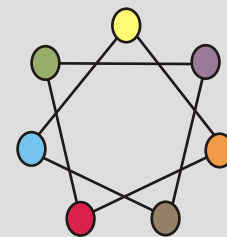


| | |
|---|---|
| GOVERNMENT INTEREST..... | 1 |
| WIMBLEDON EVENT..... | 1 |
| SPONSORED PRACTICE..... | 2 |
| SELF TAUGHT STAR..... | 2 |
| TIME TO SHINE..... | 2 |
| LOCAL MUSICIANS NEEDED..... | 2 |
| THE PART OF PARENTS & TOYS IN THE PRE-SCHOOL CLASS..... | 3 |
| OUTSTANDING PUPIL..... | 4 |
| CONCERT CELEBRATING LOCAL YOUNG OUTSTANDING TALENT..... | 4 |
| PARTNERS | 4 |
| NEW ASSOCIATES..... | 4 |
| DIARY..... | 4 |



Tobin Music

ACCELERATING MUSIC LITERACY

News

GOVERNMENT INTEREST

The Tobin Music system is continually attracting more attention. This was most evident last month when National Music Participation Director, Dick Hallam, visited Candida at her studio in Sawbridgeworth. Mr Hallam has been the government music advisor for some time but was appointed to the newly created post earlier this year to ensure an effective, strategic delivery of music provision across all Local Authorities in England.

Candida explained how her unique system offered a flexible solution to the delivery of music education at all levels particularly overcoming difficulties at transition. Since the system begins with music theory aimed at the youngest pupils it would be ideal to introduce it at Key Stage 1 to underpin and complement initiatives currently in place.

Mr Hallam was also told about the complete system and how all areas of a life in music are covered from the initial grounding in music theory in Primary school to Secondary education and a teacher training programme. Candida recently lectured students at Trinity College of Music, Greenwich, highlighting the fact that it is often necessary for instrumentalists to teach music in order to supplement their income.

Mr Hallam, in turn, explained that he is laying the foundations of a far reaching vision that sees the widespread engaging of children in meaningful and worthwhile music activities as the norm. He was adamant that children should enjoy music and participate in orchestras, ensembles and small groups, giving free reign to their creativity.

By the end of their meeting it was clear that both Candida and Dick share a passion for music and a desire that all children should have the opportunity to experience the diverse benefits that the development of musical skills offers.

After watching the Introductory DVD about the Tobin Music System Dick Hallam said,
 “ I was impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm for the system that was evident from those who had used it with children, as parents, and as training materials for teachers. There is no doubt that the children featured in the DVD used the materials enjoyably and with confidence. Children as young as 8 had a secure understanding of notation and were able to compose and harmonise melodies to a standard normally associated with students of twice their age. It was most impressive.”



Candida with Dick Hallam National Music Participation Director, who is very interested in the Tobin Music system

WIMBLEDON EVENT

For those who live in London or for whom the trip out the Old Malthouse is difficult, Suzanna Widmer has organised an event in Wimbledon. Candida will be delivering a lecture, explaining how all children can be musically literate by the age of eight.

SUNDAY 22ND JUNE

1.30-5.30pm
 WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL
 Merton Hall Road, Wimbledon, London SW9 3QB

Tickets £25 (£10 deposit to secure a place)

Tel: 01279 726625
 Email: candida@tobinmusic.co.uk

SPONSORED PRACTICE

Well done to the following musicians! They have all taken part in the Tobin Music Trust Sponsored practise 2008 - there is still time to take part and make a contribution to this important event. You can download the sponsor form and details at www.tobinmusic.co.uk

| Name | | Amount Raised | Area |
|--------------------|----|---------------|---------------|
| Lucy Brown | 10 | £ 20 | Tamworth |
| Julie Winch | 13 | £ 6 | Tamworth |
| Isaac Mulvany | 7 | £ 5 | Lichfield |
| Harriet Mulvany | 10 | £ 5 | Lichfield |
| Tallulah Hitchcock | 5 | £ 20 | Tamworth |
| Leo Hitchcock | 9 | £ 20 | Tamworth |
| Emily King | 11 | £ 10 | Lichfield |
| Jenny Helm | 15 | £ 30 | Tamworth |
| Victoria Helm | 18 | £ 30 | Tamworth |
| Charlotte Hambly | 10 | £ 10 | Tamworth |
| Sarah Hambly | 9 | £ 10 | Tamworth |
| Jessica Lobo | | £ 20 | Tamworth |
| Laura Beard | | £ 50 | Hertfordshire |
| Marcus Watts | | £ 53 | Hertfordshire |
| Om Kanabar | | £ 50 | Hertfordshire |

SELF TAUGHT STAR



Annabel Cruwys, age 13, who is currently studying singing and violin, decided to help The Tobin Music Trust by participating in the Sponsored practice recently. With minimal assistance (refusing help from her 14 year old brother - Grade 7 piano) she determinedly taught herself the piano using Candida Tobin's piano books and was very pleased with her progress in the two week period, being able to play Initial and Grade 1 pieces to a good standard. Asking all her friends at school and dance club for sponsorship she was able to raise £ 43.13 .
Well done, Annabel !"

TIME TO SHINE

"SHINE is an ambitious new national festival, celebrating all the talents in all young people"

This is a wonderful opportunity to show everyone what you can do, as an individual or as part of a school event.

Alesha Dixon, singer and supporter of Shine said, "While I'm incredibly grateful for the breaks I had, I know they don't come around all that often and there are so many talented children who don't get the chance or have the confidence to showcase what they're good at. Talent isn't just about singing and dancing! That's why I'm supporting Shine... to give everyone a chance to really show others what they can do. I would encourage teachers and children to get on the website and sign up now!"

You can find out more about how to register and participate in Shine week by visiting www.shineweek.co.uk



LOCAL MUSICIANS NEEDED

I am a music composer and producer with a professional 24 track recording studio based in London Colney, StAlbans. I am looking for high quality local musicians, singers, songwriters and producers to collaborate with on a number of projects we are organising and to play/perform/record with us on various music releases we have planned.

We are currently looking for: Good singers/vocalists in classical and jazz. Guitarists versed in classical, jazz, Spanish and Latin styles. Local songwriters, composers and producers (all styles). Other instruments are also required such as: flute, sax, oboe, clarinet, mandolin, pennywhistle, percussion and bass (guitar and fretless)!

In addition, we are also looking for someone to work part time on the PR side: promoting our projects, contacting local musicians, producers and record labels. Some experience of copyrighting would be an advantage.



Clifford White
Creative Director
Tel: 0844 844 2428
E-mail: clifford.white@21newmedia.com

21st Century New Media Ltd
Elstree Film Studios
Shenley Road, Borehamwood
Hertfordshire WD6 1JG

www.21newmedia.com
hertsmusicnetwork.ning.com

The part of parents and toys in the pre-school class

By Mimia Margiotta, Associate Tobin Teacher

As a piano teacher and a mother of a 3 year old and a 6 year old, I have always felt very strongly about exposing children to music from a very young age, even since they are conceived. About two years ago I also became a 'parent/teacher', deciding to embark with my son on the very challenging journey of teaching him piano, which, despite the frequent hurdles, has given us very good results and most importantly a very fulfilling and enjoyable activity.

One of the most remarkable outcomes of my decision of becoming a parent/teacher, has been my progress and development as a teacher. I have learnt so much about young pupils, their expectations, their moods and their capabilities. I don't think any specialist course would have given me a more tangible experience in the matter.

When I started using the Tobin System, I found so many ideas and beliefs that seemed to perfectly complement my teaching philosophy. As the system advocates, I strongly believe in the active involvement of parents in the music classes. These should not be thought of as playgroups in which parents can 'park' their children, but a time where the young (and the not so young!) minds and spirits can grow and flourish. Parents like myself can become pupils themselves and learn alongside their children.

This has several positive effects on the young learners who can:

- feel more secure and confident when having a parent with them in a group setting
- feel the excitement of embarking in a new experience together with mummy or daddy, starting from the very same level
- feel the parent's pride when making a remark
- take pride in remembering or knowing something that the parent does not know
- realize that parents can also make mistakes (and laugh about it!).



The support of parents extends to home, where, on the basis of what they have observed/learnt during the class, they will be able to help their children understand and learn. It is very important to underline that with the Tobin System parents do not need to be musically literate or play an instrument. Just like the children, they can quickly grasp concepts because the system has been simplified and made easy to understand. Note that this does not mean that the method is trivial, but that the complex has been cleverly simplified and made ready to be absorbed by a young brain.



One of the system's tenets is that parents should have the responsibility of exposing children to music on a daily basis, by playing music (recordings, radio...) and singing for them. Parents should realize that talent can be developed through training and education. This does not necessarily mean that the child will become a world-famous musician, but only that his/her intelligence, creativity and personality should be nurtured by meaningful stimulations.

I have often heard parents making remarks about their inadequate singing abilities, and those of their young offspring, stating that they are tone-deaf. Well, in my opinion, no child is born tone-deaf: all children can learn how to sing in correct pitch. If a child is exposed to music from an early age and taught how to sing in tune, sooner or later he/she will learn to pitch notes beautifully. The Tobin Method helps children achieving this goal by involving them in effective aural training games through which the voice can blossom.

Another quite unique feature of the Tobin System is the use of toys during the pre-school music classes. This is a great means to break the ice and make the children feel comfortable and welcomed in a group environment. Toys, such as teddy bears or little puppets, represent the children's own playing world to which they can immediately relate. Toys will also allow children to evoke happy and relaxed moments, thus positively influencing the child's mood during the class. Particularly in the case of children who are very quiet or shy, toys become their second and more confident self, the one that will accept to engage in the ongoing activities and to accomplish the tasks required. A child reluctant to beat a rhythm on the drum, is very likely to change his/her mind if invited to play the rhythm with a teddy bear. Toys can also be used in role play games to reinforce the concepts that have been explained by the teacher once the pupils go back home: the children can make their own music class, and teach the toys about the music short hand, the music family, the colours and so on. This activity will allow the children not only to consolidate their learning, but also to associate the music class to play and fun.

The Tobin System has been developed by a remarkable musician and mother whose great gift has been the capability of immersing herself in the children's minds and world, making sure that music, whatever the age, can be appreciated and enjoyed in its full essence.

OUTSTANDING PUPIL



Isabelle has been learning the flute for just over a year alongside using the Tobin Music System to become musically literate and compose her own music.

Isabelle passed grade 1 flute with distinction after a few months and is about to take her grade 2 flute and theory exams.

In March she entered her first music festival and came first in the 10 and unders woodwind class at the Tamworth Music Festival; she was competing against over 20 other players! Isabelle and her Mum Kate are amazed at how quickly Isabelle got to grips with reading music and consider the music literacy skills taught alongside the flute have contributed to her success.

PARTNERS

Please come and join us for the next Partner's Meeting
On Sunday 8th June 12.30pm

at the Old Malthouse, Sawbridgeworth

These meetings are always friendly and informal.

Please bring a dish.

All are welcome.

For more information about the Partners Group please contact our National Coordinator Morrice Wells.
morrice.wells@tobinmusic.co.uk

DIARY

JUNE

| | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------|
| Sunday 1st | Module 3 | Sawbridgeworth |
| Sunday 8th | Module 1 | Tamworth |
| Sunday 15th | Module 4 | Sawbridgeworth |
| Sunday 29th | Module 2 | Tamworth |

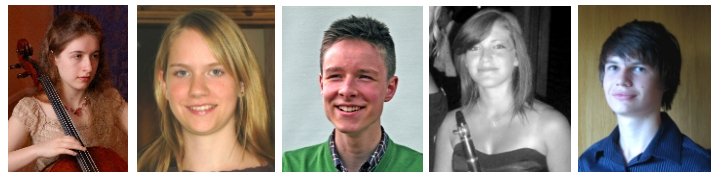
JULY

| | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------|
| Sunday 6th | Module 5 | Sawbridgeworth |
| Sunday 13th | Module 3 | Tamworth |

To book your place on any of these courses please contact:

Sawbridgeworth: candida@tobinmusic.co.uk
Tamworth : julie.hall@tobinmusic.co.uk

A Concert to Celebrate Local Young Outstanding Talent



This concert is an opportunity to celebrate and hear performances from our local young outstanding talent. These young people, all at grade 8 level and above, have kindly agreed to perform at this concert which is raising funds for the Tobin Music Trust set up to preserve, protect and promote the future of the Tobin Music System.

Many of the performers started their musical career with the Tobin Music System, have gone on to play a range of instruments and have excelled by being prizewinners in the Young Musician of the Year competition organised by Harlow Rotary Club.

The programme is wide ranging including performances on the piano, clarinet, cello, oboe and voice. An evening of great entertainment, refreshments and a raffle, it is an event not to be missed.

Saturday 21st June 7.30pm

Tickets: £8 adult, £3 child

To book:

Email morrice.wells@tobinmusic.co.uk

Tel 01279 726 625

Venue: St John's Arts & Recreation Centre, Market Street, Old Harlow, Essex CM17 0AJ

NEW ASSOCIATES

It is with great pleasure that we can announce all the following have passed Modules 1-5 to qualify as Associate Teachers of the Tobin Music method. Well done!

Ruth Montgomery

Barry Metcalfe

Maggi Griffiths

James Rae

Tracey Thurlow

Harold Chaplin

Jackey Birch

Maria(Mimia) Margiotta

Associate certificates will be awarded at the Partner's meeting on Sunday 8th June at the Old Malthouse.

NEWS CONTRIBUTIONS

We would love to hear about your news and any outstanding pupils. Please send all contributions, of no more than 200 words, to newsletter@tobinmusic.co.uk

TOBIN MUSIC
The Old Malthouse
Knight Street, Sawbridgeworth,
Hertfordshire, CM21 9AX
Tel: 01279 726625
www.tobinmusic.co.uk