



**THE MUSIC IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS TRUST**  
*The Andrew Lloyd Webber programme*



Andrew Lloyd Webber  
Foundation

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**1000 SCHOOL CHILDREN RECEIVE VIOLINS ON THEIR FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL THIS WEEK.**

**2700 CHILDREN ARE NOW PART OF THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER MUSIC PROGRAM.**

- Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust and Dame Alice Owen Foundation combine to give unrivalled music opportunities to London school pupils
- 2700 participating pupils within eight schools in London, up from 1650 in 2014
- Every child given a classical musical instrument on entry to school
- Pilot primary school joins the scheme for 2015, New North Academy
- Cyan Koay, Highbury Grove & Oxford University graduate, teaching at pilot primary school

Speaking from New York, where he is working on his new musical *School of Rock*, Andrew Lloyd Webber said “I am incredibly excited that 1000 11 year old pupils will start on the Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme this week. I hope their new instruments give them great pleasure and I wish them the best of luck”

This September, over 1000 school children in London will be given a free classical musical instrument as part of the Music in Secondary Schools Trust ‘Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme’.

The children join the existing 1650 pupils already participating in the scheme, which provides a musical instrument to each child on entry to school, as well as tuition and the opportunity to play and perform as part of ensemble or orchestral group.

The total number of participating pupils is now 2700 within the eight MiSST schools, including two new additions this year – St Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington and New North Academy, Islington, where the programme will be piloted with primary school children, funded by the Dame Alice Owen Foundation.

The Music in Secondary School Trust (MiSST) was launched by Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber in 2013 at Highbury Grove School in Islington, the founding MiSST school, and established by a £1m grant from the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation and a £1m grant from the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust.

In 2014 the Dame Alice Owen Foundation's trustee, the Worshipful Company of Brewers, joined them to enable the expansion of the MiSST programme to all secondary schools in Islington.

The programme of music education is based on the scheme that began in 2006 at Highbury Grove with funding from the CWCT, after the former Headteacher and MiSST CEO Truda White witnessed a KIPP Academy in the Bronx, a scheme where every child played a classical stringed instrument. The most recent Ofsted report in June 2010, rated the school 'outstanding', with the music provision seen as a key factor in its success.

In 2012, Cyan Koay became the first pupil from Highbury Grove to study Music at Oxford University. As part of the school's music programme, Cyan started playing the piano in year eight and the flute in year ten, achieving a grade eight distinction in just three and a half years. Cyan describes her introduction to music as 'life-changing' and after graduating this year from Oxford University with a BA in Music, she has returned to Islington to teach at New North Academy, the first primary school to join MiSST.

The full list of MiSST schools are Highbury Grove School, Islington; Lister Community School, Newham; Mount Carmel Roman Catholic School for Girls, Islington; Frederick Bremer School, Waltham Forest; Sedgemoor School, Lewisham; Islington Arts and Media School, Islington; St Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington and New North Academy, Islington.

The success of MiSST 'Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme' is set to continue with 3650 pupils estimated to be taking part in the scheme in September 2016.

Andrew Wolfson said:

'I am delighted that the ALWF and the DAOF have come together with the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust to ensure that music continues to play a key role in the education of young people. The ALW Programme is a key element in supporting students to further develop life skills of resilience, teamwork and self discipline.'

Cyan Koay said:

'I will be forever grateful to Highbury Grove for introducing me to music – I had never picked up a musical instrument before and this was a life-changing opportunity for me. I think that the MiSST programme is invaluable and I'm very much looking forward to my time at New North Academy, seeing the impact music will have on the pupil's lives.'

**ENDS**

### **Notes to editors**

- For images or further information on the Music in Secondary Schools Trust and the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation please Truda Spruyt and Hannah McMillan at Four Colman Getty: [Truda.spruyt@fourcolmangetty.com](mailto:Truda.spruyt@fourcolmangetty.com) / 020 3697 4248  
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- There is a photo call on Thursday 10 September, 10.00 am BST, at pilot primary school New North Academy with Cyan Koay and approximately 30 pupils New North Academy and Lister

Community School with their new violins. There will also be a performance by the students at Lister Community School.

- Cyan Koay, Truda White (CEO, MiSST) and Pierce Brown (Director of Music, MiSST) are available for interview.

### **About The Music in Secondary Schools Trust**

- In April 2013, the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation pledged £1m to establish the Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST) in conjunction with the Charles Wolfson Trust. The 'Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme' of music education is based on music programme which was developed at Highbury Grove School, promising every child an entitlement to study a classic musical instrument on entry, as well as tuition and the opportunity to play and perform as part of ensemble or orchestral groups on a regular basis.
- In September 2013, Lister Community School, Newham, became the first partner school and then in September 2014 were joined by Mount Carmel Roman Catholic School for Girls, Islington; Frederick Bremer School, Waltham Forest; Sedgehill School, Lewisham and Islington Arts and Media School, Islington. St Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington and New North Academy, Islington joined the scheme in September 2015. New North Academy is the first primary school to be part of the programme.
- The number of participating students has risen from 1650 in 2014 to 2700 in September 2015.
- Subject to the continued success of the MiSST programme the Dame Alice Owen Foundation plans to spend up to £3.8 million over 10 years to provide all secondary school students in Islington the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.

### **About the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation**

- The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation was set up by Andrew in 1992 to promote the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit; since inception Andrew has been the principal provider of funding for all its charitable activities.
- In 2010, the Foundation embarked on an active grant giving programme and has now awarded grants of almost £11m to support high quality training and personal development as well as other projects that make a real difference to enrich the quality of life both for individuals and within local communities. Significant grants include £3.5m to Arts Educational Schools, London to create a state of the art professional theatre, £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, £1m to The Music in Secondary Schools Trust and over £350,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need. The Foundation owns two important paintings, a Canaletto "Old Horse Guards from St James's Park", currently on exhibition at Holburne Museum, Bath and a Stanley Spencer "The Garage" on exhibition at The Stanley Spencer Gallery in Cookham, Berkshire.
- In 2014, the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation awarded 36 new grants to organisations, a third more than 2013, made 15 grants to projects in their second and third year of funding and provided 30 musical theatre scholarships to young performers on the brink of their careers.

### **About the Dame Alice Owen Foundation**

- The Dame Alice Owen Foundation has been supporting education in Islington for over 400 years.
- The principal objects of the Foundation are to support Dame Alice Owen's School (now in Potters Bar) and to improve educational outcomes in Islington.

- In addition to funding school programmes, the Foundation also supports drama and musical initiatives in the borough. Since 2014 Dame Alice Owen's Foundation has been funding the roll out of the MiSST programme to secondary schools in Islington, initially Mount Carmel School and Islington Arts and Media School, and now to St Mary Magdalene Academy.
- Dame Alice Owen's Foundation is now funding the pilot of the MiSST Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme to an Islington primary school, New North Academy.
- Under the management and administration of its Trustee, the Worshipful Company of Brewers, Dame Alice Owen's Foundation provided grants totalling over £2.5 million to support its beneficiaries in 2014.
- Subject to the continued success of the MiSST programme the Foundation plans to spend up to £3.8 million over 10 years to provide all secondary school students in Islington the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.

### **About the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust**

- The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust supported Highbury Grove from 2006 – 2013
- Since 2013 the CWCT has supported MiSST who in turn support the above schools
- The CWCT also funds other educational establishments and medical research

For further information on the Music in Secondary Schools Trust and the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation please contact Four Colman Getty:

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