

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	7 September 2015	
Subject: Principal's General Report		
Report of: Principal	Public	
	For Information	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>This report updates the Board on a number of current issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards and prizes • Summer activities • Summer schools at Guildhall • Centre for Music • Strategic update <p>Recommendation: that the Board receives the report and notes its contents.</p>		

Main report

1 Awards and prizes

This has been an exceptional year of achievement for the keyboard department, and the Board will be pleased to note the following awards in major international competitions. This record displays both the strength in depth of the students and the quality of teaching across the department:

Kristiina Rokashevich

- 1st Prize, Brant International Piano Competition

Scott MacIsaac

- 2nd Prize, Brant International Piano Competition
- 3rd Prize Christopher Duke Piano Competition

Marina Koka

- Overall winner of the Tunbridge Wells International Young Concert Artist Competition (all the finalists in the piano section were from the School)

- 2nd Prize in the Dudley International Piano Competition

Mishka Rushdie Momen

- 1st Prize in the Dudley International Piano Competition

Alex Soares

- Gold Medal and 1st Prize in the Royal Overseas League Music Competition (three of the five finalists in the piano section were from Guildhall)

Jinah Shim (MMus, student of Martin Roscoe, Noriko Ogawa and Ronan O'Hora)

- 1st Prize Christopher Duke Piano Competition
- Awarded place on the Making Music 2015 Young Concert Artists Scheme

Morisot Piano Trio (Amarins Wierdsma – violin, Yoanna Prodanova – cello, Mihai Ritivoiu – piano)

- Winners of the Cavatina Intercollegiate chamber music competition at Royal Academy of Music

Mihai Ritivoiu (Artist Diploma, student of Joan Havill)

- 3rd prize in Teresa Llacuna International Piano Competition, Valence

Evgeni Geenchev (Artist Diploma, student of Ronan O'Hora and Martin Roscoe)

- 4th Prize Sheepdrove Piano Competition 2015

Ana Gogava (BMus Year 4, student of Philip Jenkins)

- Awarded the Hortense Anda Prize for the most talented young pianist in the 2015 Geza Anda International Piano Competition in Zurich

Other Departments

Johannes Kammler (Guildhall Artist Masters - Vocal Training, student of Rudolf Piernay)

- Accepted into the Opera Studio of the Bavarian State Opera

Savitri Grier (Guildhall Artist Masters – violin, student of David Takeno)

- Named as a YCAT Artist

Julia Astrid Wagner (Guildhall Artist Masters – cello, student of Ursula Smith)

- Named as Aboyne Cello Festival Young Artist 2015

Vincent Bruggeman (BMus Year 4 – Baritone, student of David Pollard)

- Winner of the Deutsch Bank Awards for Creative Enterprise

Helena Kay (BMus Year 3 – jazz, student of Gareth Lockrane, Nikki Iles, Christian Forshaw and Paul Stevens)

- Winner of the 2015 Scottish Young Jazz Musician of the Year

James Garner and Anna Pool (BMus Composition Year 4)

- Commissioned by English Touring Opera to create a new opera *Dust Child*, which will tour the UK in 2016

Alumni

Linos Piano Trio (Prach Boondiskulchok – piano, Konrad Elias-Trostmann - violin, Vladimir Waltham – cello)

- 1st Prize in the Piano Trio section of the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition

Junior Guildhall

Gabrielle Woodward

- Finalist in the National Centre for Early Music Young Composers Award 2015

William Thomas (Trumpet)

- Winner of various solo classes at Richmond Music Festival and winner of Instrumentalist of the Year 2015
- Winner of Kingston Young Musician 2015

Yao-Chih Kuo (Piano and Violin)

- Winner of the Advanced Category local and regional rounds EPTA (UK) competition

Molly Rowan Sharples (Violin and Harp)

- Winner in Mid Somerset Festival solo string class and Young Musician of Dyfed 2015

2 Summer activities

The summer term concluded with outstanding projects in both music and drama. The School collaborated with the LSO in mounting a first performance of Jonathan Dove's community opera *The Monster in the Maze* and gave a side-by-side performance of Walton's Symphony No 1, both conducted by Sir Simon Rattle. Both were remarkable achievements and demonstrated the value of the increased collaboration taking place

between the School and the LSO and gave an indication of what we might expect once Sir Simon is in post. A similar project will take place in July 2016.

The end-of-year musical, *Guys and Dolls*, was a huge success both on the stage and in the pit, and well as being a now routine triumph for the technical theatre department. The two gala nights realised close to £24,000 towards the scholarships fund.

For the second year running, the opera department held a summer school at Fontainebleau featuring, this year, a composers' workshop. The theme of the *stage* was 'Les liaisons d'été', with seven performances in the municipal theatre and the Salle des Colonnes at the chateau. The centrepiece was a set of newly-composed scenes based on the novel *Les liaisons dangereuses* by Choderlos de Laclos, and the festival ended with two performances of classic scenes by Mozart, Bellini, Britten, Bizet and others. Performances were extremely well attended. The spring 2016 opera scenes will tour to Fontainebleau en route to Budapest.

Immediately after the opera school, Christian Burgess held an extended acting workshop in Fontainebleau, following the drama department's regular, long-standing three-year participation in the Prima del Teatro summer school in San Miniato, Italy. These events are both developmental for the students and staff involved and are helping to raise the School's profile in other parts of Europe.

The LSSO undertook an extremely successful summer tour to Spain, with performances in Burgos and Salamanca.

The School exercised the right to award its own degrees for the first time, following the acquisition of degree-awarding powers in April 2014. Postgraduate, resit and deferred assessment boards will meet in the early autumn and a full analysis of outcomes will be presented to the Board in November. Graduation this year will take place on Friday 6 November.

3 Summer schools at Guildhall

Over three weeks of July and August the School ran 18 summer schools across Music, Technical Theatre and Acting. We welcomed almost 400 participants from all over the world, from the age of 10 to 72. The feedback for all courses has been excellent. The 2015 programme has made £214,290 gross (£119k net of direct costs). Residential courses also brought in an additional £41k (gross) in Sundial bookings. These figures do not include the adult Drama summer school, for which final figures were not available at the time of writing, and the West End Stage summer school, which is budgeted to make a profit of £95k.

This is a good performance, especially in the light of the extensive summer works taking place in the Silk St building, which have restricted access to many parts of the School, including the theatre.

4 Centre for Music

The School is pleased to have been asked to contribute to the feasibility study commissioned by government and the GLA to assess the potential for building a new concert hall and education facility in the City of London. A great deal of work has been done over the summer to set out the case for a new world-class concert hall for London and to identify and evaluate a range of possible sites, agree a specification and work up an outline design, estimate capital and revenue costs, and evaluate funding opportunities. The final report is due to be delivered during September and an executive summary is expected to be published soon afterwards. There is no doubt that, if this project can be delivered as part of the City's cultural hub, it would be a transformational asset for London and the nation, and would add to the School's attractiveness to potential students.

5 Strategic update

The outcome of the 2015 General Election has already produced a number of announcements of importance to higher education in general and the School in particular. The July budget has resulted in reductions in teaching grant, with the hint of more to come in the autumn statement (BIS has been asked to model cuts of 25% and 40%; higher education is the largest element of the BIS budget). Just as significant has been the announcement by the new minister, Jo Johnson, that a Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) will be put in place to assess the quality of teaching across the sector. An excellent outcome in the TEF will be a condition for institutions to increase the tuition fee above £9,000 in and after 2017/18. The School has submitted revised 5-year forecasts to HEFCE which take account of some of these factors, together with the impact of the City of London's service-based review (SBR). The implications of these and other developments are discussed in more detail later in the agenda.

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