



Music Education Council Member News 2017 Issue Six

Remember that MEC relies on the contact point within each member organisation to share MEC news with their own members - please share these news e-mails with your members. If you need another person to be an additional contact for your organisation just drop Angela (admin@mec.org.uk) an e-mail.

Don't forget that if you have news you want to share with the whole music education sector, send your 150 word mentions (plus hyperlinks) to admin@mec.org.uk

And don't hesitate to contact Richard J Hallam MBE, Chair to make sure matters that concern or interest you are on his agenda when he meets with key people about music education. (halla@globalnet.co.uk; 07850 634239).

MEC News

1. [BOOKING NOW OPEN](#) - places are going fast so book now for:

MEC Seminar 11am to 4pm July 18th 2017 Leeds College of Music
The Future of Music Education: 2018 to 2020 and beyond.

Following the General Election and developments in music education in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, this seminar will support the music education sector in planning for the future. The morning sessions will be a keynote from Emma Foxall, Senior Manager, Music Education at ACE; and feedback from Bridget Whyte (MEC Trustee and interim CEO of Music Mark) on the Westminster Forum Seminar on the Future of Music Education. The afternoon session will be given over to discussions within the MEC Working Group topics.

These will cover:

- MEC's working groups areas of interest: Adults; ASN/SEND; Early Childhood; HE/ITT; Music Technology; Research; School Music Curriculum and First Access; and Singing;
- The 2017 MEC themes of quality and progression; evidence-based advocacy; and inclusion: access and diversity; and
- Messages from the March 27th MEC / ISME seminar relating to Social Justice, Well-being and Identity.

A short MEC AGM will be included in the day.

2. As per newsletter number 5, **hold the dates 14th September** (ABRSM, London) and **27th November** (NCVO, London) For further seminars. Booking for both will open shortly – look out for specific e-mails on these events.

3. Applications for the **2017 Music Education Awards** are now open. Visit www.mec.org.uk/awards-2017 for application forms and more information. Closing date is 9th October.

4. **MEC Elections** – Elections for the directly elected posts on the Forum took place during June. The full Forum line-up is:

Trustees

Dick Hallam (Chair)

Fiona Pendreigh (Chair Elect)

Bridget Whyte (Treasurer – and initially representing Standing List organisation Music Mark)

Philip Flood (Secretary)

Lincoln Abbotts (“5th Trustee” - in lieu of Past Chair – and representing Standing List organisation ABRSM)

Standing List Organisations

The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM)

The Association of British Orchestras (ABO)

Cymdeithas Addysg Cerdd Awrdurdodau Cymru / Welsh Authorities' Music Association

Incorporated Society of Musicians (ISM)

Music for Youth

Musicians' Union

Music Industries Association (MIA)

Music Mark

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Sound Sense

Trinity College London

Youth Music

Directly Elected Members

Phil Castang

Barbara Eifler

Emma Lines

Helen Mason

Gary Spruce

Roy Terry

5. The first **Forum meeting** will take place on 13th July and further details of how the whole Council can continue to interact will be circulated after that.

6. **Meeting with DfE officials** – on July 11th MEC's Chair, Richard Hallam and Chair Elect, Fiona Pendreigh, will meet with the officials responsible for music education at the DfE. If there is anything specific that you think should be raised with the DfE please e-mail halla@globalnet.co.uk.

7. **Meeting with ACE officials** – on the same day MEC's Chair, Richard Hallam and Chair Elect, Fiona Pendreigh, will meet with the officials responsible for music education at ACE. If there is anything specific that you think should be raised with the DfE please e-mail halla@globalnet.co.uk.

International Society for Music Education (ISME) News

1. The ISME 2018 World Conference website – www.isme2018.org is now live. The information about calls for papers and for performance groups is on the site and submissions will go live on 30th July so it is time for you to start thinking about what you might be able to present at the conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, or whether you would like to take a music group on a tour of Central Asia / the Balkans incorporating a performance at the conference.

2. The ISME June newsletter was published last week, you can view it [here](#) – but please don't hit any unsubscribe links as this will unsubscribe MEC from the newsletter.

MEC Member News

MEC does not endorse any particular products or services, but is happy to provide details to members of other members' activity and products. Anything featured below has not, therefore, been evaluated by and is not endorsed by MEC.

1. ACT TODAY to [register for the Listen Imagine Compose Away Day](#)

New MEC member **Sound and Music** tells us that for the last two years the wider [Listen Imagine Compose](#) network have got together in July for a day of presentations, provocations, ideas and discussions around the teaching and learning of composing in secondary schools. This year the day will be hosted by Professor Martin Fautley and guests will include Dr Ally Daubney from Sussex University, a number of professional composers, Marie Bessant, Subject Specialist for Music from OCR and Jeffery Hole, Edexcel's Music and Music Technology lead. The day includes a focus on creative composing at GCSE level and we are particularly interested in including secondary music teachers in the discussions.

Details:

Date: Friday 7th July

Location: [Birmingham City University](#)

Time: 10.30am – 4pm.

Cost: This day is free of charge.

There will be a free shuttle bus from the station to the campus - more information on request.

If you have any questions about the day or the CPD course, please email education@soundandmusic.org

2. MEC member **Charanga** is updating their award-winning Musical School primary and special school programme for the new 2017-2018 school year.

[Updated Scheme](#)

- Nine new units based on fantastic new songs
- More built-in progression and variety
- Less popular songs removed
- New features including slowing down songs...

[Improved Freestyle library with extra resources plus updated Song Centre for 2017-2018](#)

- More units
- New look with improved navigation
- New Listening Centre and updated Song Centre
- New Freestyle for SEND

[Additional features to improve the experience and add flexibility](#)

- Faster resource loading
- Flexible tempo control on songs
- New 'upload your own resources' feature
- Better searching and lesson building
- Better iPad compatibility

If your school doesn't have a Musical School licence just [click here](#) for a free 30-day trial.

If you're an instrumental teacher email info@charanga.com for more information.

3. MEC member **Emma Lines** invites you to **SAVE THE DATE:** Drake Music Scotland, recent winners at Scottish Charity Awards for 'Demonstrating Digital' and New Music Scotland Awards for commission "Wagner's School of Cool", are about to enter their 20th year. With a full programme of events throughout the year across Scotland and working with partners including Sir James MacMillan and The Cumnock Tryst, British Folk band Lau, Composer Oliver Searle and the National Youth Orchestras of Scotland, Composer Sonia Allori and Local Authorities spanning the country, it promises to be an exciting year of new music! Drake Music Scotland's 20th Anniversary year will

culminate in a two day Symposium and Performance on the 4th/5th May 2018 with visitors from across the globe. Contact Emma Lines, Senior Programme Manager for more details, emmelines@drakemusicscotland.org or have a look at www.drakemusicscotland.org

4. New MEC member **Wigmore Hall** is delighted to invite MEC members to two special events in July:

Thursday 6 July, 12 noon – 12.45pm

Tuesday 11 July, 11.45am – 1.00pm

Wigmore Hall

Please join us in celebrating the second year of the **Partner Schools Programme**, as children and teachers from our Partner Schools share the creative activity they have led, created and taken part in this year, presented by Lucy Drever.

The Partner Schools Programme is a new approach to working with schools; in partnership with four Music Education Hubs we are collaborating with four schools keen to develop their cultural offer, co-creating a programme of opportunities which meets their needs and places music at the heart of their ethos, empowering them to become culturally engaged, proactive schools. Visit [our website](#) for more information. RSVP to learning@wigmore-hall.org.uk. Members would be very welcome at either or both events.

5. MEC member **Sing Up** reports that thousands of children and young people across the globe sang together for **Sing Up Day**

On 22 March 2017, schools all over the world celebrated Sing Up Day, with over 63,000 singers in 300 events across 26 countries and six continents taking part, making this our biggest and best Sing Up Day yet.

Many of you sent in recordings of yourselves singing this year's Sing Up Day song, *Let love shine through*, which we've put together as special compilation video that you can watch [here](#).

(<https://www.singup.org/news-local-events/news-article/view/1295-the-sing-up-day-2016-digichoir-is-here/>)

We'd like to say huge thank you to all the schools featured, and to everyone who took part.

Sing Up Day 2018 is 14 March. Spread the word and add it to your calendar!

Click [here](https://www.singup.org/about-sing-up/sing-up-day/?singupday) (<https://www.singup.org/about-sing-up/sing-up-day/?singupday>) to find out more about how you can take part in Sing Up Day 2018 and add your singing event to the map, Sing Up Member or not!

6. Sing Up also reminded us that, in celebration of its 10th Birthday, the Sing Up Foundation is being launched. This charitable organisation will have the power of singing at its very core, to make lasting change happen in areas of need.

The Sing Up Foundation will focus on:

- singing for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- singing for teenagers with anxiety or mental health issues
- singing for older people with respiratory problems
- singing for older people with dementia

On Friday 16th June, the Foundation convened its first Roundtable event, inviting experts and practitioners from across these areas of work, to join the discussion and share their insights to give a better idea on:

- the nature and extent of the need in each of the four areas
- what is known in relation to singing as a partial solution
- what work is already happening and how well are the outcomes evidenced
- the current perceived barriers and issues to address
- where the Sing Up Foundation might best make a difference

The roundtable discussion was chaired by **David Sulkin**, chair of the Sing Up Foundation

7. MEC member **ABO** shared with us news that **London Symphony Orchestra has opportunities for early-career composers:**

We are pleased to inform you that applications have re-opened for [LSO Soundhub](#) Membership and Associate Membership 2017/18, and that we are launching a new programme, [LSO Jerwood Composer+](#) for which we're also recruiting. The deadline for applications is Friday 28th July (midday).

8. MEC member **The Tutor Pages** has updated its free advice page for independent private tutors. It should be of great benefit to private music teachers, with tips on personal safety, legal requirements, working with children, ethical tutoring, staying safe online, getting paid and insurance. Please share [the page](#) with your colleagues.

9. MEC members **The Royal Opera House** has a FREE programme of dramatic singing for KS2 classes inspired by the music of *Carmen*. In the Create and Sing Carmen programme teachers receive training in singing and staging and all resources needed to deliver the programme in their classroom, including backing tracks, a 10-week scheme of work, downloadable arts award books and a short inspirational video to inspire participants at the start of each lesson. See <http://www.roh.org.uk/learning/schools-and-colleges/create-and-sing-carmen> for details.

A new Digital Learning Platform of teacher resources will be launched in September, and we are recruiting experienced teachers across a range of disciplines to write material to accompany a collection of Youtube short videos. Please email learningandparticipation@roh.org.uk to register your interest in either project and title your email Attention Kim Waldock.

10. MEC member **National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain** reports on **Totally teenage orchestral brilliance:**

3 – 5 August

Snape Maltings Concert Hall
Symphony Hall, Birmingham
Royal Albert Hall, BBC Proms

Under the baton of ground-breaking composer Thomas Adès, the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain will unleash its 'five-star fiesta of energy and talent' (*The Guardian*) in a concert tour to Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Symphony Hall, Birmingham and the BBC Proms this summer.

The diverse programme, which includes Stravinsky's sensational ballet *The Rite of Spring* and an extraordinary new work by young Spanish composer Francisco Coll, will be an inspiring and unforgettable experience.

Teenage audiences members will also have the opportunity buy discounted tickets and attend a 'Totally Teenage' pre-concert reception before performances in Birmingham and London, which includes a lively and interactive presentation hosted by NYO's Young Promoters.

Book Tickets / Find out more: <https://www.nyo.org.uk/summer-2017>

11. Earlier this month, MEC member **The Voices Foundation's** [Early Years book](#) was crowned **winner** of the Music category in the **2017 Early Years Excellence Awards**. Taking the top prize in a fiercely competitive field, the book was the only recipient of the top 5 star award in the Music category. One judge commented: "During my time trialling all the products it was clear that I kept coming back to this book. It is a brilliantly comprehensive collection of simple tunes with equally simple guidelines to support their use. The reference CD is clearly recorded with a solo voice. There are 92 tracks, covering song, rhyme, movement, instrument use, musical elements, circle games and a range of topical learning. The 11 'listening' tracks incorporate more sophisticated music, such as African and Classical. All in all, an invaluable resource for the age group." To buy copies of VF's EY, KS1 or KS2 books, please visit: www.voices.org.uk/shop

12. MEC member **ISM**, lead organisation in the Bacc for the Future Campaign reports that entries to arts GCSEs for 2017 have dropped by another 8%.

The new figures, analysed here by the [Cultural Learning Alliance](#), were published by Ofqual (the exams regulator) on Thursday 15 July 2017 and show [the continuing, harmful impact](#) the EBacc is having on arts subjects in schools.

We need your help to save creative subjects in secondary schools in the UK.

Please write to your MP today, telling them about this new evidence and asking them to fight the EBacc and its exclusion of creative, artistic and technical subjects.

You can find out who your MP is here: www.writetothem.com

And you can download a template letter here: www.baccforthefuture.com/write-to-your-mp.html

13. CEO of MEC member **Youth Music**, Matt Griffiths has recently been on tour in Yorkshire visiting a range of diverse projects supported by Youth Music. He kept a diary of his adventures ahead of BBC Music Day, here it is: <http://bit.ly/2tnkCJz>

14. MEC member **PMLL** tells us that the Schools Printed Music Licence (SPML) is now in its 5th year. PMLL (Printed Music Licensing Limited) which runs the scheme, continues to see a successful take up of the licence. Over the coming year PMLL is looking at further licensing opportunities of sheet music in areas such as Higher Education and Amateur Choirs. We have recently produced a survey asking for feedback on the licensing of [amateur choirs](#). If you are part of a choir or know someone who is please fee free to participate as we are grateful for any feedback you can give us.

15. **Early Years news: Artsmark in early years settings - a feasibility study**

Arts Council England is working with Early Arts to investigate whether Artsmark would be an appropriate vehicle for developing arts and cultural provision in early years settings. The aim is to find out if there is an appetite for something like this across the sector, and if so which types of early years settings would be able to engage with it. The feasibility study will also identify the opportunities and benefits of an Artsmark for both the early years settings, children and families. Two webinars will be taking place in July as part of the feasibility study, further information here: <http://bit.ly/2uh0gOQ>

Policy News

1. Don't forget to share with MEC (admin@mec.org.uk) any policy-related news that you pick up across the four nations. Through its members sharing news with other members MEC is uniquely placed to make sure that everyone across the music education sector is as well informed as possible.

2. With the General Election suspending all parliamentary activity and release of policy news from Government departments nothing has been identified this month. MEC Chair, Richard Hallam, will be pushing for a meeting in the Autumn with Nick Gibb – be ready with your views on what key issues should be raised at that meeting.

Other News of interest

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1. [Towards cultural democracy: promoting cultural capabilities for everyone](#) is the final report of King's fourth Cultural Enquiry. On the basis of a 15-month research project, it presents a timely and distinctive vision of how to build a cultural life for the UK that is valuable for everyone, and made by all.

2. **Alexandra Place** and the **Royal Opera House** [have announced](#) plans to collaborate in order to increase arts access for young people.

3. The UK media and entertainment sector is now worth almost £100 billion a year. On the face of it, that's a healthy 11 per cent increase on 2016, but the story runs deeper as a significant proportion of that growth is due to favourable currency movements. [Media Metrics 2017](#) analyses the three-year financial performance of the top 100 revenue-generating media and entertainment companies in the UK. The report highlights the main trends and issues facing the sector, and how business models may need to evolve to reflect consumer demand.

4. If you are quick - closing date 7th July. Apply to [Abbey Road Red](#) for a unique music tech start-up incubation program – the only one of its kind in Europe – to support the most promising music tech start-ups, as well as collaborating with the brightest minds in academic research.