

First electronic instrument to win the OHMI Competition!



Roger Linn playing the LinnStrument



OHMI Competition Judges 2015

The 2015 OHMI Competition brought in another fantastic selection of entries in all categories. Judging took place in July at the ABRSM board room. Our esteemed panel of judges this year included OHMI Patrons Alison Balsom and John Harle, ABRSM Syllabus director Nigel Scaife, researcher and instrument designer Dr. Andrew McPherson and music and disability expert Doug Bott. The awards made were:

PLAYABLE Winner - Roger Linn and his LinnStrument.

CONCEPT Winner - Barry Farrimond and the Clarion

CONCEPT Winner - Petter Ericson and Tomas Härdin for the Synthobone

ENABLING Winner - MERU for a Trombone Stand

ENABLING Winner - Michael Prestage for a Trumpet Stand.

Congratulations to all our worthy winners and thanks to all those who submitted entries. It is very encouraging that every year a large number of people are working so hard on developing ways to allow those with physical disabilities to participate fully in music.

*****SPECIAL OFFER*****

If you have a physical disability and would be interested in purchasing the LinnStrument then please email rachel@ohmi.org.uk for details of a generous discount that Roger is offering exclusively through OHMI.

OHMI Teaching Pilot begins in Birmingham with Arts Council England support

Having found a range of winning through three years of the OHMI Competition we now secured funding to be able to put some of these into the hands of Birmingham primary school children for the very first time. 15 youngsters with upper limb disabilities have been selected to learn these instruments with the expert support of teachers from Services for Education in the city, disability and music advisor Doug Bott and experienced researchers in the field of music and education from Birmingham City University led by Professor Martin Faultley. The children will first be brought together on October 25th at the CBSO Centre in Birmingham for a taster session. This will be a really exciting opportunity for them to try their instruments for the first time and meet other children from their home city who have a similar desire to learn an instrument. For the rest of the year they will be given a one to one lesson each week in school and they will be brought together for ensemble sessions and masterclasses from our partners at the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. We hope that this pilot scheme will provide invaluable research information to enable children across the UK and beyond to be able to participate in music at the highest level!



The AAFAB/Peter Worrell recorder which will be taught in Birmingham Schools

OHMI Challenge at Fast Forward Festival picked up over 6000 times online



Prof David Nabb and his toggle key saxophone

Prof. David Nabb with his Toggle Key Saxophone presents with OHMI at the inaugural Fast Forward Festival OHMI were invited to present their work at the inaugural Fast Forward Festival in Bristol, organised by Bristol Plays Music. The Festival featured a variety of performers including the British Paraorchestra and the amazing children of OpenUp Music's first school orchestra. During the conference, for those involved in teaching children with SEN/D, Stephen Hetherington spoke about OHMI and David Nabb gave the UK premier performance on the Toggle Key saxophone. Following this a discussion began about whether the electronic technology available currently is good enough for our children. After the event this continued to become the most viewed blog on Youth Music's website - with over 6000 hits! It is certainly an interesting debate and can be viewed at:

<http://network.youthmusic.org.uk/learning/blogs/david-ashworth/good-enough-technology-dont-knock-it#comment-1845>

New OHMI Facebook Page

If you want to know more about what we are up to but not on Twitter we now have a new Facebook page. Please 'like us' and keep up to date with all our news.

<https://www.facebook.com/The-OHMI-Trust-712357178876216/timeline/?ref=profile>

OHMI Funders

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