

Slough Music Service

www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk

Inspiring Every Child's Musical Journey through Diversity, Progression and Inclusion

We have had over 2100 pupils learning instruments in whole class lessons with us and we support another 4 schools in providing their own whole class instrumental lessons. A further 343 pupils learn instruments with us in small groups and individually with 28 of them having taken instrumental exams this year. The music service has engaged with all but 1 school in Slough over this academic year.



The music centre has grown so that we now have 3 instrumental ensembles, 2 choirs and 1 drumming group as well as 1 community choir, and we are set to expand again in the forthcoming year.

We have held 3 days of Slough Youth Orchestra rehearsals and performances, 5 days of gifted and talented workshops for pupils which culminated in an exciting carnival in Slough town centre, 2 days of key stage 1 singing festival, 2 days of 'Singing from Scratch' and our prestigious Eton Carol Service. Our big event this year was a high class performance of 'Ocean World' at which 8 school choirs sang alongside a 30 piece orchestra, conducted by Gillian Dibden. We have offered instrument demonstrations at several community events as well as to schools. We have offered young musicians numerous performance opportunities, especially at our own Slough Music & Arts Festival Showcase concert and we have offered 8 days of music staff CPD.

The music hub is now developing its business plan for a longer term of funding from 2018 – 2020 and is therefore developing exciting strategies to ensure we can continue to inspire every child's musical journey through diversity, progression and inclusion.

Laura Lancaster – Head of Slough Music Service



Upcoming Events

Slough Youth Orchestra 2017 – 2018

Are you grade IV + on an orchestral instrument? Next year we have two exciting Youth Orchestra sessions in November and again in March, both led by Tom Horn.



Wednesday 22nd & Monday 27th November, with a performance on Thursday 30th November at The Curve.

Monday 12th & Friday 16th March with a performance on Tuesday 20th March at The Curve.

Further details available on our website.



NEWS

Slough's community choir, The Curve Choir, is for everyone. Led by



Gemma Cross, The Curve Choir was set up as a collaboration between the library services, and Slough Music Service to provide a community choir, accessible to all. New members are always welcome and we rehearse at The Curve from 6.30

– 7.30pm on Thursday's during term time. Do come & sing with us!

The Slough Music Centre continues to thrive and grow and all the ensembles and choirs performed alongside the Bollywood Brass band on 29th June. If you play an instrument and would like to join a band with likeminded musicians from across the borough then visit our website to sign up or come along to Beechwood School at 3.50pm for a 4pm start on a Thursday, from 21st September. The music centre is open to any instrumentalist or singer, sign up at www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk

'Singing from Scratch' took place on 22nd & 23rd June bringing together over 300 pupils from years 4 -11 to sing at The Curve. As the name suggests there was no preparation required as everyone is taught the songs on the day by Gillian Dibden, the music service vocal consultant. Each school is offered the opportunity to perform their own songs to everyone on the day and the standard was very good this year. We were particularly glad to have Foxborough Primary School perform their song, *Memories* as well as Castleview Primary School who sang their own three-part arrangement of *Eleanor Rigby* and a wonderful Spanish song called *Agnar de beber*. All of the pupils who participated sung their hearts out and performed with great enthusiasm. It was a thoroughly enjoyable event and we thank everyone who took part in making it a great success.

The music service was very pleased to be able to offer schools a **'Musical Diversity Grant'** in recent months. We originally offered 3 schools up to £1000 of funding but were very impressed with the submitted bids that we agreed to fund almost all that applied. The grant was offered to achieve greater participation and inclusion in and through music as Slough is one of Britain's 'pluralist towns', where no ethnic group is in the majority as it is essential that schools are supported in developing multicultural music education practices. Our intention is to offer the same funding again in the next academic year with the activity to be completed by March 2018. We will confirm this in October.

If you'd like to get involved – learn to play and instrument, join a band, choir or ensemble or come on a course please visit our website www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk

Our Hub Partners

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