



## **IMPULSE OUTREACH TRAINING – PRE-GALA PRESENTATION**

**Tuesday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012 at Broxbourne Civic Hall**

Four secondary schools and one primary in Hertfordshire were chosen to participate in a special pilot project for IMPULSE Outreach Training, sponsored by the Housing Associations linked to Hertfordshire's Five Gold Rings.

The five schools were Goffs School – sponsored by B3Living, Sele School – sponsored by Riversmead Housing Association, Northwood School – sponsored by Thrive Homes, Watford Central Primary School – sponsored by Watford Community Housing Trust and Meridian School – sponsored by North Hertfordshire Homes.

The schools were each offered a package of benefits, including two talented young undergraduate musicians with outreach experience to visit the school and help music teachers develop the new outreach project, phone and email support and guidance from the experienced adults running the IMPULSE team, photographic documentation and the opportunity for the pupils to celebrate achievements together in a public presentation at the end.

On Tuesday July 3<sup>rd</sup> the school teams arrived at Broxbourne Civic Hall, ready to demonstrate the outreach skills they had learned during the early part of 2012. Each school tackled the project in their own individual way, and they all adopted a different approach to the presentation, which was very exciting!

The IMPULSE Outreach Pre Gala Event was officially opened by Alison Cox OBE, IMPULSE Outreach Group Leader and Ben Sandbrook, Music Educator, Creative Consultant and former Youth Music Officer.



**Ben Sandbrook, explaining the importance of music leadership training to the audience. Ben worked with IMPULSE at the time it was 'spotlighted' by Youth Music and he engaged Dominic Moore to come and film the Purcell School's touring project in Norfolk. Ben also spoke about the way IMPULSE engages and motivates young people and teaches them to share their skills.**



**Alison Cox welcomed the audience, and introduced each school individually to others involved in the Pilot Training Programme. She also spoke about the background and development of IMPULSE, and emphasised the importance of the pupil-led programme, which began at the Purcell School in 2004.**

After these presentations, each school in turn came to the stage and presented their work to participants in the other four schools. There was a real buzz of energy and excitement as each new group came onstage! Some groups spoke about their work, some directed, some performed and others managed to engage the audience.



*A group warmup exercise, led by IMPULSE Mentors Quim and Charli*

**Sele School's excellent outreach group** was led by young musicians Joachim (Quim) Badia Arumi (piano) and Charlotte (Charli) Ashton (flute) pictured above.

The mixed-age group had developed their music leadership skills with Quim and Charli and then run their project in a local primary school.

Sele's music teacher, Lisa Parish had devoted a great deal of time and effort to the project, and her support for the young people enabled them to exceed expectations in their presentation. Nick Binder, Sele's Headteacher, was also extremely helpful.

The Sele Outreach Group invited the audience to try some of the training exercises they had been using with children, and then they showed a delightful short film of their work with the primary school.



*Northwood School's outreach group in action!*

**Northwood School's lively outreach team** were supported by IMPULSE Mentors Tommy Andrews (saxophone) and Kimberley Ward (clarinet). This was another mixed-age group who learned lots of useful leadership skills, such as how to teach a song with actions to other people.

The group first performed the attractive, entertaining song, and then individual members taught the audience a section of it, line by line. Some members of Northwood's group were very young (Year 8) and these pupils in particular displayed high levels of confidence and leadership.

Special thanks to Northwood's music teacher Moya Brewer and also to Graeme Atkins, Headteacher for all their help and support with the Northwood School Outreach Training project.



**Watford Central Primary School** were the youngest group to take part in the programme. This class of 30 x Year 6 children was led by IMPULSE Mentors Hannah Morgan (oboe) and Emma Halnan (flute). They were also assisted by two additional IMPULSE Mentors, Hattie McCall Davies (cello) and Vanessa Hanson-Morris (oboe).

This wonderful, enterprising young group composed a brilliant catchy song called 'Going to the Olympics' which was sung in canon with related movements and djembe accompaniment. All the children learned to conduct and lead their ensembles within the piece, and they were also planning to share their newly-learned leadership skills with the Year 5 pupils at the end of the project.

Thanks to the excellent teachers at Watford Central Primary and the inspirational Head teacher John Mynott, who has done so much to develop the educational opportunities, achievements and life skills of pupils in his school.



The Meridian School, in spite of a lot of enthusiasm were unfortunately too busy throughout 2012 to get an outreach team together for the Broxbourne event, although they sent a powerpoint of their work for us to watch. It was disappointing not to see them in action, because this fine, high-achieving school would almost certainly have produced something spectacular.

North Hertfordshire Homes has now generously agreed to offer the outreach Pilot Programme to a different school in their area, and we look forward to seeing how this develops in 2013.



*The Goffs School Samba Group with Joe Richards and Rebecca Stein*

**Goffs School** chose a Year 9 group for the pilot project and they decided to create a samba project. The school also had the great good fortune to receive additional support from Cheshunt Extended Services, who helped transport the pupils to many different venues to demonstrate their work.

The school purchased a set of samba instruments, thanks to B3 Living's financial contribution to Hertfordshire's Five Gold Rings. The year 9 pupils were carefully coached and directed by the music teacher, Rebecca Stein and the two IMPULSE mentors, Joe Richards and Chris Draper, both percussionists.

Thanks to the support they received, the Goffs School Samba Group has now given no fewer than 17 workshops in 13 different primary schools! This is an amazing achievement for these young people, and a huge credit to the school!

Special thanks to Rebecca Stein, the enthusiastic, dedicated and highly talented music teacher who did so much to make all this happen.

## What next?

IMPULSE is now applying for external funding to enable them to offer this programme to more Hertfordshire schools.

The logo for IMPULSE is written in a stylized, cursive black font. The letters 'i', 'm', and 'p' are lowercase and connected, while 'u', 'l', 's', and 'e' are uppercase and also connected to the previous letters.

**IMPULSE MUSICAL OUTREACH TRAINING IN HERTFORDSHIRE**

