



**Calderdale
Music**

Newsletter

**See what we've been up to and what's coming up at
Calderdale Music!**

Voices Together 2024

What an amazing few days we've had! Over three nights, we welcomed 1300 children and their school teachers to the Victoria Theatre for a big celebration of singing.

Everyone took part in five "big songs" with a live band, and schools were offered the opportunity to sing a song of their own choice on the stage in front of parents and friends.

We also welcomed a team of youth interns who supported our event on audio, lighting, video and photography.

Check out our Facebook page for lots of photos and videos from schools who took part.

A big "Thank You!" to our sponsors:

Study Write

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thetechspert Ltd

Halifax Young Singers



We'd also like to give a special mention to the wonderful Mark Walker, Musical Director whose expertise and support have been invaluable to our event and have helped us realise our dream of creating an inclusive singing event for children in Calderdale.



We are already making plans for Voices Together
2025 – watch this space!

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Backstage at Nile Rogers and CHIC – The Piece Hall, June 2024

Six students from Calderdale had the once in a lifetime opportunity to work backstage at The Piece Hall on the Nile Rogers and CHIC show.

The students were able to watch the sound check for Nile Rogers, CHIC and their support acts, DECO and Sophie Ellis-Bexter, and learn more about the equipment used for the gig. They then watched the show from the side of the stage. One of the students even sat in the audio booth during the show!

“The crew were very friendly and thorough when they taught us about their jobs and I think everyone can agree this was an absolutely fantastic experience we will never forget. Thank you for helping us explore careers in the music industry and for allowing us to see the performance from next to the stage!”-Mia

“I really enjoyed the experience; it was useful for someone aspiring to work in the music industry. Meeting the people working behind the scenes and seeing how they work together to put on a great show night after night, was very insightful. Thank you very much for the amazing opportunity, I loved every second of it.”-Elle

We are very grateful to The Piece Hall for being so supportive of our young musicians, and our contacts at Roland for organising the experience.

A big thank you to Nile Rogers who even came to say hello and have a photo taken with our group.





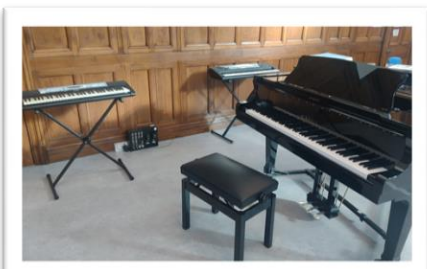
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Heritage Weekend 2024

Heritage Weekend is England's largest community-led festival of history and culture, involving thousands of local volunteers and organisations. There is lots happening in and around Halifax, and we are thrilled to be taking part too!

Read on to find out what we'll be up to at The Old Courthouse, Halifax.



Saturday 7th September

10:30am – 11:30am Have A Play Day

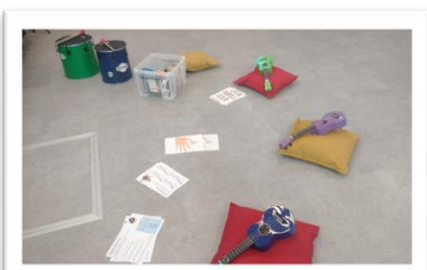
Pop in to The Old Courthouse and see our amazing performance space, formerly Courtroom 1, and try some different musical instruments!

11:40am – 12:10pm Beginner Ukulele Class For Children and Adults

Instruments will be provided. Join us for an absolute beginners class on the ukulele. To help us plan the session you can register for the class online, but anyone is welcome to turn up on the day and take part too.

Book your place here:

<https://www.calderdalemusic.co.uk/events/ukulele-workshop-for-all-ages-beginners/>



Why not treat yourself to a Barista style hot drink from the Rijo Coffee Machine in Rhythm & Brews cafe? Colouring sheets available for children (provided by Halifax Art Society, especially for Heritage Weekend!) and there'll be lots of information and photos of The Old Courthouse for anyone interested in learning about the history of the building.

Monday 9th September

1:00pm – 2:30pm Uplift Upper Voices Choir Open Rehearsal

Suitable for ladies and anyone who sings in an upper register (soprano and alto) this feel-good singing session will lift your spirits! Led by Calderdale Music's Associate Director, Laura Durrans, using the power of beautiful harmonies to uplift, inspire, and connect. We welcome all, with no requirement to read music or have previous experience. Come along and be uplifted!

Book your free space online: <https://www.calderdalemusic.co.uk/events/uplift-upper-voices-choir-open-rehearsal-for-heritage-weekend/>

Thursday 12th September

10:00am – 11:30am Tour of The Old Courthouse with Halifax Heritage Tours

Halifax Heritage Tours and Calderdale Music recently collaborated to offer an exciting new tour of The Old Courthouse. This historic building, formerly Halifax Old Borough Magistrates Court and Central Police Station, has been transformed into a vibrant space dedicated to music and the arts and home to Calderdale Music.

During the tour, visitors will have the opportunity to explore the newly converted courts, private chambers, and assembly rooms. Delve into the lives of the people who once worked within these walls and learn about the fascinating cases that were brought to justice here.

Book your tickets online through the Halifax Heritage Tours website:

www.halifaxheritage.co.uk

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West Yorkshire Music Hub

Calderdale Music has been the lead organisation for the Calderdale Music Education Hub since 2011 (one of 118 nationally) and has been very successful in both drawing in Arts Council England, DfE, Youth Music funding, and utilising it to support children and schools across the district.

In 2023, Arts Council announced a national retender for Hub leads and included a reduction to 43 Hub areas nationally and, from 1st September 2024, Calderdale will fall into a wider Music Hub covering all of West Yorkshire and encompassing Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield.

A rigorous application process opened in summer 2023 for interested parties to apply to be the new hubs leads, of which the Calderdale Music along with Bradford Arts and Music Service, Artforms Leeds, Musica Kirklees and Wakefield Music Services worked relentlessly to propose a strong West Yorkshire Hub model to secure ongoing funding and to further increase opportunities in each area that both addressed the needs of each locality, as well as achieving the aims and ambition of the new National Plan for Music Education.

Following a national announcement from Arts Council in May, Bradford Music & Arts Service has been appointed the new Lead Organisation, working in a close strategic partnership with Calderdale Music, Artforms Leeds, Musica Kirklees and Wakefield Music Services and have secured ongoing £3.5million of annual funding into the area and a further £1.2m for refreshing Music Instrument resource. You can read the Arts Council release here [Arts Council England announces new Music Hub Lead Organisations | Arts Council England](#).

We look forward to being able to not only continue our exciting range of opportunities for Calderdale and the West Yorkshire Area, but developing it further by:

- Appointing a range of Lead Schools to share good practice (information to be released in 2024-25).
- Increased progression routes for children.
- Collaborated experiences with a range of local, region and national partner organisations.
- Increased support and opportunities for Music Inclusion.
- Secure more funding streams to support high quality music experiences for children.
- And so much more!

From September, look for information from both Calderdale Music AND the West Yorkshire Music Hub!



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Calderdale Music Staff

We would like send our best wishes to Andrew Whitton (Music Leader), Harriette Spencer-Kennedy (Music Leader) and Claire Farrell (Admin & Finance Officer) who will be leaving Calderdale Music at the end of this term. We wish them all the best for the future and a big “thank you” for all their hard work at Calderdale Music.

We are excited to welcome Rachel Joyce (Business Admin Apprentice) to the admin team this month, and look forward to Matt Richardson (Music Leader) Mark Donlon (Music Leader) and Sally Gooseman (Music Leader) joining us in September.

Y6 Leavers

If your child has music lessons in school and is moving up to secondary in September, don't forget to let us know which school they will be attending so we can look in to continuing their tuition.

Contact admin@calderdalemusic.co.uk

Dates For Your Diaries

Monday 15th July – ensembles concert at The Old Courthouse

Saturday 7th September – “Have A Play” day and Ukulele Workshop (Heritage Weekend)

Monday 9th September – Uplift Choir Open Rehearsal (Heritage Weekend)

Thursday 12th September – Tour of The Old Courthouse (Heritage Weekend)

Wednesday 9th October 2024 – Curriculum Music Conference (North)



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Get In Touch



Room Hire

Our space is available to hire.

From small meeting rooms to our stunning Performance Space, there's a room suitable for any occasion.

Catering options available.

roomhire@calderdalemusic.co.uk



Rhythm & Brews

Pop in any time and treat yourself to a hot drink from our Rijo coffee machine. Try a latte, mocha, hot chocolate and more!

Open Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 7pm

Friday 8:30am – 3pm

Saturday 9am – 1pm

Place an ad on our coffee machine for just £40 for 12 months – finance@calderdalemusic.co.uk



Music Lessons

We offer music lessons in school, at The Old Courthouse and at our music centre in Hebden Bridge.

Register online or contact us for more information

admin@calderdalemusic.co.uk

For queries relating to invoicing for existing music tuition, please contact

finance@calderdalemusic.co.uk

www.calderdalemusic.co.uk

01422 401260

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