



Conservatoire Cerdd Aberystwyth

By The Music School CIC

**Teachers, Musicians and
Parents Revitalising Music
Education**

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ISOM INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
OF
MUSICIANS

Celebrate the Musician you are today as well as the Musician you will become



The Music School CIC is a new non-profit company set up by Teachers, Musicians and Parents to revitalise our Kids' musical lives.

“School budgets often eclipse talent, creativity and ambition”

When budgets are cut, opportunities are reduced and young peoples' interest in music wanes. People often perceive this as a lack of demand and cut courses further.

We believe the erosion of investment in music opportunities in early years and at every stage leading up to GCSE is the real cause.

Children need opportunities which inspire and engage and flow seamlessly through to the community. Not just in the classroom.

We have formed a new not for profit community interest company.

The Music School CIC

Our mission: to revitalise music education and community opportunities.

We are opening a Saturday Music School called **Conservatoire Cerdd** in Aberystwyth which will start offering music education, including GCSE Music and a course to prepare for GCSE or other opportunities. Courses start September 2024

At the same time, the CIC staff and volunteers will seek out opportunities and support young musicians to perform and compete in various places such as the Eisteddfod Urdd. Concerts and recitals, playing in ensembles or solos to family, friends and the wider community will feature highly in the work, vital experiences to build confidence and self-esteem.

A young girl with her hands on a piano keyboard, wearing a grey dress with colorful polka dots. The background is softly blurred, showing other people in a room.

Combining excellent music education with community opportunities

The Offer

- ✓ A sanctuary for young musicians to get a first-class music education and make new friends
- ✓ Unleash creativity, build confidence and spark ambition with inspiring tutors
- ✓ Get recognised music qualifications
- ✓ Take opportunities to participate in national and international festivals and competitions
- ✓ Enjoy masterclasses in all genres with the top contemporary talent.
- ✓ Explore musical traditions and be encouraged to become innovators at the same time – anything is possible!
- ✓ Opportunities for all with scholarships and bursaries.

And it doesn't stop there...

...we will work with school leavers to take the next steps. This could be A level or other pathways to higher education. If they choose to take another path, we will support them to develop and enhance a rich musical life.

For those just starting or not ready for GCSE

- ✓ Get a Young Musician Centred Plan to ensure the right path for the right musician.
- ✓ Get to grips with music theory, technique and creativity.
- ✓ Master individual instruments and play music from different genres
- ✓ Enjoy support from established organisations like the International School of Musicians

For those who are GCSE ready

- ✓ GCSE Music, which is fast disappearing from state schools
- ✓ Explore a more collaborative, musician-centred path if exams aren't for you
- ✓ Get real-life experiences of music and performance to smash your musical goals.

The Faculty

Helen Naylor, BA Hons (Wales) CTABRSM DipABRSM MISM.

Director of Music



Harpist and harp teacher, Founder of Derwent Harps, Director of Cambrian Music Limited, Head of Harp at the International School of Musicians. Helen has over 25 years' experience of teaching the harp to a high standard. After graduating Helen studied with world famous virtuoso harpist David Watkins. Helen's students have gone on to all the major conservatoires, places at Royal College of Music, Menuhin School, the Purcell School as well as Oxford and Cambridge Universities. She teaches all ages from beginners to advanced levels. Helen is actively involved in the musical life of the community, directing concerts and running harp classes throughout the year. She regularly organises master classes with prominent talent and her Ensemble and students regularly compete at the Eisteddfod Urdd, Eisteddfod International, Festival of Music for Youth, plus many more national, international and local festivals, concerts.

Martin Ives B.A. Hons, ARCM, PGRNCM, PGCE (Music in Education)

Head of Music Education

French Horn player, Music Teacher, Philomusica Orchestra Member. Martin began his musical studies by beginning piano lessons aged 7. Later, at secondary school, he also took up the French Horn, aged 12. He went on to pass Grade 8 in both (French Horn with Distinction), along with Grade 8 Musical Theory. Following graduation from Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and University of Wales, Martin went to the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester for postgraduate study in Advanced Musical Performance. Whilst studying here he appeared with many professional and semi-professional groups including the Halle Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic & Opera North. He worked as a professional horn player during this period. Following qualifying as a teacher Martin was Head of Music in Northamptonshire Secondary school where he taught for 24 years. Following a return to Wales Martin was also Head of Music at Aberaeron School.



Steven Swindells BMus(Hons) GradDip Mperf

Director of CIC Head of Performance



Pianist, Tenor. Teacher of piano, vocal and performance. He is the Director & Founder of AberMusic. Steven is a graduate of the Royal College of Music and has performed in prestigious productions across stage and screen. Steven was generously supported with a scholarship by the HR Taylor Trust and studied with Mezzo-Soprano Alison Wells and Tenor David Rendall. Steven studied an undergraduate degree in piano performance at Birmingham Conservatoire and then taught secondary school classroom music. He studied with international concert pianist Victor Sangiorgio and took part in masterclasses as a solo and chamber musician given by artists including Margaret Fingerhut, Phillip Martin, The Schubert Ensemble, The Mozart Players and the Maggini Quartet. Steven also studied Harpsichord under Douglas Hollick and Fortepiano under Sharona Joshua. He teaches piano from his studio in Aberystwyth.

With Many more support staff and volunteers