

# MUSIC for LIFE

*'developing a lifelong love of music  
in our young people'*



Sowerby Music has been organising monthly professional concerts in St Oswald's Church for 22 years.

13 years ago we realised that small rural schools in North Yorkshire have little access to professional music making and seldom have trained music teachers. Thus MUSIC for LIFE was born. An attempt to share our enjoyment of music with the next generations.

**MUSIC for LIFE has now grown and developed into the biggest and most diverse programme for young people organised and funded by any music society in the country.**

All credit for this success lies with the many committed and dedicated volunteer members of Sowerby Music.

## Schools Concerts and Workshops

- Each year 3,600 children at 37 Primary Schools (including 2 Special Schools) participate in concerts and workshops
- 9 sets of professional musicians are selected for their ability to enthuse and educate the youngsters.
- Every school event has teaching materials built in to allow staff to follow up and consolidate the learning.
- Comprehensive evaluation ensures that standards are continuously improved.

## Educational Visits to Sage Gateshead

- To broaden children's musical horizons and to acknowledge the enthusiasm and support of schools, a school is selected each year for a visit to The Sage.
- This inspiring visit, for 60 children, tours this world famous musical venue, sits in on rehearsals and participates in a Folkworks Workshop on Northumbrian Music and Dance.

## Training

- Teaching staff whose first subject is not music ask Sowerby Music for help and support as they extend aspects of these concerts and workshops within their schools.
- Training sessions have covered singing and percussion and this years event will focus on symbol notation.

## Saturday Children's Concerts

- Regular, hour long public concerts for children with their parents are organised in Sowerby's Hall.
- Concerts are provided by professional musicians with the skills and expertise to engage with youngsters.
- **Calling all Kids!** is the marketing title for these Saturday afternoon concerts to which children are admitted free.
- Concert publicity is focussed through all the local schools with a leaflet going out to every child.

## Talented Young Musician Support

- The most talented young musicians in Sowerby Music's concert catchment area are encouraged to apply for an annual grant to help towards their training costs at Music Institutions or Conservatoires.
- This scheme is called The Peter Chase Award in memory of a much loved founder member.
- Four musicians are currently supported and previous award holders have forged careers as professional musicians.

## Free Concert Tickets

- Children have free admission to all Sowerby Music's concerts

These brief notes do scant justice to the breadth and depth of our involvement with young people across a large area of North Yorkshire.

To find out more - which schools and performers we work with, what the staff and children think about MUSIC for LIFE and much much more, please explore our website.

[www.sowerbymusic.org.uk](http://www.sowerbymusic.org.uk)

## Funding

School concerts, **Calling all Kids!**, and Teacher Training each cost around £300 per event. A Sage visit for 60 children around £500 and up to £1000 to help a talented student for a year.

Apart from a helpful contribution from participating schools, the great majority of the funding for MUSIC for LIFE comes from Sowerby Music's generous members through the Patron Scheme. But more money means we can do even better for our young people.

Please join us in one of two ways to share in and grow our success....



## By becoming a Patron

You may already be a Patron but, if not, please find out more. Either visit our website and follow the links to Patrons where application forms can be downloaded. Or contact Kevin Gillespie at [patrons@sowerbymusic.org.uk](mailto:patrons@sowerbymusic.org.uk) or telephone him on 01609 780063.

## By becoming a Business Partner

We would value the support of businesses who recognise the value of MUSIC for LIFE and would like to demonstrate their help for young people in our community.

Lots of options exist for publicity or staff involvement if requested. Businesses can choose to have their names associated with specific concerts, schools, visits or talented young musicians.

To discuss any aspect of business partnership please contact Martin Hooper at [chairman@sowerbymusic.org.uk](mailto:chairman@sowerbymusic.org.uk) or telephone him on 01845 577065.

Thank you.

**sowerby**  
**music**

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