

April 2016

## 2016 OHMI Competition Closes This Month

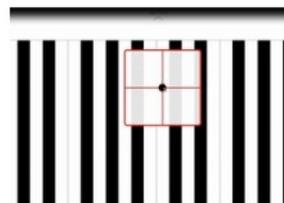
The judges are lined up, the awards ceremony arranged, now we just need to be sure everyone has completed their entries for the 2016 OHMI Competition!

**There are three entry categories:**

**PLAYABLE** - All instruments in this category must be capable of performance without the use of one hand and without further development. Adaptations must have all the capabilities of the original instrument. Where an entry uses new technology, perhaps electronics, it must closely copy the musical characteristics of the instrument it is emulating.  
**CONCEPT** - Awarded for the most technically promising solution(s) to the challenge. Entries may be made in any form - paper, video, drawings, etc., just as long as they explain and describe the concept in detail to the competition judges. In the past, many entries have been projects in development -playable, but not yet to the high standard required.  
**ENABLING** - Awarded for apparatus (straps, stands, harnesses etc.) that make traditional instruments accessible for one-handed playing.

Entries should be sent to [rachel@ohmi.org.uk](mailto:rachel@ohmi.org.uk). They may be submitted in any format, providing it fully explains the entry. Competitors may then be asked for further information or, if in the Playable category, videos of the instrument in use. More details can be found at <http://www.ohmi.org.uk/the-ohmi-competition.html>

The deadline for submissions is **30th April 2016**. Judging by an independent panel will take place shortly thereafter. The Awards Ceremony will take place on 3rd June as part of BBC Music Day celebrations.



## The OHMI Ensemble performs for the first time

On the 20th March the OHMI Ensemble performed at the Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham, as part of the Services for Education Gala Concert. A mixed ensemble of trumpet and recorder players performed a range of pieces with the theme of 'A Night at the Movies' in front of an audience of over 500 people. The ensemble first met in January 2016 and none of the children had ever participated in anything like this before. Samiya, one of the project participants has written about her experiences so far:

*Following on from my prestigious trip to the House of Lords, my ensemble sessions started. Demonstrations by David Nabb and Jeremy Cubert inspired me to continue playing instruments. I was excited when I found out that we were to perform at the Adrian Boult Hall.*

*Once a week, I attend ensemble sessions to practice playing my recorder. It takes us forever to get there as my mum has got lost getting there a few times! My tutors, Emily and Naomi, teach in a fun way so we learn more. They listen to our opinions and ideas on putting pieces together. Even my 2-year-old sister 'contributes' with her pink 'corder' (recorder).*

*I enjoy attending the sessions as I play with a group of children like me and I feel part of this group. They make me laugh with their musical jokes.*

*On the day of the concert, I was nervous when I got there and saw the hall was massive! This is when I realised I had to perform my best in front of the audience. We practised in the afternoon and I concentrated very hard. My left arm was hurting but I knew I had to carry on and shake those eggs!*

*On stage I was so nervous looking around at the audience - my heart was beating so fast! I spotted my mum and felt less nervous. We played Eye of the Tiger, Film Star Blues and Wimoweh which is my favourite. We also sang as part of the massed choir, filling the air with a lot of music.*

*The special applause at the end was amazing and I knew we did well. My tutors congratulated me and I felt relieved and happy it was over. I am looking forward to continuing my recorder ensembles and hope to continue in my new secondary school.*

*By Samiya*



Samiyah with OHMI Ambassador Nicholas McCarthy, her Dad, Durud Miah and OHMI Teaching project manager Georgina Farrow

© Photo: Huw Meredith

# The First OHMI London Marathon Runner is Ready to Go!

On 24th April the OHMI Staff are looking forward to cheering our first ever London Marathon runner around the 26.2 mile course. Andy has been training hard over the last few months and hopes to run the course in around 3 1/2 hours. Friends and family will be joining OHMI in supporting him throughout the day. Andy, who was born without a right forearm, has had a lifetime dream to run the marathon. He has received lots of sponsorship from those around him but it is not too late to encourage him further. His fundraising page can be found at:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AndyEllis1987>



Andy Ellis looks forward to the big day

We wish him every success and thank him for his hard work for OHMI. In the next issue of the OHMI NEWS we will report how he got on!

## OHMI Teaching Pilot extends to Surrey



Smiles all round at the Birmingham

Taster Day © Photo: Karen Jensen-Clark

Flowing from a successful teaching pilot in Birmingham we are now launching a pilot for secondary school students in Surrey. There will be a **Taster Day** at G-Live in Guildford on **Saturday 11th June 2016 from 11am-1pm**. If you are interested in attending this event or knowing more about it please email [rachel@ohmi.org.uk](mailto:rachel@ohmi.org.uk). Places are limited so we look forward to hearing from you soon. The taster day will be a great opportunity to find out more about the project and see some of the great adapted instruments we have available.

## City of Birmingham Brass Band support OHMI as their Charity of the Year

We are delighted that City of Birmingham Brass Band has chosen OHMI to support throughout 2016-17. The association will officially be launched at a concert on 23rd April. Please do come along and meet the band!

## OHMI Ambassador Performs in a Venue Near You!

|            |                        |           |
|------------|------------------------|-----------|
| CHELTENHAM | Parabola Arts Centre   | May 29th  |
| LICHFIELD  | Lichfield Cathedral    | May 31st  |
| COLCHESTER | St Botolph's Church    | June 5th  |
| LONDON     | St James's Piccadilly  | June 9th  |
| DEVON      | Darlington Hall        | June 12th |
| LEEDS      | Leeds College of Music | June 15th |
| DURHAM     | Durham University      | June 16th |

TICKETS: 0800 411 8881 [www.nicholasmccarthy.co.uk](http://www.nicholasmccarthy.co.uk)

## OHMI Funders

We are so grateful to all those who fund The OHMI Trust. Without their financial support none of the work would be possible:

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