

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date(s):</b>	<b>Item no.</b>
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	16 November 2015	
<b>Subject: Principal’s General Report</b>		
<b>Report of: Principal</b>	<b>Public</b>	
	<b>For information</b>	
<div><p><b><u>Summary</u></b></p><p>This report updates the Board on a number of current issues:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awards and Prizes</li><li>• Open House</li><li>• CYM Regional Centres</li><li>• Research Update</li><li>• Engagement with China</li><li>• Current Issues</li></ul><p>Recommendation: that the Board receives the report and notes its contents.</p></div>		

## **Main report**

### **1 Awards and Prizes**

#### **Chamber Music**

Oliver Wass (Guildhall Artists Masters, Harp, student of Imogen Barford)

- Winner of the British Harp Chamber Music Competition with his trio Pelléas Ensemble  
(Cash Prize of £750, The Two Moors Festival Recital Award, St. James's Piccadilly Recital Award)

Trio Isimsiz (Pablo Hernán Benedí – violin, Michael Petrov – cello, Erdem Misirlioglu - piano)

- First Prize and the Audience Prize in the Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition  
(1st Prize: € 15.000 - and engagement at festivals in 2016, Audience Prize: Engagement at Trondheim Chamber Music Festival, September 2016)

## **Alumni**

Linus Piano Trio (Prach Boondiskulchok – piano, Vladimir Waltham – cello)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Piano Trio section of the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition  
(*The Hamer-Tribe Trust Prize \$18,000*)

## **Other Departments**

### **Music**

Milan Siljanov (Guildhall Artists Masters, student of Rudolf Piernay)

- Winner of the Wigmore Hall/Kohn Foundation International Song Competition  
(*Prize: £10,000*)

Elisabeth Eder (Guildhall Artists Masters, Harp, student of Imogen Barford)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize in 6th International Harp Competition in Sandstedt, Germany  
(*Prize: 200 Euros*)

Jean-Selim Abdelmoula (Piano Fellow, student of Ronan O’Hora)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize in 2015 Ciurlionis International Piano Competition in Vilnius  
(*Prize: 3000 Euros*)

Jonathan Morris (Guildhall Artists Masters, Piano, student of Ronan O’Hora)

- Winner of the Piano Prize, 2015 Deena Shypitka Awards  
(*Prize: £500*)

Marina Koka (Artist Diploma, Piano, student of Ronan O’Hora)

- 2015 Wigmore Hall Prize  
(*Recital at Wigmore Hall*)
- Worshipful Company of Musicians Silver Medal  
(*Silver Medal*)

Maya Irgalina (Guildhall Artists Masters, Piano Accompaniment, student of Julius Drake)

- Accompanist's Prize in Kathleen Ferrier Society Bursary for Young Singers Competition  
(*Prize: Unknown*)

Jack Roberts (BMus, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, student of Adrian Thompson)

- 2nd Prize in Kathleen Ferrier Society Bursary for Young Singers Competition  
(*Prize: Unknown*)

Robert Lewis (BMus, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, student of David Pollard)

- 3rd Prize in Kathleen Ferrier Society Bursary for Young Singers Competition  
(*Prize: Unknown*)

## Drama

Jonathan Lavelle (Masters of Arts in Acting, Year 1)

- Received a BAFTA Awards Scholarship  
(*Scholarship: £3060*)

## Staff Successes

Julian Anderson

- Two nominations for 2015 British Composer Awards for String Quartet No 2 (Small Chamber category) and Thebans (Stage Works category)

Matthew Kaner

- Nomination for 2015 British Composer Award Mosaic (Large Chamber category)

## Junior Guildhall

Leia Zhu (Junior Guildhall)

- International Russian Rotary Children's Music Competition in Moscow – youngest ever prize winner and first British winner  
(*Prize: \$ 3000*)

## 2 Open House

On Sunday 20th September the School opened its doors for the annual “Open House” event when buildings all over London that are normally closed to the public allow visitors. For the last two years guided tours have been offered in the Milton Court building. It was a very successful day and good to see that the demand for tours has not waned since last year. There were 331 visitors in total, and the vast majority rated their tour as ‘excellent’. 140 feedback responses have been collected from Guildhall’s Open House weekend visitors.

### Findings

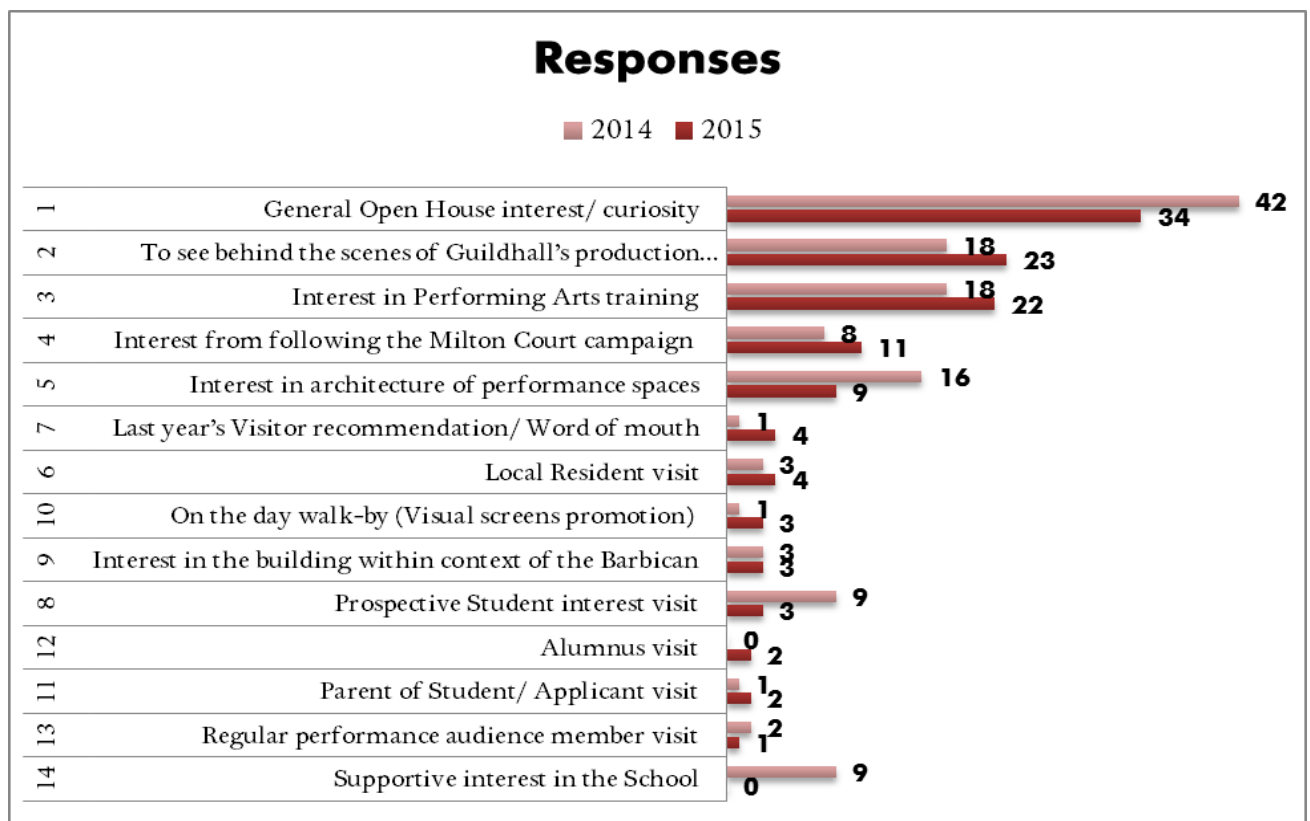
- a) Was this your first visit to the Guildhall School?

Compared with 2014, we have seen an increase in first-time visitors to Guildhall School.

	2015		2014	
	Responses	%	Responses	%
<b>First time visit</b>	116	85%	111	80%
<b>Visited before</b>	24	15%	27	20%
<b>Total responses collected</b>	140		138	

b) Why did you want to visit Milton Court?

- We received most of our visitor interest from marketing the opportunity to visit us via Open House.
- The top 5 responses suggest the primary focus of our visitors is split between interests in the building as a new architectural space providing Arts training, and secondly to get a ‘behind the scenes view’ of what Guildhall specifically does.
- Further responses suggest this event is of interest to our engaged relationships and enquirers (local residents, local alumni and prospective applicants and event bookers).



NB: 11 feedback cards did not supply an answer to this question in 2015.

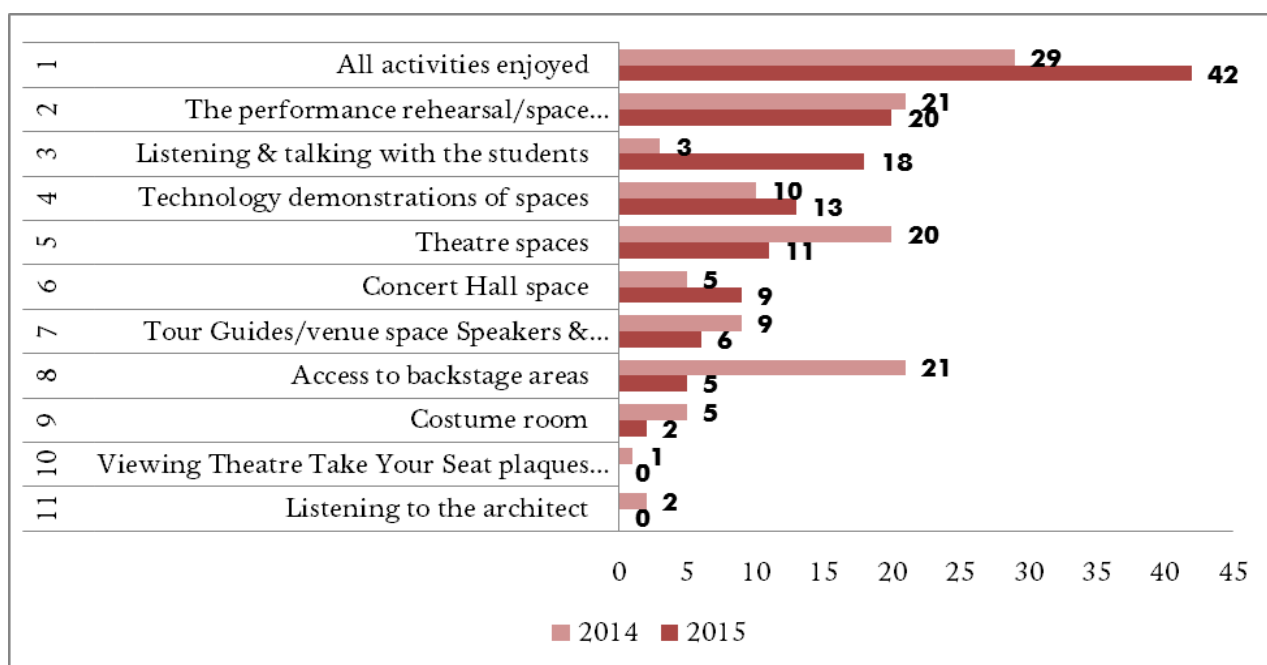
c) What was your opinion of the tour?

- We are still receiving an overwhelmingly positive response from our Open House offering.
- We provided 23 guided tours in the day for both 2015 and 2014. However this year we offered 3 additional tours compared with 2 additional tours last year.

	2015		2014	
	Responses	%	Responses	%
<b>Excellent</b>	123	88%	124	89%
<b>Good</b>	10	7%	11	8%
<b>Fair</b>	2	1%	0	0%
<b>Poor</b>	0	0%	0	0%
<b>No rating provided</b>	5	4%	4	2%

d) Which activity did you enjoy the most?

- Predominately our visitors enjoy all our activities. The results in the graph below highlight the best elements of the Open House organised day.
- The offering of rehearsals and demonstrating the uses of our facilities are of the biggest enjoyment for our visitors. The feedback regarding our students is very strong, with public visitors enjoying the interaction.
- Comparing the feedback of spaces, visitors seem to show the theatre spaces are more enjoyable to visitors then the Concert Hall at Open House.



NB: 14 feedback cards did not supply an answer to this question in 2015.

General comments included:

- *Excellent, varied, informative tour with great student participation. Thanks!*
- *Thanks to all the students who gave up their time*
- *Very well organised. Appreciate effort of all involved, especially availability and candidness of students.*
- *Inspired me to see as many productions as possible*
- *Thank you all for giving up your weekend*
- *Students and tour guide were all friendly and informative*
- *Thank you. An enormous amount of time and effort had been put into the set up and execution of the tours and made the visit most informative - best on my weekend.*
- *Special having students performing and mingling with us*
- *The enthusiasm of the students added greatly to the enjoyment of the tour*
- *Thank you for a lovely opportunity to see the work of the Guildhall School*
- *Great experience. Excellent end to my Open House weekend. Very informative and welcoming. Everybody obviously loves being here!*
- *The enthusiasm of the students describing their activities was very noticeable/ impressive*
- *Impressed by the students' commitment to their course*
- *We will be back to see a performance!*

### **3 CYM Regional Centres**

Stephen Dagg reports:

#### **Norfolk CYM**

- New Stakeholders Management Board established – first formal meeting in October
- Continued HUB funding secured
- Extra space negotiated at no cost to accommodate increased demand for individual lessons and centre expansion
- Guildhall School students visits expanded to include Creative Learning as well as usual undergraduate programme
- Student Progression: Guildhall School x 1, Welsh College x 1, Trinity Laban x 1, Leeds University (Music) x 1, York University (Music) x 1
- Complementary study: Britten Sinfonia awards x 4, Aldeburgh Young Musicians x 2, National Youth Choir x 1
- Guildhall School bursary awards agreed from September 2016
- City of Norwich School/NCYM visit to LSSO rehearsal and concert in January planned (53 students) – also visit to Guildhall School/Milton Court/Barbican prior to rehearsal

- Guildhall School Head of Departments hosting two prospective applicants later this term (as we did last year for Georgia Denham)

### **Hestercombe CYM**

- Arts Council return for HUB completed
- Head of Service now on the HUB Management Group (rather than delivery group) – this in response to an Arts Council downgrading of the HUB's performance
- Student numbers still around 30. We need to at least double this figure.
- New collaboration with Roger Norrington's Southern Sinfonia (previously based in Newbury – now moved to Taunton). Education programme run by Chief Exec. Jonathan Manners (already visited Hestercombe)
- Links also formed with SW Music School (CAT)
- Accommodation now spruced up – but new furniture needed
- Guildhall School student visits being planned
- Student numbers and financial situation remain a concern and a final decision about continuation or withdrawal will be made in the summer of 2016

### **Saffron CYM**

- Memoranda of Understanding agreed; SWCHS offering free accommodation
- Centre launched October 17<sup>th</sup>, first teaching day November 7<sup>th</sup>. Steve Dagg, Angela Dixon, John Hartley (Head) and HUB representative all spoke launch
- Guildhall students played superbly at the launch, to new students, parents, tutors and representatives of School, Hall and HUB
- Head of Centre and tutors appointed
- 4 graduates of Guildhall School appointed to tutorial team (including Head of Centre)
- 60 children enrolled – expected to rise to 80 during the course of the term
- Website established and marketing material printed and circulated widely
- Prelude Strings running alongside normal provision (to develop string teaching in the area)
- Students and parents took part in a drumming project on launch day – in addition to meeting tutors, finding rooms etc.
- Stakeholders Management Group established
- £60k bursary fund established (over 3 years @ £20k pa) from private trust
- £15k HUB investment secured
- Centre linked into school 6<sup>th</sup> form Music Academy and Saffron Hall Education programme
- Head of Centre located in Saffron Hall administration offices

## **Peterborough CYM**

- Free accommodation secured at Ormiston Bushfield
- HUB investment of £20k secured
- BLG £10k pa for 2 years bursary fund secured
- Local Housing Association agreed to support (£s?)
- Ormiston Trust invested £6k
- Stakeholder Management Group established
- Target opening: April 2016 (optimistic?); otherwise September
- Head of Centre, Tutor, Student marketing and recruitment to start after half term
- Budget to be finalised

## **Liverpool**

Meetings have taken place with the Liverpool Philharmonic's new Education Officer and progress is promising.

## **Hull**

Early days, but ACE CEO Darren Henley is keen that we should make progress here.

## **4 Research Update 2014 - 2015**

Cormac Newark Reports:

Compared with 2013-14, baseline funding from QR and HEIF remained constant at about £545K, while that from CoLC was top-sliced by £10K (to £40K) in the cause of general institutional savings. Nevertheless, research activity expanded in almost every area.

### **New Posts**

- Head of Research
- Network Facilitator for Leverhulme Trust International Network cultural transfer project (i.e. externally funded post)
- Music Therapy Research Lead (50% externally funded)
- we also recruited a Research Manager to fill the post left vacant in February 2015; the new incumbent has special expertise in research grants, especially from European sources

### **New Areas of Work**

- Institutional cultures and development (activity has included planning for three public-facing events in Autumn 2015, recruitment to a new doctoral research group of four students, outline application for a major grant, plans for large-scale outputs including a book)
- Music Therapy (new post listed above, two new doctoral students)



## **New Grant Applications**

Awarded: £172K

- AHRC research networking grant £44K
- Leverhulme Trust International Network grant £109K
- Creative Works London BOOST award £14K
- Creative Works London Creative Entrepreneur-in-Residence £5K

## **Unsuccessful:**

- BA small research grants £9K
- Leverhulme Trust research centre £6M

## **Applications submitted:**

- AHRC Research Grants (Early Career Researcher route) £230K
- AHRC Large Grants (One World Research Initiative) £4M (£1M over four years for satellite partners to run sub-projects)
- Leverhulme Trust research module of £48K

## **Applications in progress for 2015-16:**

- ACE bid in conjunction with Barbican (£12K)
- AHRC collaborative doctoral award with Victoria and Albert Museum (£75K)
- AHRC satellite partner in King's College London project (total: £1.8M)

## **New Structures**

- Peer review college for more efficient development and evaluation of internal grant proposals
- Composers' forum

## **New Developments in the Doctoral Programme**

- Guildhall-Barbican doctoral research studentship (£39K research partner funding)
- Large intake (270% of target, future targets revised upwards)
- Decrease in fee-waivers (part of a general strategic move towards being able to offer fully funded studentships to the very best candidates)
- Broadened supervisory pool: internally (including staff from Music Therapy, the Counselling Service, Jazz, and the Creative Writer in Residence) and externally (business and management, linguistics)
- Reciprocal sharing of research training and seminars with Royal Academy of Music

## **New Network Activity**

- Head of Research appointed to advisory board of Institute of Musical Research
- AHRC/OUP Operatic Canon event May 2015

- planning for Early Modern Conversions event (in association with the project leaders at McGill University, Montreal) in 2015-16
- partnership with East London NHS Foundation Trust (£12K research partner funding)
- plans for new three-way partnership with Oxford and Cambridge Universities: art song, national identity and pedagogy at the beginning of the twentieth century
- librettists' network (growing out of the MA in Opera Making)
- CUK Research Forum (leading on issue of joint research repository ahead of implementation of HEFCE open access policy)

### **New Events**

- 4th Reflective Conservatoire Conference February 2015 (£80K income, of which £25K was profit)
- ICON events in Finland, the Netherlands and Australia (£17K income)
- School chosen to host annual conference of the Royal Musical Association in September 2016; initial planning

### **Outputs**

Ranging from conference papers (Royal Musical Association, European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music, 1<sup>st</sup> Transnational Opera Studies Conference etc.) to fully staged operas (ENO, LSO St Luke's).

## **5 Engagement with China**

The Principal paid a further visit to Beijing and Shanghai in mid October to progress discussions with the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing and to take part in the second Sino-UK Performing Arts Industry and Education Forum in Shanghai. The principal outcomes are:

Outline agreement has been reached to offer a joint BA degree in Acting Studies with CAD Beijing. Known as Project 121, students will enter CAD in autumn 2016, will transfer to Guildhall for two years in 2017 and return to Beijing for their fourth and final year in 2019. The outline agreement is for three cohorts of students entering in 2016, 2018 and 2020. It is intended to conclude a detailed contract during December 2015.

Following the success of the opera scenes project at the Shanghai Grand Theatre in April 2015, the School will return with a Shakespeare project, devised and directed by Patsy Rodenburg, in April 2016. This visit is being marketed alongside the RSC 'Wars of the Roses' trilogy which will play at the SGT in March. Discussions are in hand with the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) to take the project on to Beijing, and the British Council has expressed interest in funding an extension of the

tour. If NCPA are unable to fit it into their programme, CAD have said that they would like to receive the project. A possible third venue is also under discussion.

The School is part of a consortium of leading UK institutions that will help to deliver a programme of technical theatre training in China, to be funded by the Chancellor's grant of £500,000, recently announced during his visit to China. The consortium is being led by the Royal Opera House and also includes the National Theatre. The School is developing a proposal to pilot some of this work with SGT and the Shanghai Theatre Academy in April 2016. The School is also investigating ways of drawing down AHRC funding to support engagements with STA as part of the AHRC international placements scheme.

Other projects under discussion include: a possible reciprocal visit by the Shanghai Opera Company to the School during the 2016/17 season and an application to establish a Confucius Centre at the School.

## **6 Current Issues**

The School's senior management team is currently reviewing the institutional strategic plan in the light of updated financial forecasts. A progress report is included later in the agenda. The School has made a submission to HEFCE's review of institution-specific funding, the outcome of which is expected to be reflected in the March grant letter for AY 2016/17. HEFCE officers will make their annual visit to the School on Wednesday 11 November and an oral report will be made at the Board's meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. Although the School made a strong claim to be regarded as a 'world-leading' institution, the senior management team is not over-optimistic about additional funding from this source. The current economic climate remains difficult and the expectation is that the Chancellor's autumn statement is likely to be exceptionally difficult for the department of Business, Innovation and Skills and therefore for HE as a whole.

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