiasm. We are delighted that as well as playing in Redbridge Music Service's Brass Band he has also joined their Intermediate Orchestra.

Sophia

Barnet Education Arts Trust, 2016-20, *Trombone*

Sophia has worked exceptionally hard on her trombone playing this year with excellent results. Since last year Sophia has achieved a Distinction and Silver Music Medal in both Grades 1 and 2 on the trombone. She has also recently achieved a Distinction for her Grade 2 clarinet exam taken in June 2018. Well done Sophia!

Anna

Brent Music Service, 2014-18, *Flute*

Anna has had a phenomenal year in her flute studies. Following her Grade 8 Merit result she has begun her ABRSM diploma studies. This summer she also won the Brent Young Musician of the Year competition which saw her beat instrumentalists and singers from The Brit School, The Purcell School and The Junior Royal Academy.

Jedida

Lewisham Music, 2015-19, *Violin*

Jedida has made great progress during her Scholarship so far. She is currently Grade 3 in both piano and violin and shows excellent commitment to her studies. We are so pleased that earlier this year Jedida was accepted into the 'National Orchestra for All' and travelled to Leeds to play with them.

Scholars' Graduation 2018

On Monday 9 July we welcomed our 2014-18 cohort of Scholars to City Hall for their graduation ceremony.

They enjoyed a workshop with Mark Armstrong and members of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra which resulted in a brilliant piece of music full of some impressive improvised solos. Following the performance the graduates were presented with their medals by our Ambassador clarinettist, Julian Bliss, who then gave a fantastic speech to send our Scholars off on the next stage of their musical journey. We are very grateful to Mark, Julian and the National Youth Jazz Orchestra for making the day so exciting for our Scholars.

Take a look at some of the great feedback we received from the graduates and their parents/carers:

“What will I do next with my music? I am going to Centre for Young Musicians in September so I will keep playing, get to Grade 8 and become a professional.”

Benjamin, Lewisham, Violin

“My Scholarship has given me the ability to play and read music confidently. I am going to be a famous musician with my trombone and singing. I have also decided to study music for GCSE and am loving it.”

Jonathan, Southwark, Trombone

“My Scholarship has helped me to feel more confident about myself. I used to be insecure about myself but now I've grown up and I feel like anything is possible.”

La'Karla, Newham, Double Bass



2018 Awards Day

On Monday 17 September we were delighted to welcome our new cohort of 50 Scholars to City Hall.

They enjoyed a workshop led by Lincoln Abbots with musicians from ABRSM. The piece they learnt was then taught to their friends and family prior to the performance so that they could join in using body percussion. Our excellent Ambassador, Yolanda Brown, gave an inspiring speech during the awards ceremony and presented each new Scholar with their Scholarship. Overall it was a wonderful morning and we were incredibly proud of our new Scholars who gave a great performance. We very much look forward to keeping up to date with their progress over the next four years.



Below is a selection of feedback from our new Scholars telling us about their Awards Day experience:

Azjune, Haringey, *Trumpet*

"I am both excited and nervous because I get to learn more about my trumpet. I think all of my family members are very happy for me. I also think my friends are very supportive."

Tia, Tri-Borough, *Violin*

"I was soooo excited and anxious about starting my Scholarship and I can't wait until Saturday music school!"

Sidney, Croydon, *Trombone*

"I think my parents are proud of me because this is a special opportunity."

Elsa, Barnet, *Violin*

"I am excited to start my Scholarship and I feel so happy because this is such a big achievement. I think that my family and friends feel very happy for me and they are so overwhelmed to see me get a Scholarship."

Ihcen-Zineb, Tower Hamlets, *Violin*

"I am really excited about my Scholarship. I feel really happy because I can learn harder pieces. I think my family and friends will love it because I will love it."

Joel, Camden, *Violin*

"I feel very happy about starting my Scholarship and lucky because it's a very big opportunity."



Many thanks to Yolanda Brown, Lincoln Abbots and musicians from ABRSM for an excellent day.

2019 Playing Days

We are very excited to announce that in 2019 The London Music Fund will be holding two special Playing Days for current and graduate Scholars.

In 2019 our Playing Days will reflect our aim of providing progressive and sustained learning for our Scholars. We have commissioned a special piece by Deborah Pritchard which will be learnt by the workshop participants and made available for them to take away and practise in their instrumental lessons.

On Sunday 24 February string players will be invited to partake in a workshop led by the fantastic Nicola Benedetti at Duke's Hall at the Royal Academy of Music. There will also be a teacher training session for string teachers from London Music Services led by Nicola Benedetti.

On Sunday 10 March brass, woodwind and percussion players will be invited to a workshop led by the wonderful Julian Bliss at Milton Court Concert Hall at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

We hope that as many Scholars as possible can join us for what are sure to be two very exciting days.



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