

Carlow College of Music

Newsletter – October 2016

Welcome back to everyone and to all our new students and our new teachers – Lydia Thorpe, Piano & Cello, and Jack Kennedy Guitar. Thanks also to past teachers, Lisa Fitzpatrick, Aoife Kavanagh, Billy McGlynn, Billy O'Brien, John O'Hanlon and Aisling Phelan, for all their hard work and dedication. A special thank you to Cathy Prendergast, Cello & Piano, who was with us for seven years. Since our last newsletter, we have been very busy with various events:

5th December 2015 – we had '**A Christmas Extravaganza**' Concert, which turned out to be a very enjoyable evening, thanks to all who participated, and came along. The final celebration of our 25th Anniversary - here's to the next 25 years!

25th January 2016, some of our students (Brian Byrne, Owen Broughan, Magdelina Fadel & Jim Parmeter) participated in a **Music Workshop with Ergodos** Musicians, Garret Sholdice and Benedict Schlepper Connolly, and on **6th February 2016** we gave a Pre-concert Performance in the Visual. This was a very worthwhile experience.

Saturday 13th February 2016 - The Carlow Youth Orchestra and some members of the Junior Orchestra collaborated with the Fingal Youth Orchestra to play in the IAYO 21st Festival of Youth Orchestras on in the National Concert Hall, Dublin. A great night was had by all.

February 2016 - Kilkenny Music Festival - Congratulations go to Brian Byrne (1st Piano Under 15 & 1st Junior Piano Recital), Jim Parmeter (1st Primary School Piano Recital), Steven Grant (1st Senior Piano Recital), Diarmaid Burrows (1st Primary Schools Open Brass), Leah Walshe (2nd Primary Schools Open Brass), and to Matthew McCutcheon, John Harding, Darragh O'Brien & Kate Byrne (who were Very Highly Commended or Commended in their competitions). Special congratulations go to Brian Byrne on receiving the Canon Brennan Memorial Cup for Emerging Talent. Fantastic achievements all round.

Saturday 12th March 2016 - Carlow College of Music 4th Festival - Well done to all our participants and winners. Congratulations to joint Student of the Year awarded to Laura Fitzpatrick and John Harding. Also a Special Achievement Award was presented to Steven Grant.

March 2016 - Feis Ceoil - Well done to Brian Byrne and Oran O'Neill for their participation, where they were both Highly Commended.

March 2016 - Arklow Music Festival Congratulations to Brian Byrne, who came 1st Piano, in both Under 16's categories and to Brian and Martha Dolan who came 1st in Piano Duet Under 18's.

17th April 2016 - Concert in Killeshin Church with 'Sing Aloud', Brian Byrne and Jim Parmeter. This was a very enjoyable occasion.

2nd May 2016 - A String quartet from CYO, Juliet Deegan, Shane Nolan, Ellen Bolger and Meadh Farrell, participated in masterclasses in **Sligo International Chamber Music Festival**, working with Aoife Ní Bhríain. A great learning experience for all. Thanks to Music Generation Carlow for the support. Sorcha Russell and Majella accompanied them.

Congratulations to all who did exams in May/June, lots of 'Distinctions' - a credit to all.

New Ross Aims Choral Festival - May 2016, 'Sing Aloud' Choir participated and came 4th in the Junior Chorus. Also Ryan McDonald got 2nd Place in Boy's Solo. Well done to all and thanks to Ali Behan!

The Piano Duet Club in association with Music Generation Carlow – Eimear Daly, Jim Parmeter, Aideen Burke, Martha Dolan and Brian Byrne, worked together every second Saturday throughout the year with Majella & Lisa Fitzpatrick, and they performed in the **Music Generation**

Gala Concert on 18th May 2016. This was a great opportunity for all.

27th May 2016 - 'All Things Irish & More' Concert with Carlow Junior (CJO) and Youth Orchestras (CYO) and 'Sing Aloud' took place in Solas, St Leo's College. This concert was a commemoration of 1916.

Culture Night - 16th September 2016 - The CYO took part in a concert the County Carlow Museum.

21st October 2016 - Some members of the Carlow Youth Orchestra performed in a 35 Year Celebration Concert for the Gaelscoil in the Dolmen Hotel, a fine display of amazing local talent.

One of our students, Eva Kavanagh, was competing in the Semi Finals of the Junior Eurovision. This round is being broadcast **this coming Sunday 30th October 2016**, TG4 at 8pm.

Please let teachers know if you would like to enter any of the Festivals in the coming year.

Music Generation in association with CCM

Congratulations to Cillian Dooley, Lucy & Juliet Deegan, Oran O'Neill and Owen Stafford who participated in the Young Musicians & Composers Club. See www.musicgenerationcarlow.ie for various events and opportunities.

Oboe Project - We currently have four students involved in this project, Lehi Emmerson, Kate Hayden, Emily Hennessy and Ellen McHugh. This is a very exciting project where students learn through a combination of tutor contact, skype and bootcamp lessons. Ellen has now joined the Carlow Youth Orchestra, a great achievement in such a short time.

Brass – Lessons in Trumpet, French horn, Trombone & Tuba. Trial lessons are available. Congratulations to Darragh O'Brien on choosing the name 'No strings Attached' for the Brass Ensemble. He received a voucher for a free lesson. This Ensemble will resume on **Thursday 10th November 2016**.

Congratulations to Brian Byrne who is now studying Piano at the Royal Irish Academy of Music. Best wishes and looking forward to having him perform in one of our concerts.

Congratulations to Laura Fitzpatrick, Voice, Eva Kavanagh, Voice, & Meadhb Farrell, Cello, on receiving a High Achiever Award from the RIAM, having obtained a Distinction in their exam in May. A special awards concert will take place on **20th November 2016** in the GB Shaw Theatre, Carlow. Well done to their teachers Orla Colleton, Voice & Cathy Prendergast, Cello.

Exam Closing Dates: RIAM - Easter period, **13th January 2017**; Summer period, **3rd March 2017** and ABRSM **9th January 2017**

Preparation for Leaving Certificate Music – Suitable for transition year students. If you wish to do Leaving Cert Music and haven't done Music for Junior Cert, this is an ideal course to prepare you for this. You can even start the Leaving Cert course to get a head start.

Fees – Please settle all outstanding fees before the end of November and check that all exam fees have been paid. Bank details for transfer can be given if needed. Don't forget we offer Standing Order facility, please contact office for more details. When paying direct to bank, or by standing order, please ensure students name is indicated for identification purposes. Term 2 for brass students starts **24th November 2016**, All Term 1 fees must be paid Term 2 commences. Thank you.

Communication – Please let us know immediately if you have changed any contact details. Please ensure that your student reads the notebook and check it also for progress. Regular practice is essential. Encourage performance at home no matter how small. If you would like to receive a hardcopy of this Newsletter, please let us know.

Parking - Please be mindful of parking outside as this is a residential area. If you have to wait for your child, please park on the wide path on same side of the College (not opposite the gate). It is primarily a 'drop-off' system. Thank you.

New Office Hours - Please note new office opening hours are:
Monday 9.30am to 1.00pm and 1.30 to 3.00pm
Wednesday 9.30am to 1.00pm and 1.30 to 2.30pm
Friday 3.00 to 6.00pm

Website and Facebook – See www.carlowcollegeofmusic.ie and follow us Carlow College of Music, Carlow College of Music Alumni and Carlow Youth Orchestra.

New members are most welcome to join any of the performing groups, so please pass the word around to any musicians/singers, especially 1st violins needed for CYO and cellos for CJO.

Parents – We need your help with events for the year. Please complete the slip below and return to let me know if you can help out in any way. Much appreciated.

Forthcoming Events & Dates:

Sunday 18th December 2016 - Carlow Cathedral Carol Service - Carlow Youth Orchestra

Saturday 11th March 2017 - Carlow College of Music 5th Festival - we encourage all students to participate in this. Please ask your teacher about it.

April 2017 - Carlow Youth Orchestra -Trip abroad - to be finalised

June 2017 - Carlow Arts Festival - the Carlow Youth Orchestra will collaborate with dancer Emma Martin - details to follow

Thanking you for all your support throughout the year.

Happy Halloween!



I am available and willing to help out with events during the year.

Name: _____ **Parent of:** _____ **Tel:** _____