

Musica Colne Valley News



Summer 2019

Welcome Back

Hope you all had a good Easter break and are looking forward to another busy term of music making with Musica Colne Valley

Spring Celebration

Can I say a huge thank you and congratulations to everyone who took part in the *Spring Celebration* towards the end of last term. Huddersfield Town Hall is a fantastic venue and it was great to see so many young musicians performing together. For many of our youngsters it will have been the first time they have performed there; hopefully they enjoyed the experience as much as I did.

There was a real sense of camaraderie between the Musica Shelley and Colne Valley pupils which was really great to see and I hope we'll have many more projects together in the future.



Music for Youth (MfY)

Five of our groups took part in the *MfY Huddersfield Regional Festival* which was held during March. Senior Guitars and Advanced Strings took part, Senior Wind Bands from Musica Colne Valley and Musica Shelley joined forces to create 'Music a Deux' and our Strings joined the Big Band to create what the mentors called a 'Session Orchestra'. The young musicians really did us proud with some wonderful performances. Here are just a few of the great things the MfY Mentors had to say:

Senior Guitars

.....A beautiful and well-blended sound, colourful use of dynamics - musically performed, peaceful and expressive, soulful playing from each member of this ensemble, your playing is poised and beautiful, great control and technique from all of you.

Music a Deux

.....such mature flow and improvised lines throughout the band were confident and stylish, a colourful performance with great dynamic contrasts, fluidity and textural contrasts that make us sit up and listen, played with great energy and vibrancy, played with authority and driven by your rhythm section and xylophone player, everything is well-articulated and phrased in this performance.

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Advanced Strings

.....what a wonderfully mature sound, you play with technical ease and with fantastic intonation, you blend so well as a trio, creating a stunning musical soundscape, your delivery is filled with soul and expression, you trust each other within the rests. Well done, you are marvellous for playing such an ambitious programme - you definitely did it justice.

Big Band and Strings

.....This is a fantastic representation of a session orchestra - love it, great solo playing from the bari sax and violin - mature and thoughtful, your sound is colourful, tight and well rehearsed, lovely to have the added string sounds in this song, well done to the singer, you have a really lovely voice developing, a very solid groove laid down by the rhythm section, great solos, brave and confident string playing.

Breaking News – MfY National Festival

Following their performances at the MfY Regional Festival, we've just heard that two of our groups have been invited to perform in Birmingham at the National Festival. 'Music a Deux' will be playing at Symphony Hall on Friday, July 5, our String Trio will be performing at the Birmingham Conservatoire of Saturday, July 6. Fantastic news, congratulations to all involved.

Dates for your Diary

May 7 and 8 – Central Ensemble Taster Sessions

May 10 – Musica Colne Valley Big Sing (no rehearsal for Senior Band as the Theatre is being used for the event)

May 11 – Golcar Lily Day

May 11 – Big Band Festival

May 24 - No MCV rehearsals

June 15 – Berry Brow Carnival - Intermediate Wind Band performing

June 16 – Big Band in Greenhead Park

July 12 – Summer Fest

July 19 - No MCV rehearsals

#MUSICA COLNE VALLEY

BIG SING

Colne Valley High School

Singers from:
Gallop J&I
Marsden Junior
Cauldwell Primary
Cough Head J&I
Wilberforce J&I
Nield's Primary
Colne Valley Boys

Friday 10th May
6.00 pm

Free Entry

Accompanied by
Musica Colne Valley Big Band

May 10 - The Big Sing

Over the past few months singers from some of our primary schools have been preparing for Musica Colne Valley's very first *Big Sing*. The children are coming together on Friday, May 10 in the Theatre at CVHS. They will be accompanied by the Big Band and for the majority of them it will be the first time they have performed in public. Please feel free to drop in and enjoy the performances.

As we are using the Theatre there will be no Senior Band rehearsal that evening – all other groups will run as normal.

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May 11 - Golcar Lily Day

Our groups have been invited to perform at the Providence Church for Golcar Lily Day on Saturday, May 11. It's a lovely event which we always look forward to. Our groups are playing between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Running order details to be confirmed.



May 11 - Big Band Festival

The MCV Big Band is joining all the other Big Bands from Musica Kirklees at Shelley College on Saturday, May 11, 5.30 - 9.45pm. It should be a great evening.

Tickets £6 / £1 for age 21 and under.

June 15 - Berry Brow Carnival

The Intermediate Wind Band are making their annual visit to *Berry Brow Carnival* on Saturday, June 15. They are playing from 1.45 - 2.15pm. Can players please bring a music stand with pegs or rubber bands. Please wear MCV polo shirts with skirts/trousers/shorts of your choice.

June 16 - Greenhead Park

Groups from across Musica Kirklees will be performing in the Bandstand at Greenhead Park over the summer. Our Big Band is performing there on Sunday, June 16 between 2.00 and 4.00pm.

July 12 - Summer Fest

As the Summer Fest was such a success last year (until the heavens opened) we will be doing something similar this year. Join us at 6pm on Friday, July 12 on the grassed area in front of the school. Bring a picnic and don't forget a chair or a blanket to sit on. Fingers crossed that the weather will be okay.

National Orchestra for All

Sydney Latham, viola player with our string groups, has been offered a place with the 'National Orchestra for All'. As part of her year-long membership she will attend a course in Birmingham this summer and two further courses in the winter and next spring. Much of the funding for this is raised on a national level, however £250 has to be raised by the student. Royds Hall School, where Sydney is a Y10 student, have kindly agreed to fund half the amount which means £175 still needs to be raised. To this end Mrs Hutton-Searle, Sydney's teacher, is planning a 'playathon' at our centre on June 7. Further details will be available in due course.



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Tuck Shop - Opt out

As you will be aware the Friends of Musica Colne Valley do a fantastic job at supporting the work of our centre. One of the main sources of income is the Tuck Shop which runs each Friday providing refreshment and sustenance for the students. At present we are running a rota with an 'opt-out' system; if you are unable to help out, and we understand that people have work commitments etc, could you please drop me a quick e-mail at julian.wightman@musicakirklees.org and I will take you off the list.

Instrumental Exams

Congratulations to everyone who took, and passed, an instrumental exam during the Spring – some fantastic results coming through from a very talented group of students. Well done.

Yorkshire Young Musicians' Scheme

Congratulations to Elendu Aka on his successful audition at Leeds College of Music for the Yorkshire Young Musicians' scheme. He played classical guitar (first study) and bass guitar (second study).

Keep Up-to-Date

The most up-to-date information is always on our social media pages so please like us on Facebook (@musicacolnevalley) and follow us on Twitter (@musica_cv).

All the latest event information for all our centres and Central Ensembles can be found at the Musica Kirklees website (www.musicakirklees.org/events). We're adding events all the time so please keep checking!

*Mr Wightman
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