

September 2016

First Birmingham Teaching Pilot Successfully Completed

July marked the end of the first year of the OHMI Teaching Pilot in Birmingham. To celebrate, the OHMI Trust ran an end of year concert for all the students.

The project worked with 15 children around Birmingham. Each received 30 minute 1-to-1 lessons with a specially selected and trained teacher from Services for Education, the music hub in Birmingham. Over the course of the academic year, our students have worked towards their Music Medals, played as an ensemble and even take part in masterclasses led by professional musicians from all over the country. The students have achieved a great deal over the year, and 13 of the 15 involved are carrying on their learning in the next academic year.

The concert was hosted by project partners, Birmingham City University. Teachers from Services for Education, representatives from project funders and ABRSM CEO Michael Elliot, as well as friends and family, came to support the brilliant performances. 8 students performed solos and took part in the OHMI Ensemble.

Audience feedback from the concert was overwhelmingly positive:

"Such an inspirational concert. It shows what true perseverance and determination can do, regardless of disability. Long may it continue!"

"The smiles from children and their parents were wonderful to see. 'I did it!' shouted by one of the performers. They all did it brilliantly!"



Research undertaken throughout the project by Prof Martin Fautley and Dr Victoria Kinsella and practical evaluation by Doug Bott, will be published at the beginning of 2017. If you would like to receive a copy of the findings please contact admin@ohmi.org.uk to request a copy.

OHMI Cycling Team in the Prudential Ride London 100

A huge "thank you" to Rob, James, Ross and Neil, who took on the challenge to help OHMI. Team Cadbury, 4 riders from South Cadbury in Somerset, rode in the Prudential Ride London 100 mile race. Despite some holdups round the course, the team all finished together in just over 5 hours raising over £1585 for OHMI in the process.



Rob, James, Ross and Neil who made up the first cycling team to complete this grueling race for OHMI

Family and friends joined the OHMI Trust to cheer on the riders as they whizzed through Wimbledon before having a well earned cold cider at the end of the race.



Cincinnati Adaptives

At the beginning of July, our General Manager travelled to Cincinnati to attend the Cincinnati Adaptive Music Project. The group run a week long camp for children across the USA with upper limb differences.

Engineers, music teachers, occupational and physiotherapists and families came together to adapt instruments to meet the challenges of their disabilities. The OHMI Trust shared experiences in adapting brass instruments, working closely with others on the camp to develop enabling apparatus for string instruments.



OHMI at the HemiHelp Family Day

OHMI were thrilled to be part of the HemiHelp 25th anniversary celebrations on the 4th September. Working with teachers from our projects in Birmingham and Surrey, the Trust led a day of music workshops for children with hemiplegia and their families. Participants were able to have a go at an adapted instrument including a one-handed recorder, trumpet, tenor horn, flugelhorn, cornet and trombone! 38 children and their families were involved in workshops over the day and we great fun was had by all.



One-Handed Bass Guitar



OHMI Concept competition winner, Jacob Harrison of Queen Mary University London has spent the last term working as an OHMI intern through the MAT Placement scheme. In September, he introduced the first stage of his one handed bass guitar. At this stage it only covers a small proportion of the fret board but is proving to be a promising design. Jacob hopes that his great ideas can be scaled up to cover the whole instrument. This can then lead to a submission into the playable category of a future OHMI competition.

OHMI Is Expanding!

The OHMI Trust welcomes Joti Fage to our team. Joti is our new Communications Manager helping us to raise awareness of OHMI's work and to help us progress the development of a range of instruments for people with disabilities.



OHMI Funders

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

John Coates Charitable Trust Sylvia Waddilove Foundation
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 Music Sales Charitable Trust The Yusef Foundation
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 RS Brownless Charitable Trust The Lynn Foundation
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