

MK Music Centre Bulletin - June 2023

We have another busy term end to the academic year. Many thanks as always for supporting your child with us! Here's what's going on over the next few weeks.

Giles Liddiard - Instrumental Leader

Group start dates for September:

Youth Orchestra: Friday 15th September 2023

Saturday Morning Music Centre: Saturday 16th September 2023

Adult Groups: Week commencing 11th September 2023

Rock School Groups: Week commencing 18th September 2023



Summer Fiesta

Our traditional 'Summer Fiesta' takes place on the final Saturday of the term, July 8th. This is a lovely, informal event where you will get the chance to hear your child perform. A timetable will be sent to you. **Please note – the timetable for the morning will be different to the usual Music Centre timetable**, so please look at it carefully to see when your child is performing.

The SEND groups will be holding informal performances during their usual group time.



Summer Spectacular Concert

This year we are holding a large scale 'Summer Spectacular' concert on Saturday 15th July at the Ridgeway Centre. This concert features our choirs, Junior Strings, Intermediate Strings, String Orchestra, Wind Orchestra and Youth Orchestra. The students will be playing alongside players from Alina Orchestra, our local professional Orchestra and be conducted by their conductor, Hilary Davan Wetton.

Tickets are available on Eventbrite:

Adults £10, OAP's £7, Under 18's £3

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/summer-gala-concert-tickets-640412068737>



ALINA
ORCHESTRA

Milton Keynes Music Hub

W: www.miltonkeynesmusichub.co.uk

E: music@milton-keynes.gov.uk

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Auditions

Auditions are required for students wishing to play in **String Orchestra** and **Youth Orchestra**. **There is no requirement for an audition to join Wind Orchestra, but students should be Grade 5 standard and above.**

They will take place at Newport Pagnell Library on Monday 10th July (Brass and Woodwind) and Tuesday 11th July (Strings) after the school day has finished. Applicants will be allocated a 10 minute slot and advised of the time nearer to the date.

All applicants should prepare:

♪ **A piece:** Free choice, Grade 5 standard and above. This will usually be played unaccompanied.

♪ **Ensemble repertoire:** If the candidate is already in a MK Music Centre ensemble, they will be asked to play short excerpts from the pieces that the group is playing. Therefore, candidates should bring their ensemble music with them.

♪ **Sight Reading:** Candidates will be asked to play a short piece of sight reading appropriate to their standard.

Please apply using our online form:

<https://miltonkeynesmusicclub.co.uk/audition-form-youth-orchestra-string-orchestra/>



Moving Groups

By far the best time for your child to move groups, if they are going to, is September as, on the whole, we like to keep the groups static for an academic year.

Here's a quick guide:



- Beginner Choir: Suitable for children in Years 3, 4 & 5.
- Junior Choir: Suitable for children in Year 6 and above
- Beginner groups: Grades 0 – 1
- Junior Groups: Grades 1 – 3
- Intermediate Groups: Grades 3 – 5
- Senior Groups (Wind Orchestra, String Orchestra and Youth Orchestra) – Grade 5 and above.

Auditions are required for students wishing to join String Orchestra and Youth Orchestra. If you aren't sure, now would be a good time to speak to your child's group conductor.

Music for Youth - Northampton

Following their performance at the regional festival in March, the Youth Orchestra have been invited to play at the Music for Youth National Festival. They will be performing at Symphony Hall in Birmingham on the afternoon of Saturday 8th July. Tickets are available directly from www.mfy.org.uk if you would like to go and support them.

This date obviously clashes with the Fiesta. However, all students who play in both Youth Orchestra and Saturday morning groups will be able to perform at the Fiesta and be finished in time to travel to Birmingham.



Fanfare coffee Shop

Fanfare MK is better known as the café that runs alongside the ensembles on Saturday mornings. The purpose of Fanfare MK is to offer a social space for students and parents using the centre and raise funds to support and enhance the opportunities the centre already offers, this includes, providing bursaries towards ensemble fees and helping fund one off music workshops or activities for centre users.

Funding - Since Covid we have been building back up the Fanfare funds. We are pleased to announce that from September 2023 we will be able to support up to 10 students with a bursary towards the ensemble fees for the academic year. We are also working closely with the Music Hub to identify and schedule two additional activities such as a music trip or specialist workshop. If you would like to enquire or make an application for a bursary please email fanfare193@gmail.com

Summer Fiesta – at the end of the summer term, rather than offer the usual drinks, sweet treats and snacks we would like to provide cakes. If you are a keen baker or would just like to help, we would really welcome donations of cakes and sweet treats to sell during the concert. All bakes need to be ready for drop off (to Emerson Valley) or arrange collection (from MK area only) on Friday 7 July. If you would like to help bake or serve at the café, please contact Sonya on 07947 993473.



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