



Welcome to the first In Tune On-line Newsletter, giving you the opportunity to find out more about the NCEM's learning and participation work that is taking place across the region.

Please do click on the web links for more detailed information about our projects and forward this newsletter on to colleagues.

Arts, Health and Wellbeing



As a partner in Culture & Wellbeing in York, NCEM has been researching and promoting the use of the arts – particularly communal singing – to increase mental and physical wellbeing. For World Mental Health Day on 10 October, we held an Arts on Prescription symposium, featuring Professor Stephen Clift, Director of the Sidney De Haan Research Centre for Arts and Health; arts & health practitioner and researcher, Vivien Ellis; and the Converge Communitas Choir for mental health services users, based at York St John University. Find out about our work [here](#)

As a result of this conference, the NCEM has pooled information about existing provision in York – what exists, what works and why. Read more [here](#) and [get in touch](#) if you would like to contribute to the discussion.

If you are keen to experience the wellbeing benefits of singing first-hand then don't miss the opportunity to Come & Sing with Vivien Ellis as part of York Residents Weekend 2017. More info [here](#)

Minster Minstrel News



We are delighted to welcome back Ailsa Batters as Director of York's youth early music ensemble, the Minster Minstrels. She is supported by two interns Jo Wherry (a former Minstrel herself) and Anna Lusty. There are now 17 Minster Minstrels aged between 6 and 18 who meet regularly on Saturday mornings at Millthorpe School to explore and interpret a wide variety of music from the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Baroque periods and to play on modern and early music instruments. The Minstrels get the opportunity to perform as part of the July and Christmas Early Music Festivals and to take part in extra-curricular activities.

This term Tim Bayley (pictured above) from the York Waits worked with the ensemble, giving them the chance to play around 50 different early instruments ranging from the crumhorn to the hurdy-gurdy. The NCEM has a selection of these specialist instruments in its collection and the Minstrels will have the opportunity to research and explore further in the coming months. More information about the Minster Minstrels [here](#)

Music4U - Working with the Deaf Community



Having run two high-profile conferences, looking at musical approaches and opportunities for deaf young people, NCEM is now building on its work with young Deaf communities in York, Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire. Music4U, NCEM's Youth Music funded project, recently worked with Danny Lane (Director of Music and the Deaf) on an exciting initiative using Hull's Gamelan Kyai Sri Jaladri Naga. Deaf young people from Hull's Sirius Academy IPA&S Unit teamed up with hearing GCSE Music students to learn about the music and culture of Indonesia, linking their work in this ensemble to a wider focus on 'cultural conversations' back at school.

This academic year, work is developing in York to improve access to instrumental learning for Deaf young people in the city by providing practical activity for children and families, as well as training for music educators.

NCEM Young Composers Award News



Winners of this year's NCEM Young Composers Award were invited to take part in a recording of the Early Music Show at the Royal Festival Hall in London as part of BBC Radio 3's 70th birthday celebrations. Alex Dakin (18-and-under category) and Kristina Arakelyan (19 to 25 category) were invited to write music for voice and lute and had the opportunity to work with lutenist Elizabeth Kenny and her Theatre of the Ayre group. More info [here](#)



Freya Ireland, winner of the 2014 NCEM Young Composers Award (18 years and under) has been appointed as Royal Philharmonic Society/Wigmore Hall apprentice composer, in association with the Duet Group. She will receive formal and informal teaching and advice from Wigmore Hall composer-in-residence Helen Grime. We are delighted for her and the appointment is very well deserved!

Next year's competition will be announced on Sunday 20 November on BBC Radio 3's Early Music Show. We will be working with The Tallis Scholars again and our winning composers' pieces will be performed at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester on 16 September 2017. More info [here](#)

Applications Open for Young Artists Competition



The prestigious biennial York Early Music International Young Artists Competition 2017 is now open for applications. The Competition is recognised as a major international platform for emerging talent in the early music world and attracts ensembles from all over the globe. It offers a major boost to young professional careers with opportunities for performance, recording and broadcasting and international exposure. The competition takes place as part of the 2017 York Early Music Festival and the deadline for application is Tuesday 17 January. Find out more [here](#)

For information about previous winners click [here](#)

EEEmerging Goldfinch Ensemble Residency



In December we welcome The Goldfinch Ensemble from The Hague for our next **ee**emerging residency. The NCEM is delighted to be one of eight major partner organisations in the pan-European **ee**emerging project, an important initiative that supports young early music ensembles in a four-year programme, promoting new professional talent. Eeemerging is supported by the Creative Europe programme. This is the third residency for the NCEM (there will be 6 in total). Previous ensembles have included Les Contre-Sujets from Paris and Consone Quartet from London.

The Goldfinch Ensemble will be performing as part of the York Early Music Christmas Festival on Saturday 10 December at 1.00pm. Tickets available [here](#)

For more information about our eeemerging project click [here](#)

Anniversary Celebrations for Early Music Festivals



2017 is going to be an exciting year for the York and Beverley early music festivals, celebrating 40 and 30 years respectively, and the anniversary year is jam-packed with opportunities for young people to celebrate with us!

As part of the [Beverley Early Music Festival](#) (26 to 29 May) we have an exhibition of illuminated manuscripts by the unusual historical figure Petrus Alamir (part-time artisan, part-time royal spy!) and a whole host of related activities to encourage young people to engage with the mysteries and music that surrounded his life.

At the [York Early Music Festival](#) (7 to 15 July) we will focus our attention on the bassoon and work alongside the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE) and composer Anthony Bailey to give young people access to the increasingly-rare bassoon and to develop a performance that celebrates the rich past and promising future of this fabulous instrument.

Check out a couple of our recent festival projects: re-imagining Purcell's Dido and Aeneas with the OAE at this year's Beverley Early Music Festival ([more info here](#)) and conjuring up A Shakespeare Miscellany with Cathy Dew as part of this year's York Early Music Festival ([more info here](#)).

Next issue...

- Find out more about how The Sage Gateshead's Young Sinfonia Residency went at the NCEM. [More info](#)
- Working with the European Union Baroque Orchestra to celebrate the European Day of Early Music. [More info](#)
- What's in store for Hull's City of Culture Celebration and Music4U!

Forward this Newsletter to a friend



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