

Music at St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy



Music Staff:

- Subject Leader Music : Mrs. L. Dudley
- Music Teacher : Mrs. N. Tomlin (Pastoral Leader - Director i/c KS3)

Peripatetic Music Staff:

- Mr. G. Brown
- Mrs. Barton - Gray
- Mrs. C. King

St. Anthony's staff volunteers:

- Ms. F. Napier (Tech./Senior Choir)
- Ms. J. Duncan (Musical Theatre)
- Mrs R. Abbs (Tech./Senior Choir)
- Ms. A Jackson (Senior Choir)
- Mrs M. Miller (Senior Choir)
- Mrs H Wolland (Senior Choir)
- Ms. A. Robinson (String Orchestra)
- Ms. Donaldson (Senior Choir)
- Sr. M. Josepha (Senior Choir/Liturgy)
- Sr. M. Adrienne (Senior Choir/Liturgy)

Annual Music Tours:

The senior choir take part in an annual music tour and have sang at some very prestigious venues in:

- London 2016
- Paris 2015
- Salzburg 2014
- Venice 2013
- Oxford, Blenheim and Highclere 2012
- Paris 2011
- Rome 2010
- Cracow 2009
- Dublin 2008
- Prague 2007

Annual Music Productions:

- Calamity Jane 2016
- Into the Woods 2015
- Oliver 2014
- Joseph 2013

A tradition of musical theatre and light opera stretching back over half a century,

Senior Choir regularly perform at events:

In the city:

- Citizenship Awards
- Sunderland Illuminations
- The City Sings
- The Kathryn Jenkins Concert
- Local RC and C of E churches eg. St. Mary's, St. Joseph's and St. Peter's
- Mayor's Concerts

In the region:

- Catholic partnership Music Festival at The Sage Gateshead
- North East Festival of Youth Choirs - Durham Cathedral
- Geordie Rat Pack (South Shields Customs House)
- Music for Youth festivals

The popularity of music at St. Anthony's:

- **Playing instruments** - 140 girls are playing instruments and receiving lessons in school. We offer peripatetic tuition in voice, piano, guitar, percussion, strings, woodwind and brass.
- **Associated Board Music examinations and London College of Music Musical Theatre examinations** are available and 50-80 girls enter annually.
- **Arts Award Bronze, Silver (and soon Gold)**. Approx. 30 students per annum achieve Arts Awards.
- **Junior Choir** - 120 girls in Y7-Y9.
- **Senior Choir** - 60 girls in Y10-Y13.
- **Wind Band** - 40 girls in Y7-13.
- **String Band** - 25 girls in Y7-13.
- **Rock Bands** - 2 current bands.
- **Annual Academy Musical** - well over 100 girls regularly involved in choir, musical theatre etc. annually as cast, chorus, technical and backstage crew.
- **Annual Music Concerts** - 100 plus girls are involved in each of the two annual concerts.
- **Local bands** (beyond the school community) - sometimes leading to local and national recognition eg. Lauren Laverne (Gofton), Ann-Marie Nixon and Emma Jackson (members of "Kenickie" 1994-1998). Marie continues to sing with, "The Cowshed Sisters." Ruth-Ann Boyle (lead singer of "Olive" UK No.1 single in 1997 with "You're not alone").
- **Regional and national recognition** for former students for musical theatre/drama eg. Frances McNamee (Student Olivier Award), currently in an RSC production of, "The Two Noble Kinsmen" at the Swan Theatre Stratford until Feb. 2017.

- **Studied/Studying Music at University** - Megan Barton-Gray (class of 2012), Catherine Northorpe (2013) Anna Lockey (2014). Emma Ford (2016), Ellie Strong (2017) are applying to Theatre Schools in UK and US and Darcy Whyatt (2017) has an unconditional offer to study Music at York St. John University.
- **A life-long interest in music, musical theatre, drama etc.** - large numbers of girls continue to take part in choirs, musical theatre etc. at university and within the workplace upon leaving St. Anthony's eg. Abena Ansah (Edinburgh University/University of Tennessee) and Jennifer Brown (Oxford University/"The Economist") and others work as musicians eg. Mrs. Dudley (Subject Leader St. Anthony's), Mrs. Barton-Gray (Peripatetic Music Teacher) and Alison Barton (Opera Scotland).
- **Awards** - the department has an ISM Bronze Award for Music which places the department in the top 9% of school music departments in the country for GCSE uptake and achievement.