

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	11 May 2015
Subject: Principal's General Report	Public
Report of: Principal	For information
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>This report updates the Board on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards and Prizes • International Activity • Visual Identity • Other matters dealt with elsewhere on the agenda <p>Recommendation: that the Board receives the report and notes its contents.</p>	

Main report

1. Awards and Prizes

Luke Dale (BA (Hons) Acting, year 3)

- Winner, Alan Bates Award

David Shipley (Artist Diploma, Opera Studies year 2)

- Winner of the Joaninha Trust Award
- Accepted onto the Jette Parker Young Artists program 2015

Chris Brewster (Junior Guildhall student)

- Winner, Woking Young Musician of the Year competition

The Sedna Trio (Hanna Tracz, Violin and Penka Petkova, Cello)

- Special Commendation Prize at York Chamber Music Festival

Alexander Soares (DMus, year 3, Piano)

- Winner, Piano Section of the 2015 Royal Overseas League Music Competition

Mark Taylor (BMus (Hons) Flute, year 4)

- Winner, Needlemakers Prize for Wind

Charlotte Yeoman (BMus (Hons), Vocal, year 3)

- Winner, AESS Courtney Kenny Award

Hélène Favre-Bulle (Guildhall Artist Masters, Piano Accompaniment, year 1)

- Winner, Piano Accompaniment Prize

Emma Kerr (Advanced Certificate - Opera Studies 1)

- Becoming a Jerwood Young Artist at Glyndebourne
- Becoming a Scottish Opera Emerging Artist

Capucine Daumas (Guildhall Artist Masters, Vocal, year 1) and Kaoru Wada (Guildhall Artist Masters, Piano Accompaniment, year 2)

- Winners of The Paul Hamburger Prize for Voice & Piano Duo

Joshua Owen Mills (Artist Diploma- Vocal Training, year 1)

- Accepted onto the Opera Studio young artists program at the Bayerische Staatsoper

Lucy Waring (MMus, Vocal)

- Winner of the Susan Longfield Prize

Scott MacIsaac (BMus (Hons) Piano, year 3)

- Winner, Sheila Macbrayne Memorial Prize for a Canadian Musician in the 2015 Royal Overseas League Music Competition

James Henshaw (Extra Mural Fellow)

- Appointed Assistant Chorus Master at English National Opera

Josep-Ramon Olivé (Advanced Certificate, Opera)

- Winner, 2015 London Handel Singing Competition

Robin Bailey (Guildhall Artist Masters – Opera 2)

- Second Prize, 2015 Lotte Lenya Competition

Josep Ramon Olivé (Advanced Certificate, Opera) and Ben-San Lau (Advanced Certificate, Repetiteur)

- Winners of Oxford Lieder 2015 Young Artist Platform

Claire Lees (Guildhall Artist Masters, Vocal, year 2)

- Awarded the Vrienden van het Lied Prize as part of the International Lied Duo Competition in Holland

Rachel Coe (BMus 4 - Clarinet)

- Winner, Lions European Music Competition

Gaelle-Anne Michel (Artist Diploma Violin), Elitsa Bogdanova (Viola Alumnus) and Arthur Boutillier (Guildhall Artist Masters Cello)

- Participated as members of the un-conducted ensemble Musica Viva, in an exceptionally high profile interdisciplinary performance project at Covent Garden as part of the London International Mime Festival

Alumni and Staff

Alumni

Mark Simpson (Alumnus, Composition, 2012)

- Appointed Composer in Association of the BBC Philharmonic

Robert Holliday (Alumnus, Trombone, 1993)

- Appointed Sub Principal Trombone, Orchestra of The Royal Opera House

Edward Nesbit (Alumnus, Composition, 2009)

- Winner, Britten Sinfonia Opus 2-15 Composition Prize

Gerard Schneider (Alumnus, Opera Studies, 2014)

- Accepted at Juilliard, Artist Diploma of Opera Studies

Marisa Gupta (Alumnus, DMus, 2014)

- Awarded the British library Edison Fellowship

James Sherlock (Alumnus, Keyboard, 2014)

- Winner, Piano Prize, Das Lied International Song Competition

Staff

Andy Taylor, Lecturer in Sound, Technical Theatre

- Fellowship awarded by the Higher Education Academy

Chris Houlding, Trombone Teacher, Wind, Brass and Percussion

- British Trombone Society Teacher of the Year Award

2. International Activity

As discussed at the Board awayday, last autumn, the School has been giving serious thought to cost-effective and efficient ways of raising profile overseas. Reports on auditions held in the US and the Far East were made to the February Board meeting, and it seems clear that overseas auditions are proving worthwhile in attracting high-quality applications from suitably-qualified students. Some 60% of applicants receive offers and more than half of those become enrolments. Availability of scholarship support and visa disincentives are important factors in converting offers into enrolments.

Nearer home, second-year actors have for several years been attending a three-week summer school in San Miniato, Italy, and this arrangement, which is thought to be extremely beneficial to the students' development as individuals and as an ensemble, will continue. For the past two years, the School has been developing a summer-school presence in Fontainebleau, with a focus on drama and, for the first time last year, opera. Again, this arrangement will be repeated in the summer of 2015, with increased subsidy

from the authorities in Fontainebleau, who regard the School's presence as a great attraction.

For 2015, it has been agreed that the School will have a major focus on raising profile in China. The context for this is the fact that 2015 is the year of UK-China cultural exchange, and we have had considerable support from the Chinese Cultural Counsellor in London, Mr Xiang Xiaowei. We have also enjoyed good media support from the City's PR office. The specific projects are as follows:

Central Academy of Drama, Beijing. The School has had a number of interactions with the CAD since the first UK-China Arts and Education Forum hosted by the School and the Barbican in February 2009. There have been exchanges of staff and students for joint music theatre projects, CAD staff have visited the School and Guildhall technical theatre staff have attended international conferences and events as speakers and observers. Last October CAD asked the School to put together a training package for Chinese acting students, to start in 2017. CAD staff visited the School early in 2015 and have confirmed that Guildhall is their preferred supplier, subject to contract. It is hoped that an agreement can be reached by the end of May for signing in Beijing in October.

Shanghai Grand Theatre. At the invitation of the SGT, the School took its first-year opera scenes project to Shanghai over the Easter weekend. The visit was a great success and enjoyed extensive media coverage in English and Chinese, and in print, radio and television. The group played 11 scenes from 11 different operas in the Buick Theatre (500 seats), which were sold out for both performances. Flights and visas for 27 people (12 singers, two répétiteurs, technical crew and creative team) were funded from a supplementary grant from the City of London Corporation. All in-country costs were met by SGT. The School has been invited back in 2016, and the intention is to take a Shakespeare project which they plan to market alongside the RSC trilogy of Richard II and Henry IV parts 1 and 2.

Arts and Education Forum II. The School is a lead partner in the follow-up Forum to be held as part of the Shanghai Performing Arts Fair in October. The Shanghai opera scenes project will be one of the principal case studies that will be used to celebrate UK/China cultural exchange and as a basis for further development.

3. Visual Identity

The School's new visual identity has been widely commended, and the recently published Annual Report is the latest manifestation of the design in print form. At the same time, the re-design of the website is now complete with the new on-line tour of the buildings: <http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/online-tour/> . Over 50 short films enable users to gain virtual access to the buildings by campus and by subject. The School has entered two publications – the Prospectus and 'With Our Thanks' – for a CASE award, to be adjudicated in May. It is planned to submit the new magazine 'Play' for an award in 2016.

4. Other matters dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda

The School has received its preliminary grant letter from HEFCE for the academic year 2015/16, starting 1 August. There are no surprises concerning teaching grant, as 15/16 sees the end of funding for 'old regime' students – those who enrolled before the introduction of the £9k fee. From now on all UK and other EU undergraduate students are assumed to be playing the higher fee, and teaching grant has been reduced accordingly. The grant letter did, however, contain good news in the form of increases of 29% in quality research grant and 33% in the higher education innovation fund (HEIF) grant. The implications of the grant letter and other HEFCE funding issues are discussed and illustrated in agenda items 14-17.

Contact:

Professor Barry Ife CBE

Principal

Guildhall School of Music & Drama

Tel: 020 7382 7141

Email: barry.ife@gsmd.ac.uk