

North Herts Music School has always been a great centre for high quality string playing from all our string musicians, and not least our Chamber players. Come and enjoy an evening of String Chamber Music and String Orchestral repertoire on Wednesday 12th December at 7.30pm in the Walton Room:

## Chamber Strings Orchestra and Quartets Christmas Concert

Wednesday 12th December

7.30pm

The Walton Room

North Herts Music School

Festive refreshments including mulled wine and mince pies will be provided.

### Calling all Year 12 musicians!

#### Rotary Music Bursary

The Hitchin Rotary Clubs are once again offering generous music bursaries for instrumentalists and singers. Details will be available from all of our local music centres (Hitchin, Baldock, Royston & Stevenage) and Music Departments in all the local secondary schools from the beginning of December. To apply, you must live or go to school in North Herts or Stevenage and take part in at least one activity from Hertfordshire Music Service. Applications should be received by 31.1.19 to NHMS; interviews/auditions in February and the final concert will be later in the Spring term.

### Guitar Ensembles Concert

Monday

10th December

6.30pm

at

North Herts Music  
School



### Recital Evenings:

#### 13th & 14th November, 7.00pm at NHMS

Do you have a piece ready to perform at once of our recital evenings? Or maybe you are preparing for an exam? Our **Recital Evenings** are informal concerts for soloists or small chamber groups. Please sign up with one of our Recital evening forms available from reception or from your teacher.

### Website & Calendar:

Please go to our Calendar of Events which is on our website:  
<http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/north-herts-music-school/>

Do follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook!



@HMSNorthHerts



<https://www.facebook.com/HMSNorthHerts>

### Health & Safety

May we take this opportunity to say that although we take every care to ensure the health & safety of students, parents and staff on the premises, could we remind parents that we are only responsible for students while they are in a lesson or Music School activity. We are unable to provide general supervision at other times and therefore students remain in the care of their parents before and after lessons or activities. Children of Key Stage 1 age should always be taken to and collected from the door of their Music Centre activity. **Please note we do not provide a qualified first aider in our Music Centres.**

### Snow & Bad Weather

If we should need to close due to the bad weather (or indeed any other closure) please look at our website for details: [www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk](http://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk)

### Admin & Invoices

All payments are dealt with through County Hall. On the reverse side of your invoice are payment options. Should you have any payment queries, please email us at the Music School. May we remind you that a **full half term's notice in writing** is required to the Music School when giving **any** change in Instrumental/Vocal/Group Tuition. This needs to be received by the Friday before half term for finishing at the end of term. Please notify as follows:

FOR CHANGE TO TAKE PLACE	NOTIFICATION DEADLINE
End of Autumn term	Fri 26th October 2018
End of Spring term	Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
End of Summer term	Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2019

### NORTH HERTS MUSIC SCHOOL

Highbury House  
Highbury Road, Hitchin  
SG4 9RU

Tel: 01462 434052 Fax: 01462 442825

[hitchinmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:hitchinmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

HEAD OF MUSIC SCHOOL: NICKY FOOTER



Hertfordshire Music Service

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

## AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

**What if a house could talk....** For two days in November, the Victorian rooms of Highbury House will echo with voices of the past, revealing stories of love, heartbreak and courage at a time when the First World War changed lives forever. With an original script and songs Highbury Whispers tells the re-imagined story of the house through song, words and movement, created and performed by a team of fifty young people from North Hertfordshire. North Herts Music School and Goldfield Productions are proud to collaborate on this ambitious, groundbreaking, pilot project which enables young people from the area to create a piece of theatre from scratch. Highbury House will be transformed with sound, lights and props into a site-specific sensory theatrical set utilising the original Victorian architecture. Audiences will promenade through the rooms, met by costumed choirs, ensembles, actors and percussion groups who reveal timeless stories and hidden secrets.

Whispers is created and delivered by a team of 50 young people (aged 11-17) drawn from NHMS (Saturday Morning Music School & established ensembles) and students at local secondary schools. Over a 5 month period, the young team have received mentoring, training and guidance from outstanding industry specialists enabling them create and deliver 6 public performances of Whispers, a 60 minute site-specific music-theatre production. To tie in with the anniversaries of the end of the WWI and with the Suffragette movement, the production will partner with North Herts Museum and Hitchin Library, where two 'pop-up' performances on Saturday 3rd November, which will give a taster of the show. North Herts Museum and Hitchin Library will both be hosting events during the half-term holiday to support Highbury Whispers. Please come along and get a hint of what the show will be about.

The Whispers project is led by dramaturge / director Caroline Clegg (Welsh National Opera, Feelgood Theatre), Kate Romano (Goldfield Productions), Nicky Footer (Head of North Herts Music School) and Nick Denham (Participation and Inclusion Officer for Hertfordshire Music Service). The children have also had many opportunities to attend workshops that teach them some of the skills needed to run a production, including prop and scenery-making workshop (Andy Lawrence) and a special make-up effects workshop run by an experienced artist. Here they learned all about colour-matching, prosthetic makeup and all about the makeup industry. Further mentors in lighting design (Georgie Ekers), Dance (Jane Turner), costume (Rachel Willis), all support the young team.

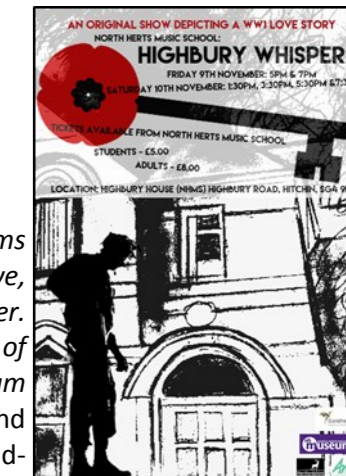
**Eva Fuller (13)** one of the producers, lead makeup artist and graphic designer said: 'This show gives us such amazing opportunities, I love working with great people and learning more about theatre'.

**Lula Peacock (13)** one of the writers, actress and a social media representative said: 'I came into Highbury Whispers only interested to perform but after meeting the production team, I decided that back stage would be just as fun. The show has taught me so much!'

**Nicky Footer (Head of North Herts Music School)** said: 'This is such an exciting project for young people to be involved in. They have taken on the full responsibility of all that is involved in a theatre production; they have been mentored by professionals and many will gain their Arts Award'.

**Kate Romano (Artistic Director, Goldfield Productions)** said: 'Young people are naturals when it comes to site-specific theatre; it's like play. Giving them the creative freedom to tell stories in their own way yields astonishing results; they collaborate, they find their voices, everyone is part of the team and the results are fantastic'.

**Performances: 9th November at 5.00pm & 7.00pm & 10th November at 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm**  
Tickets are available from reception at North Herts Music School: Adults £8.00 & Children £5.00



## HALF TERM ACTIVITIES



**SONGWRITER**

**OCTOBER SONGWRITING WORKSHOPS**

Come along to our songwriting workshops during October half term for young people aged 8-18.

**Monday 29th October (10:00 - 15:30)**  
Stevenage Music Centre

**Tuesday 30th October (10:00 - 15:30)**  
North Herts Music School (Hitchin)

**Wednesday 31st October (10:00 - 15:30)**  
Dacorum Music School

**Thursday 1st November (10:00 - 15:30)**  
Watford School of Music

**Friday 2nd November (10:00 - 15:30)**  
Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts (Hatfield)

£25 (bursaries available)  
Book now [songwriteronline.co.uk](http://songwriteronline.co.uk)



**Songwriter Workshop** Our Autumn term ensembles are in full swing and added to this we are hosting a song-writing workshop in Half Term on Tuesday 30th October—you can sign up for this using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/songwriting-workshop-tickets-49943753110>

### Theory Revision Day

11.00am-4.00pm on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
This course is aimed at those who have entered for the Associated Board Grade 3,4 & 5 Theory exams that are on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November. It will be a day going through all aspects of the exams, hopefully consolidating everything your child has already learnt and highlighting what areas need more attention before the exam day.  
This course will take place in our sister centre at Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts, Birchwood Avenue, AL10 0PS.

To apply click on this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/theory-revision-course-tickets-49935702029> Cost: £22.00 We do not wish that any child should be disadvantaged by not being able to pay the charge. If you have any queries about this please contact the Head of Mid Herts Centre at [Katie.lang@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Katie.lang@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

We will write to all families prior to the course to confirm what needs to be brought along in terms of books, past papers etc; It is essential that you apply for this course by 25<sup>th</sup> October.

## Ukulele Short Course

Come and have some musical fun with Ukuleles led by Jimi Day—Ukuleles provided!

For children and young people  
From 7 years old and upwards.  
No previous experience necessary

### Wednesdays:

**7th, 14th, 21st, 28th November and 5th December**

5 – 6.00pm

at

North Herts Music School,

**£25.00 for 5 sessions**

**Places are limited, so pre-booking is essential**

**Book on:** [nhmsuku18.eventbrite.co.uk](http://nhmsuku18.eventbrite.co.uk)



## NORTH HERTS MUSIC SCHOOL AND STEVENAGE MUSIC CENTRE PRESENT WIND DAY

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018

9.00 am – 2.45 pm  
£22.00



For children and young people in year 3– 8  
AT

STEVENAGE MUSIC CENTRE  
*Nobel School,*  
*Mobbsbury Way,*  
*Stevenage, Herts, SG2 0HS*

To book click on the following link:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wind-day-2018-tickets-50779317305>

## NORTH HERTS & STEVENAGE YOUTH ORCHESTRA : NHYSO

NHSYO meets on a Monday evening at Benslow under the direction of Rufus Frowde and are currently preparing for a concert next term on Saturday, 19th January 2019 at 7.30pm (please save the date, venue TBC).

Our Youth Orchestra has been asked to play a medley which will be broadcast on BBC 3 Counties Radio in December. They will accompany presenter Jonathan Vernon-Smith with a selection of songs which will be Christmas themed! The recording will take place in November courtesy of the BBC Radio's outside broadcast team! The medley of songs has been especially commissioned and arranged by Jimi Day.

**YO Workshop** date at NHMS on **Friday 4th January, 2019** from 10.00am—4.00pm (yes, it's in the holidays). Please check the YO schedule for all dates throughout the year sent home in a letter & by email.

Hitchin Music Project and The Friends of North Herts Music School present

# FESTIVE FUSION

Featuring

Funky Strings, Phat Sax,  
Blast Off! & Stellar Youth Jazz



HITCHIN TOWN HALL

Brand Street, Hitchin, SG5 1JE

Thursday 6th December, 2018

7.00pm

Tickets: £10.00  
In advance from:  
North Herts Music School Tel: 01462 434052  
Hitchin Initiative Tel: 01462 453335  
Hitchin Music Project : 01462 431206  
or on the door

[www.pink-champagne.co.uk](http://www.pink-champagne.co.uk)



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

## Jazz News!

Our senior Jazz Band has a new name—**Stellar Youth Jazz.**

Stellar Youth Jazz and it's training band: Blast Off! (both directed by Paul Woodin) are very excited to be collaborating with Chris Pyne's Hitchin Music Project for our next concert on Thursday 6th December at Hitchin Town Hall at 7pm. Tickets are available from Hitchin Initiative Office (in the Churchyard), Chris Pyne and from North Herts Music School, price £10.00.

## 50th Anniversary CD:

We hope that this will be available after half term:  
price: £7.50

