



## Update for schools – June 2014

### Ten Pieces

Hopefully you are all aware of the BBC Learning project focused this year on primary schools (secondary from September 2015). In response to the rewrite of the music National Curriculum the BBC is leading a nationwide programme exploring music history through ten pieces of classical music from the eighteenth century to a piece specially commissioned this year. There will be lots to tell at the local launch taking place at the Big Music Conference later this month but in the meantime you can now book places for the free screening of a film at the Showcase Cinema, Reading. There is also a free screening in Bracknell but I believe all places have now been booked (by teachers who came to the Music Subject leaders meeting – it pays to be there!).

You can find out far more about this exciting project at [www.bbc.co.uk/tenpieces](http://www.bbc.co.uk/tenpieces)

Then click on free cinema screenings. Berkshire Maestros is the local champion for the project. We will explain more about how to be involved at the Big Music Conference. One exciting aspect I can mention here is that in school's returns to the music audit many of you indicated that you would like the return of live concerts for schools. We have listened loud and clear and have booked the Hexagon Reading for a big schools concert next July.

### Big Conference 2014

If you still haven't booked your place (secondary, primary, special, early years) then don't despair there are still a few places for Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup> at Reading University, London Road Campus. The keynote speaker in the morning is Robin Hammerton, senior HMI music and National Adviser, who will talk about the new Ofsted Music Report and how hubs should support schools. The programme for the rest of the day will have a number of strands for each of: Early Years; Key Stage 2; Key Stages 3 and 4; Special Needs in music. All delegates will have the opportunity to hear and work with international superstars VOCES8.

Other highlights include:

- Rhona Millar: adapting the music curriculum for all abilities with a focus on SEN;
- Gavin Lombos from Readipop leading a session on Arts Award Discover and Explore;
- Voces8 leading workshops on transforming boys and teenagers singing;
- BBC Learning launching the Ten Pieces initiative for Key Stage 2;
- Kelly-Jo Peters on using i-pads in the music classroom;
- James Garnett: putting music making first – a vision for the music National Curriculum KS2;
- Joe Hurst: using loopstations creatively at key stages 3 and 4;
- James Garnett: planning for depth and rigour in KS3;
- Sue Nicholls: singing through the curriculum, exploring songs to enliven the KS1 curriculum;
- Margareta Burrell: music and movement with pre-school and early years children;

A full brochure with further information is available for download from

<http://www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk/maestro1/modules/homepage/>

## **Congratulations**

To the Newbury Music Centre senior clarinet ensemble who have been invited to perform at the finals of the National Festival of Music for Youth at the Recital Hall in Birmingham on July 10<sup>th</sup>. This is a tremendous accolade. This stunning chamber ensemble will be performing at least one composition from one of the music hub's young composers Thomas Carr.

## **Forthcoming events for school subject leaders**

The Royal Borough music network meeting is Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at the Dedworth Middle School at 2-30. The Reading area secondary music meeting is Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June at the JMA. The Wokingham secondary music subject leaders meet at Maiden Erlegh School on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 4-00.

## **Music Audit**

I mentioned the audit of music in schools earlier. So far it is painting a very promising picture of music education across the county, identifying aspects that as a hub we need to attend to and is full of positive ideas as to future initiatives. Thank you so much to all who have responded. If you have not yet completed your audit we will continue to receive submissions until the conference itself where our plan will be revealed.



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