



Spring Newsletter 2025

Welcome to this edition of our WYMH Newsletter, where we bring you all the current news and events happening within the music hub all in one place.

Hub Updates

West Yorkshire Music Hub Partnership Launch - Tuesday 8th July

We are delighted to confirm the date of the WYMH partnership launch meeting, which will be **9.30am -12.30pm on Tuesday 8th July at Opera North's Howard Opera Centre, LS1 6PA**. This will be an opportunity for all West Yorkshire Music Hub partners and their regional network organisations to meet together for the first time to discuss hub priorities and topical issues affecting West Yorkshire. Please sign up via the form here to confirm your attendance. <https://forms.gle/P9Tjg4WQDWsPrLVr6>

ArtForms - Leeds

Our continued partnership with The Leeds International concert Season (LICS) has enabled more schools to experience live music performances from a diverse range of professional musicians. In January, our Youth Music group Roots Alive, along with other young people across Leeds took part in a folk workshop day with Juniper Folk, who are part of the Leeds International Concert Season programme. All participants found the day gave them an opportunity to develop their ensemble skills, and with more development days planned with other LICS performers this year, we aim to give young musicians in our area more opportunities to work with professionals in the music industry.



On the road with Musica Kirklees; as part of our mission to make high quality music accessible, the Musica Kirklees Pop Group, Orchestra and Ukulele Band took to the road in December. In one week, they performed to (and with!) over 3000 school pupils across Kirklees and gave many young people their first opportunity to engage with live music.



100% of feedback from schools rated the experience as outstanding and we are looking forward to the groups reforming again this Autumn. A parallel project with the Kirklees Primary and First Schools Music Festival means even more live music is on its way this term. Thanks to funding from the Festival, a jazz quintet of professional musicians is offering school pupils an introduction into another musical genre. The project started last academic year and the team will visit 10 first and primary schools between January and Easter 2025.

Music Network Updates

DJ School UK

Now available nationwide: Online and face to face teacher training in DJ skills. Already in use by multiple UK Music hubs. Discounts available for West Yorkshire Music Hub Members. This is a great offer for areas expanding their music technology or ED&I offer. "An accessible, engaging and culturally relevant art form." For more information please see: <https://www.djschooluk.org.uk/schools-and-community>



Leeds Junior Conservatoire

With lots of new students and performances, it has been a busy first half-term at Leeds Junior Conservatoire. We've also been planning some additional courses for young musicians taking place between February-August this year. If you know any students you think may be interested, please do pass on the information.



[LJC Saturday School](#)

[Leeds Conservatoire Workshop Days for 15-18 year olds](#)

[Music Summer Academy](#)

[Summer Music Camp: Ages 8-14](#)

Music House



Unmissable free projects coming up:

Past and Present: A two-year heritage project celebrating the rich musical traditions of our community. [Find our more and register](#)

Natural Riddim: Designed for young people aged 13–18, and don't miss the celebratory event at [Stage@Leeds](#) in summer 2025. [Find our more and register](#)

Clear Out Your Closet (COYC) Collective: A vital peer support group for adults facing mental health challenges, led by spoken wordsmith **Michelle Scally-Clarke**. [Find out more and register](#)

Yorkshire Young Musicians



Yorkshire Young Musicians events at Leeds Conservatoire this term, FREE to attend and open to all:

Applying to Conservatoire and University, 16th March 3:00 – 4:00pm

Open Day, Leeds Conservatoire, 30th March 2:00 – 4:00pm

Strings Day and Clarinet & Saxophone Day, 6th April at Leeds Conservatoire

Further information at <https://yorkshireyoungmusicians.uk/open-days/>

For further events for flute, percussion and singers after Easter, follow @YYMusicians on socials or [contact us](#) for more information.

The Music Box

The Music Box Youth Groups: We are well underway with our term with our 3 youth rock bands, 2 youth DJ groups and a choir for all ages. We're set to start weekly DJ and Rapping workshops at Swinnow Community Centre. The partnership project with Red Kite View & Cloth Cat is going very well and the response from young people based at the in-patient unit in Armley are engaging well with DJ and song writing workshops. Our end of term gigs will be at 7 Steps Cellar Bar on 28th & 29th March.



The Music Box Adult Groups: Our adult offer is thriving with 16 people attending the 2 weekly Adult DJ Classes and around 20 people attending our Adult Guitar Groups from beginners to advanced. We also have courses in songwriting, music production and after half term a weekly podcasting project. We are on our second term of working in partnership with Leeds Autism Service running a weekly DJ and music production session for adult with ASC.

Future plans: We will be applying for funding for our annual Fuse Festival to take place in July and we are looking at LCC Youth Activity Fund. We're submitting a proposal to deliver a partnership project with The Kings Trust and Pirate Studios to deliver a Get Started in the Music Industry programme aimed at young people aged 18-25 who are NEET and hope to link with the year of culture.

Diocese of Leeds

Our programmes have enjoyed a busy start to the academic year, welcoming new Choral Director Michael Burt to our team, and at the start of this term whole-class keyboard tutors Oliver Heath and Katie Ryding. Recent events have included training days for the National Schools Singing Programme, a residency from the University of Texas El Paso, a weekend performance project with The Sixteen and broadcasting Midnight Mass live on BBC Radio 4 with Leeds Cathedral Choir.



Forthcoming events include Radio 3 and Radio 4 broadcasts, the NSSP conference and numerous concerts across the schools we work with.

Paul Harris training session hosted by Diocese of Leeds Music

On Thursday 23 January a group of fifteen individual, group and whole-class instrumental teachers from Diocese of Leeds Music and Artforms came together to learn from expert educationalist Paul Harris. The four sessions he delivered were united by his principles of Simultaneous Teaching and Unconditional Learning and attendees left with a toolkit of ideas and resources to put into practice.



We're planning more professional development sessions for instrumental teachers, if you would like to be added to the mailing list please contact office@dioceseofleedsmusic.org.uk

Music Local

Launchpad have partnered with Leeds Libraries on a monthly open mic for under 25's. They are every 3rd Wednesday of the month, 5pm - 7.30pm, at Leeds Music Library. The next one is on 19th February, [tickets here](#).

MUSICLOCAL

Launchpad Futures: To find out more about our offer for schools, aimed at KS3, KS4 and KS5, click on [this link](#).

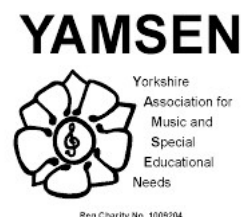
Made With Music

Made with Music is excited to be one of eleven national recipients of the Youth Music Energiser fund. Over the next three years, we'll be working with storyteller, Stories with Liv, and Leeds organisations Little Hiccups and Sunshine and Smiles, to run a child-led research project on creativity with 2-4 year olds. Our aim is to advocate for inclusive creative provision in early years settings through children's own stories and songs. We've just started our weekly play-based sessions looking at all things transport! If you'd like to know more, get in touch, or look out for monthly reels on our socials @mwmcharity



YAMSEN

Musical Communication group, which runs on Mondays 9:15-10am through YAMSEN at The Welcome In/Opal in Tinshill, has space for two more families. This group uses music and total communication strategies as a fun way to build communication and social skills for young autistic children (nursery through KS1 age) and their families. Please



visit <https://www.yamsen.org.uk/activities-events/musical-communication-class/> to find out more.

Training Session - A YAMSEN Introduction to Sounds of Intent; Chloe Wood and Diane Paterson will introduce The Sounds of Intent Framework to parents, carers, musicians, teachers and therapists. The event is Tuesday, 18th March 7pm at the William Merritt Disabled Living Centre, the cost is £10. Register with the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/YAMSEN>

Chapel FM

Blue Owl Performance Loft: Our unique open mic, exclusively dedicated for performers age 25 and younger, entirely produced, hosted, and performed by and for young people. We have DJs, rock bands, solo players, hip-hop groups... We always welcome new participants! To perform, contact martin@chapelfm.co.uk or simply turn up on the day, from 5pm. Wednesday 12th February - 6 to 7:30pm at Chapel FM Arts Centre, 1081 York Road LS14 6JB



South Asian Arts UK

Experience the Future of Music: Young Croydon Composers Live!
Join us for two unforgettable evenings of original music, composed and performed by the next generation of talented young musicians from Bradford, Leeds, and across West Yorkshire. Friday 14th Feb 2025 – Victoria Hall, Saltaire, Shipley – 8:00 PM Saturday 15th Feb 2025 – The Venue, Leeds Conservatoire – 8:00 PM. Tickets are free



South Asian Arts-UK and Bradford Music Education Hub, in collaboration with Drum the Bass, proudly present the 'Young Croydon Composers' project—an innovative cross-cultural, cross-genre musical journey. Guided by award-winning mentors Shri Sriram and Dennis Rollins MBE. For more info, see: <https://www.saa-uk.org/concerts/ycc-yorkshire-1415th-feb/>

Immerse yourself in the rich traditions and vibrant artistry of South Asia with Parampara – A Family Variety Show, taking place on Saturday, 5th April 2025, at 3:00 PM at Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds. For more info, see: <https://www.saa-uk.org/concerts/parampara-5th-april/>

SAA-uk is proud to partner with Future Talent to celebrate their 20th Anniversary of supporting gifted young musicians in a spectacular concert at the iconic Roundhouse, London. Curated by the globally renowned Nitin Sawhney CBE. Tuesday, 22nd April 2025, at 7:00 PM. For more info, see: <https://www.saa-uk.org/concerts/risepast-present-future-talent-22nd-april/>

Thankyou for reading this edition of the WYMH newsletter!

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The West Yorkshire Music Hub is made up of the five following hubs:

[Bradford Music and Arts](#)

[Calderdale Music](#)

[Musica Kirklees](#)

[Leeds ArtForms](#)

[Wakefield Music Services](#)

Please visit the WYMH website for more contact details:

westyorkshiremusichub.org.uk/

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