

YMAZ MAKE SOME NOISE

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Make Some Noise has seen a number of significant developments over the past quarter in addition to the brilliant achievements we've included in this issue from the individual projects.

This quarter has seen the development and submission of our application for funding for the 2005/06 financial year. If successful, this funding will allow us to continue our work - significantly in the areas of Early Years, with young people at risk, and with those outside the formal education sector. Over the coming months project partners and the staff of Make Some Noise will be working hard to develop specific projects for 2005/06.

This quarter has also seen the submission of a regional application to Youth Music to work in partnership with the other YMAZs of the region and other key regional organisations to develop and run a Learning

and Skills Network for community music leaders called Music Leaders.net.

This project will see a significant influx of resources and the development of a comprehensive network for musicians and project leaders to develop their skills and experience if we're successful.

We aim to hear mid September on the success of both applications, and will provide more detail in our next (November) Update.

In the meantime, thanks and congratulations go to all the hard working music leaders whose time, effort and energies have been outlined here. We look forward to showcasing more achievements in the next quarter.

Matt Daniels
Zone Manager
Make Some Noise



The Big Gig was always destined to be a special event, but this event wasn't just big, it was huge. Months of preparation came together on 15th June 04 in an exciting and diverse display of young musical talent – a fitting celebration for Youth Music's five year birthday.

Make Some Noise was privileged to have had City Music School and Planet Sound Community Arts representing the action zone's achievements.

Planet Sound Community Arts was asked by Youth Music to take a group of young people from North Staffordshire to Birmingham Symphony Hall to work with internationally renowned percussionist Bosco DeOliviera to produce a piece of a carnival to open the Youth Music National Showcase.

City Songbirds also attended the event to perform 'Sir Duke', by Stevie Wonder alongside eight other young choir groups from around the

country. For the young performers, it really was a big gig. "It was an excellent opportunity for 13 of our young singers to perform in Birmingham's Symphony Hall and work alongside one of the country's leading choral directors; David Lawrence," said Sue Hallam, Project Leader for City Songbirds.



Christina Coker, Youth Music Chief Executive, commented: "we wanted to do something really special to mark the achievements of Youth Music. The performances exceeded all our expectations and there was a real sense of celebration and I am delighted with the strength of the support we received."

On the evening of 17th June 04, Victoria Hall played host to a marvellous performance, the City Songbirds summer concert. Established in 2002, Stoke City Music School and Make Some Noise have been working hard to provide opportunities outside of regular school hours for young children to practice their singing.



The night was the perfect chance for parents, grandparents, friends, teachers and local dignitaries including the Lord Mayor of Stoke on Trent and the Director of Education for Stoke City Council to see over 200 children between the ages of 4 and 8 amaze the audience at what was, for most of them, their first (and most definitely not their last) public performance on the Victoria Hall stage.

Sue Hallam commented, "The pupils were very excited on the day and the City Music School has received numerous 'thank yous' from their parents. The Sentinel, a local Stoke on Trent newspaper reported on how rarely can the Victoria Hall host such scenes of infectious enthusiasm."

As if such a performance wasn't enough, the City Songbirds project was nominated for a Local Government Award because of the all opportunities it has provided for these children.

"From a Make Some Noise point of view it's fantastic that one of our projects has been so publicly recognised. The Local Government Award is a highly respected honour and goes to show how the strength of this partnership with Stoke on Trent City Music School can produce the outcomes we have been striving towards since we began", commented Matt Daniels.

ACCESS ALL AREAS

Access All Areas is a partnership project between Make Some Noise and Planet Sound Community Arts, and this year has provided over 300 young people from around Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent with a unique opportunity to use a full recording studio and video editing suite to create a 30 minute collage of visual and sound. The project will see 9 events organised across the county and Stoke on Trent during which each group of young people will work with 7 professional artists to help create a 3-minute section to the piece.

Due to the success of last years Common Ground showcase and Planet Sound Community Arts enthusiasm to encourage young people to perform on stage, the project aims to conclude with another showcase at The Mitchell Memorial Theatre in

November 04. The night will celebrate the project, witness a premier showing of the work and a presentation to each young person involved with a copy of the final video.



Planet Vision Photography

Access All Areas also offered young people a chance to get involved in the project at The Sunday in the Park Multi-Cultural Festival in Hanley Park, Stoke on Trent on Saturday 31st July. This event was also a huge success, highlighting the energy and passion of the Planet Sound Community Arts team in the development and delivery of the Access All Areas project.

YOUTH TRAINING PROGRAMME

This programme is another partnership between Make Some Noise and Planet Sound Community Arts and is a course that offers an introduction to Community Music and provides experience in conducting workshops and evaluating performance. In previous years a manual has been produced (Manual for Youth Music in the North Staffordshire) and is

provided to all course participants as a resource and development tool. The aim of this document is to provide information and a basis for developing youth and community music facilities in the area.

After a successful two years during 2002 and 2003, the Youth Training Programme will commence again in October 2004.

EARLY YEARS MUSIC DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The first two courses of this programme have been successfully completed at venues in Stoke on Trent and Stafford, with Early Years workers applying the techniques learnt in their own day nursery settings.

The next course is scheduled for the beginning of the Autumn academic term and will be delivered in a venue in Cannock, with participants from Cannock, Burntwood and Lichfield attending.

IN THE NEXT UPDATE LOOK OUT FOR FEATURES ON:

- PSCA'S YOUTH TRAINING PROGRAMME
- STOKE ON TRENT THEATRE'S GLYNDEBOURNE OPEN DAY
- THE WEST MIDLANDS MUSIC.NET LEARNING AND SKILLS NETWORK
- MAKE SOME NOISE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME AND YOUTH ARTS DEVELOPMENTS