

GRACENOTES

May 2022

*Welcome to the latest edition of **Gracenotes**, the newsletter of Haberdashers' Adams Music Department. Find out about what has been happening in the Music Department over the last few months.*

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Spring Concert

At the end of the Spring Term we were delighted to put on our Spring Concert for the first time since 2019. Students performed to a packed and very appreciative audience of parents. From Taiko to Orchestra, Folk Group to Show Band and the Choirs, there was music of all genres for everyone to enjoy. Performances from our larger ensembles were interspersed with solos and duets from some of our Sixth Form students, as well as items from the Flute Choir and the String Quartet. A special mention must go to Gareth Tindall in Year 11, who conducted the Orchestra for one of their pieces. It was so good to hear the students performing live again – the last couple of years have been too quiet in the Music Department! Our thanks go to all our peripatetic teachers who helped to make the evening such a success, and to Adams' FM for providing the bar.



Haberdashers' Musician of the Year Competition



Sixth Form student, Joel Assouan, represented Haberdashers' Adams in March in the Haberdashers' Musician of the Year Competition at Haberdashers' Hall in London. Students from all the Haberdashers' schools took part. Joel gave an amazing performance of Étude in G# Minor, 'La Campanella', by Franz Liszt.

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House Music Competition 2022

The annual House Music Competition took place just before half-term, and after last year's pre-recorded competition, it was great to get back to a live event. Rather significantly, the previous live event for the Music Department was House Music 2020 – the very last school event before the first lockdown. For the first time, the whole competition took place during the school day, and all students were able to watch either live in the Sports Hall or via video links to other locations around school. At the very last minute, the adjudicator we had booked had to withdraw due to illness and we are very grateful to local musician, Mrs Hollie Whittles, who stepped into the role at the eleventh hour – or rather the seventh hour, as she rearranged her day at breakfast time and arrived at school by 08.45, cool, calm and collected!

For many of our students, this was the first time they had seen live music performances at Haberdashers' Adams and, led by the House Music Captains and their teams, our performers did not disappoint. We enjoyed high quality performances and a hugely entertaining day. Congratulations to all who took part – it is quite an undertaking to perform in front of the whole school but in true Adams' style, everyone rose to the challenge.

The Saull Cup for best choral performances was won by Webb House. The Coomer Cup for outstanding individual contribution to the competition was awarded jointly to Jack Seys and Ethan Lin. The winners of the House Music Cup for 2022 were Talbot House.





Music Colours

Music Colours are awarded each year to recognise achievement in and commitment to music. **Ensemble Colours** are awarded to students who have shown ongoing commitment to one or more of the music ensembles. To achieve this, an 80% attendance record at rehearsals is necessary, as well as participation in performances. This year, Ensemble Colours have been awarded to:

Matthew Marsh, George Garrett, Thomas Cowley, Omar Siddiqui, Neason Tai, Charles Lok, Rueben Dulai, Oliver Pullan, Sam Shaw, Harrison Francis-McGann, Paul Maher, Harry Stanway, Alex Bastable, Kieran Powell, Benny Newton, Theo Pham, Leo Cheung, Toby Clegg, Efrem John, Ollie Jones, William Li, Stanley Lin, Joe Shaw, Tristan Stewart, Ferdia Tindall, Arjun Toora, Archie Watt, Ben Wagstaff, Josh Collins, Molly Lowe, William Keyworth, Eliot Holt-Williams, Ryan Cheung, Daniel Cragg, Gabriel Gater, Viraaj Gowda, James Hogg, Will Jones, Kai Manotey, Leo Moulson, Hayden Nam, Manpreet Panaser, Jack Stevens, Luca Voiculescu, Joe Watkins, Ephraim White, Fintan Wilkinson.

Individual Colours are awarded to students who have shown exceptional achievement and/or commitment to music at Haberdashers' Adams. These individuals have gone over and above what is expected and have truly made a difference to music at Adams. This year, Individual Colours have been awarded to:

Year 7: Brendon Cheng, William Hughes, Ronnie Price, Arthur Pugh, Dominic Weaver

Year 8: Raef Ball, Sam Hollands, Tom Jacob, Joshan Singh Rakhra, Adam Seys

Year 9: John Baguley, Michael Gdyra, Finn Glasgow, Jenson Howard, Henry Shaw, Zac Supple, John Toogood

Year 10: Emil Gey van Pittius, Inderpreet Panaser, Arjun Vengalil, Aidan Wong

Year 11: Will Dally, Amal Gopuran, Sam Tincknell, Gareth Tindall, Akhil Viswanath, Kailash Viswanathan, Matthew Warner

Lower Sixth: Joel Assouan, Danny Fereday-Grafham, Dan Haves, Lizzy Hicks, Stacey Hose, Georgie Lewis, Rhianna Otero-Salgado, Josh Wilson

Upper Sixth: Sam Beyer, Bella Blackburn, Tommy Buckley, Roan Chan, Rory Charlesworth, Owen Crook, Nick Evans, Akinwumi Falase, Ben Jensen, Ethan Lin, Zain Mohammad, Naveen Murugadas, Ivan Pekar, Jack Seys, Henry Shaw, Sanjay Sriram, Ashlyn Wick, Bima Zulkarnaen

Congratulations to all the recipients of Music Colours. If you have not yet collected the ribbon flash for your blazer, please see Mrs Coomer.

Thank you to our retiring Music Captains: Sam Beyer, Bella Blackburn and Ben Jensen. We are grateful for their help in getting extra-curricular Music up and running once more and we wish them all well for the future.

Welcome to our new Music Captains for 2022-2023: Dan Haves, Stacey Hose and Molly Lowe. We are looking forward to working with them.

Spring Recitals

In March, we held two recital evenings to give our GCSE, AS and A-Level students the opportunity to perform in front of an audience before sitting their performance exam. Parents were treated to some excellent performances on a wide range of instruments, and the appreciation and encouragement the students received was a great preparation for the subsequent examinations. We wish all our exam students every success and extend our best wishes for the future to all those who are leaving Haberdashers' Adams this summer. We hope you will keep in touch with us.



The National Scout & Guide Symphony Orchestra and Concert Band



Congratulations to Sam Beyer (Upper Sixth), Toby Clegg (Year 9) and George Garrett (Year 8), all of whom have been offered a place in The National Scout & Guide Symphony Orchestra and Concert Band. The NSGSO has been running for almost 50 years and the NSGCB for 6 years. Each year, they meet for a week in the summer holidays. Daily rehearsals are led by professional conductors and tutors, and the week culminates in several concerts open to the public. Scouts and Guides from all over the country apply each year for one of the coveted places and the standard is extremely high. This year, the highlight of the week will be a concert in Coventry's iconic cathedral on 5th August 2022. Around 170 young people will be taking part and it will be fantastic to see Haberdashers' Adams represented by Sam, Toby and George. For more information about the orchestra and concert band, go to: nsgso-nsgcb.com. For information about tickets to the concert at Coventry Cathedral, go to: tickets.nsgso-nsgcb.com.



Adams' *f*riends of
*M*usic

Adams' FM – friends of the Music Department

No, it is not a radio station - Adams' FM stands for 'friends of Music', a group of parents (past and present) and friends of the Music Department, who volunteer to support music at Haberdashers' Adams. They provide bars and refreshments at music events, raise money to benefit the students, repair costumes, and volunteer whatever other help they can to promote music at Adams. We would love to welcome some new members. You do not have to join the committee unless you would like to do so. We need parents we can call on to come along and help for an hour or so at specific events. If your son or daughter is involved in music at Haberdashers' Adams, do consider joining this friendly group.

If you would like to get involved in helping the Music Department and the students, Adams' FM would love to hear from you. Please speak to Mr Brown, Mr Wysome or Mrs Coomer and they will pass your details on to the Adams' FM committee.

Groups & Ensembles

Mondays	13.00	Chamber Choir
Mondays	13.00	Show Band
Tuesdays	13.00	Mixed Choir
Tuesdays	13.00	Folk Group
Tuesdays	16.00	Musicals showcase rehearsal
Wednesdays	16.00	Junior Taiko
Thursdays	12.45	Flute Choir
Thursdays	16.00	Orchestra
Fridays	16.00	The Crucible rehearsal

For more information about any of the ensembles, please speak to Mr Brown, Mr Wysome or Mrs Coomer.

ARTS FESTIVAL 2022

Over the past year, it has been challenging to get extra-curricular Music up and running again after a two year break due to Covid. For various reasons, our plans to stage a musical production in July this year have had to be cancelled. Instead we are holding the first Arts Festival to be held at Haberdashers' Adams. This will begin with a production of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, directed by Mr Hickey, which will run from Wednesday 13th - Friday 15th July in Hamilton Hall. During the same week, our Art Department will be holding their annual exhibition of students' work. On Tuesday 19th July, we invite you to enjoy a Night at the Musicals performed by our talented singers and musicians. This toe-tapping journey through some of the best-loved musicals will take place in Hamilton Hall, followed on Wednesday 20th July by the annual Hamilton Concert - a celebration of Music at Adams, performed by the Orchestra, Show Band and Choirs. Tickets for the above events will go on sale shortly after half-term and we hope to see you there!