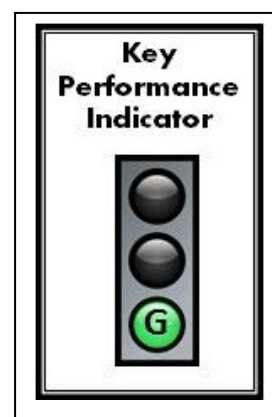


Committee:	Date:
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	23 July 2018
Subject: Principal's Public Report	Public
Report of: The Principal	For Information

1. Quality of learning and teaching environment

The School has been rated **Gold in the recent Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF3)**. This is testament to the commitment of all of our staff, both academic and administrative, who have worked extremely hard continuously to improve elements of our teaching and learning environment.



In its statement about awarding Guildhall its highest possible rating, the Office for Students, noted that ‘continuation rates are consistent with the provider’s benchmark, that progression to highly skilled employment or further study is outstanding and that student satisfaction with academic support is exceptionally high and above the provider’s benchmark.’

The TEF panel noted the high contact hours and intensive one-to-one tuition Guildhall students receive, the personalised nature of learning, strong student representation and engagement, and outstanding physical and digital resources, as well as Guildhall’s strategic commitment to attracting students from diverse backgrounds.

This award came in the same week that Guildhall was ranked as the UK’s top conservatoire in the Guardian’s University Guide 2019 for Music, and third among all UK higher education institutions for Music.

We have now received confirmation of the success of our PIP bid to the City Corporation for £150K to support a new initiative within Production Arts. Our **Multimedia Business Unit** - Video Projection Mapping proposal was well received by the recent Resource and Allocation Sub Committee on July 5. The School continues to have critical success in the area of video mapping and live events and this funding will allow us to build on this success and transform our ability to offer more professional opportunities to students in these expanding areas of industry practice.

Highlights of the term since my last report included the annual exhibition by Production Arts students which was well supported by the wider Guildhall School community and also attended by industry representatives. The Creative Entrepreneurs pitch evening was hosted this year by culture and business entrepreneur Maggie Semple and the award was won by Sarah Arden for HYPE Producers.

A busy end of year season is envisaged with student productions and presentations and the Summer Gala over two evenings in July.

Staff and students have been involved in an increasing number of initiatives which speak to **our artistic citizenship agenda**. There is now a need to capture these projects, often delivered off campus by students and alumni themselves, to reveal the extent that the School is delivering ‘the artist in society’ element of our mission statement. As an example, I include details of a recent event in Milton Court Concert Hall entitled Singing Our Lives. The School hosted a celebration of the 20th anniversary of Refugee Week and worked with over 200 singers from community choirs to create music inspired by the stories of refugees and migrants living in the UK. Our electronic music students helped facilitate workshops with the community choirs to generate performance material, four students composed new songs for the event and the Head of Electronic Music was the lead composer for a collaborative community song Sembo (Justice) performed as the finale for the concert involving all community choirs and a new Guildhall Session Ensemble formed especially for the event.

2. Partnerships with Barbican and with the City of London

The City has now completed a new Corporate Plan, a new Culture Strategic Plan and a Culture Mile Strategic document. Guildhall School staff have been integral in the development of all three. The School’s strategic objectives can easily be mapped against these new City documents and our new business plan will reflect areas where civic outcomes and those specific to the cultural strategy and Cultural Mile strategy are being delivered.

Guildhall School manages the ‘partnership’ element of the Culture Mile distributed model. The City has agreed funding for two Guildhall posts dedicated to management and delivery of a network of partners within and surrounding Culture Mile. Sian Bird has been appointed to the Guildhall School staff to manage this area of work and we are recruiting for support staff. There are approximately forty organisations/institutions/companies who are interested in becoming part of the Culture Mile Network. We have agreed two major events per year. Open Fest will be extended year on year to include activities developed by partners, and the Smithfield 150 event which will be presented this year for the first time, may have the potential to

become an annual fair involving many more partners. We will also continue to build the School's contribution to the Sound Unbound Weekend.

3. Under 18's Programme

We are planning a follow-up Away Day for all those staff delivering Under 18 education and training for the School, including Junior Guildhall, London and Regional CYMs, Creative Learning and Short Courses. We are moving towards a consolidation of the current work of all CYMs and Junior Guildhall under a **Guildhall Young Artist** banner and the additional provision of acting and production arts programmes within all. Alison Meares, current Head of Junior Guildhall, will take over the leadership of the CYMs as we say farewell to Stephen Dagg who is retiring and has coordinated this work for many years. Support staff have been recruited to assist in this growing programme offer. The Review documentation will be finalised in September.

Our Director of Learning and Engagement, Sean Gregory has been working with Islington Council to help in the development of a **new Islington Music Education Hub**. This is a partnership of high quality musical education providers led by Islington Council, Guildhall School of Music & Drama and Barbican Guildhall Creative Learning. The Council has a commitment to making Islington a borough of musical excellence where all children and young people are able to have sustained access to high quality music making opportunities. This work will focus efforts on those who are most in need and stand to benefit the most. Islington Council has submitted a bid to Arts Council England in partnership with the Barbican and Guildhall School to take over leadership of the Islington Music Education Hub in September 2018.

Alongside the proposed hub leadership transition, the Guildhall School, in close alliance with the Barbican, is developing **Guildhall Young Artists Islington**. This is a programme of affordable music enrichment and progression, initially for children at KS1 and KS2 and extending over time to KS3, KS4 and KS5. Guildhall School has been working in partnership with the Islington Community of Schools to research and develop the programme, engaging with existing music education providers to optimise the reach and impact of music making in the borough and to plan for Guildhall Young Artists Islington to be operational by September 2019. As part of the delivery of this programme, the Barbican will host an Islington Music Leaders Conference in autumn 2018 which will gather intelligence about the needs of children and young people and teaching professionals.

Some of the recent under 18 student's successes have been listed within the general awards section but we have been experiencing unprecedented success lately and I wanted to draw your attention to this separately in the following paragraphs.

BBC Young Musician Competition featured two current students **William Thomas** and **Torrin Williams** and two past students as category finalists. Thomas Nielsen has won the Radio 2 Young Brass Award, a remarkable achievement at 17 as this is open to competitors up to the age of 21. It is the third time in a row that it has been won by a current or former Junior Guildhall student. Composition student **Lilly Vadaneaux** has won the National Centre for Early Music – NCEM Young Composer Award 2018. Lilly aged 16, was previously highly commended in the BBC Proms Competition.

Two new students to the Junior department this year **Emma and Sofia Demetriades** have won a number of prizes nationally and internationally this year:

Emma's competition prizes include:

Rotary GB "Young Musician", Northern district semi-final (Leicester), March 2018, winner;

Rotary GB "Young Musician", Northern district final (Market Harborough), April 2018, winner of the intermediate instrumental section;

Anton Rubinstein International Violin Competition, Dusseldorf, April 2018, Finalist Diploma.

Sofia's competition prizes include:

Rotary GB "Young Musician": Northern district semi-final (Leicester), March 2018, winner; Northern district final (Market Harborough), winner and "Best Instrumentalist"; Regional Final (Doncaster), April 2018, instrumental winner (advanced to the National Final in Edinburgh in May 2018);

Anton Rubinstein International Violin Competition, Dusseldorf, April 2018, 2nd prize (John Dodd 1800 bow) - details on their website

Second prize in the Postacchini international violin competition in Fermo.

Joint 1st prize in Leonid Kogan International Competition for Young Violinists in Brussels.

Both girls study with Guildhall Alumnus Anna Liisa Bezrodny. former Gold Medal winner at the School. and were invited to attend Professor Zakhar Bron's masterclasses in Interlaken, Switzerland.

We have a flourishing partnership with Whitgift School in Croydon where talented musicians from across the world are supported financially to study at Whitgift School and also attend Junior Guildhall. One of our Whitgift Scholars, **Marian Bozhidarov** has just won first prize in the Eugene Coca international music competition in Moldova.

Junior Guildhall Student **Leia Zhu** is enjoying a remarkable international performance schedule that most only dream of and she is still in Primary School! Her recent

international performances include: A performance at the European Parliament in Brussels on 'International Holocaust Commemoration Day 2018 (the only featured soloist to mark this special event.) Concerts in Los Angeles and Miami; L'Arte del Arco Festival as a soloist with the Kazan Chamber Orchestra; La Primavera festival in Milan; Vadim Repin TRANS-SIBERIAN art festival performing with Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra; Interlaken Classics; Switzerland soloist with the Zakhar Bron Festival Orchestra. She will be the featured soloist at the Lucerne Festival in Switzerland as a soloist with the Lucerne Festival Strings in September.

4. Future Sustainability

Advancement

Our 'Take to the Stage' event at the Milton Court Theatre enabled the School's development team and the Guildhall Trust to invite potential supporters of the School to learn more about being a part of the Guildhall community. We featured the School's plans regarding digital technology and were able to demonstrate the work of the Production Arts students with a stunning theatrical reveal at the beginning of the evening.

International

As members of UUK and CUK we have been active in lobbying for advantageous outcomes for both student and staff mobility post Brexit and conservatoire-friendly outcomes for the Post18 Education Review. There is still a possibility for a differentiated fee structure which would adversely affect those higher education providers offering arts courses and we have been active in discussions around this suggestion.

The UUK has also been working on proposals for a new Tier 4 compliance system and the possibility of a new temporary global graduate talent visa to replace the former post-study work visa. Research has shown that the UK is becoming less attractive as a destination for international students and steps need to be taken to encourage more students to select the UK as a welcoming and viable study and early career option.

The government has now guaranteed that EU students commencing courses in autumn 2019 will continue to pay the same tuition fees as UK students for the duration of their courses, regardless of the formal March 2019 Brexit date having passed. The government has also confirmed that EU students applying for a place at an English university for September 2019 entry will continue to be eligible for student loans and grants for the duration of their course. This means that students applying to study for entry in September 2019 will not only be eligible for the same funding and support as they are now, but that their eligibility will continue throughout their course, even though they will be enrolling after the formal March 2019 Brexit date.

Auditions have taken place for our second cohort of Chinese drama students from the Central Academy of Drama, Beijing, who will commence in September 2018. We intend to carry out a review of the efficacy of this new course before the end of the calendar year to inform our decisions going forward.

6. Awards and Prizes

Our courses continue to gain both national and international recognition. An example is our repetiteur/opera conductor's course. Ed Whitehead and Patrick Milne have just been appointed the two Jette Parker Young Artist Conductor/Repetiteurs for 18/19 and 19/20 seasons at the Royal Opera House, and Erika Gundesen has been appointed the Emerging Artist Repetiteur at Scottish Opera.

Academic Assurance: employability

Along with Michael Papadopoulos as the Young Artist Repetiteur at Opera Holland Park and Valeria Racco as the Trainee Repetiteur at ENO, we are very close to every high level trainer Repetiteurship in the UK currently being held by a recent Guildhall alumni. Also to note, Nathan Harris has recently secured a repetiteur position in Zurich and Helène Favre-Bulle, at the Komische Oper in Berlin.

External

Erika Baikoff, Vocal, Masters, student of Rudolf Piernay

- Winner of the Founders Prize at the Mondavi Center Young Artists Competition
(Prize: 5000\$)

Manon Gleizes, Vocal Studies, student of Armin Zanner

- 1st prize with the highest distinction at the Les Clefs D'Or contest.
- Selected to be one of the 2018/19 scholar of the Drake Calleja Trust
(Prize: unknown)

Ana Gogava, Artist Diploma Course

- Silver Prize in the Manhattan International Piano Competition
(Prize: unknown)

Jake Muffett

- To be a National Opera Studio Young Artist from 2018-2019

Michael Papadopoulos

- To be a National Opera Studio Young Artist from 2018-2019

Accendo quartet (Juliette Roos, Sabine Sergejeva, Alex Mcfarlane, Dan Benn)

- Winners of the Intercollegiate Cavatina Chamber Music Competition

Alumni

Queen's Birthday Honours List

Debbie Wiseman (Music): Awarded an OBE for services to music

Thomas Ades (Music): Awarded a CBE for services to music

Alice Coote (Music): Awarded an OBE for services to music

Ausias Garrigos Morant (Graduated 2014)

- Appointed Principal Bass Clarinet with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Jonathon Swinard (Graduated 2012)

- Appointed Head of Music at Garsington Opera

Edwin Thomas (Graduated 2012)

- Starred in The Happy Prince as 2nd lead opposite Rupert Everett

Margo Arsane (Graduated 2017)

- Named as 2018/19 Young Artist at the National Opera Studio

Alessandro Fisher (Graduated 2013)

- Named as BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist 2018-20

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