

St Andrews Music Participation



Discovering Brass – Summer 2020 Parent Information Sheet

Introduction

St Andrews Music Participation (StAMP) is a newly-created music education project in Fife that aims to support and invigorate the cultural heritage of brass playing in schools, in the community, and across the world. The project is a partnership between the University of St Andrews Laidlaw Music Centre, Fife Music Service, local Brass Bands and The Wallace Collection.

Due to the coronavirus outbreak we are unable to run our activities next academic year as planned. Instead, we have created a digital programme to provide opportunities for as many people as possible to engage in brass music over the next year. Based in Fife, our focus is on local and surrounding communities, but some of our work is available for people from all over the world.

We strongly believe that music has the power to change lives. At this momentous time, we are committed to bringing people together through music, and providing opportunities for people to nurture their wellbeing. As musicians, we know that music is good for you and can make you feel great!

Before we explain the details of this offer, it is useful for us to highlight that music is a skill that requires dedication, hard work, time and effort. You have to commit to the learning process regardless of how you are learning, and this is even more important in the “virtual” world. We also know that the best way to learn an instrument is with a professional instructor in real-time having a regular lesson, and to play music with other people in an ensemble. This is the magic of music.

Discovering Brass Offer (2020)

We are in the fortunate position to be able to offer a number of children the opportunity to learn the ‘beginner’ trumpet (a natural trumpet) by providing an instrument (on loan) and some group lessons delivered via Zoom. If we come out of lockdown before October, we can explore the option of in-person delivery. This offer includes the following:

- One ‘beginner’ trumpet delivered to your home during the week of 29 June, for loan until December 2020;
- A StAMP tutor book that will be yours to keep;
- Two introductory group lessons via Zoom on Tuesday 7 and Friday 10 July, times tbc;
- Specialist beginner sessions during the StAMP Brass Camp on 11, 18, 25 July, 2-4pm delivered via zoom;
- Six follow-up group lessons via Zoom accessed from home, dates and times to be agreed;
- Access to online support material via the StAMP website;
- Finale performance, either on Zoom or in the Laidlaw Music Centre – to be confirmed;
- Information on progression to other instruments after the course has finished.

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We have been inundated with requests for lessons. Here are some more details on who we expect to participate and how we will choose who to accept onto the scheme:

The offer is available to:

- Children living in Fife, Clackmannanshire, Tayside and Perth and Kinross;
- Children aged between 8 – 12 years; (who are at the most suitable age for learning brass and will have priority over younger and older children);
- Priority will be given to children who don't already learn any instrument;
- Priority will also be given to children who might not otherwise have the opportunity or means to learn an instrument.

To take part you need:

- Commitment: to be ready to attend all sessions on time;
- Reliable internet connection and a device to access online zoom sessions at the allotted times;
- To read and agree to the code of conduct in the Laidlaw Music Centre Online Safety Guidelines;
- A music stand (optional) and time to practice in between sessions;
- To sign an instrument loan agreement and return the trumpet at the end of the year.

Offer dates and timeline:

Date	Detail
w/c 29 June 2020	Trumpets delivered (by post or courier)
Tuesday 7 July, times tbc	Pre- camp session 1
Friday 10 July, times tbc	Pre-camp session 2
Saturday 11 July, 2-4pm	StAMP Brass Camp session 1
Saturday 18 July, 2-4pm	StAMP Brass Camp session 2
Saturday 25 July, 2-4pm	StAMP Brass Camp session 3
August, September, October	Six follow up sessions at dates and times to be agreed
Date to be confirmed	Celebration performance event online or in St Andrews
December 2020	Return trumpet to Laidlaw Music Centre Instructions will be sent on how to do this nearer the time

Application Process

All applicants need to read this information sheet and decide whether is opportunity is right for them and their family situation at this time. Parental engagement and support is vital during this process. If you would like to be considered for the scheme, please complete the online application form (link is in the email sent with this document). Alternatively please access via the StAMP Website: <https://stamp.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/>

The application deadline is Tuesday 23 June at 5pm.

You will be notified if you have been accepted on to the scheme by Friday 26 June.

If you require any further information, please contact:

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