



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Artistic Director, Katharina Baker, conducts the massed orchestra at the finale of the 10th Coole Music Orchestra Festival.

Cole Music Orchestra Festival 10th Birthday

The Coole Music Orchestra Festival was this year honoured with an Achievement Award at the National Concert Hall as part of the IAYO Festival of Youth Orchestras.

Celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year, the Coole Music Orchestra Festival has brought thousands of young orchestral musicians, from all over Ireland and abroad, to the small town of Gort in County Galway. Starting out as a Junior Orchestra Festival in 2008 with just 4 participating orchestras, it soon grew into a 2-concert format with 5 orchestras in each performance. The special feature of this festival has always been the Finale when all the orchestras join up in a combined festival orchestra and premiere a new work together which has been specially composed for the occasion. These Finale pieces have seen up to 250 musicians performing together on stage and have taken different formats over the years. Sometimes the musicians surrounded the audience with bell ringers on platforms, sometimes they moved in choreographed patterns through the audience and for the 10th Anniversary, a group of skilled young dancers joined in from different parts of the auditorium.

Originally inspired by the IAYO Youth Orchestra Festival, the festival organisers wanted to create something in the west of Ireland that gave young players the platform to share their music with each other and with an audience in a non-competitive and supportive way. It has been an exciting journey over these past 10 years to see each aspect of the festival develop. The standard of playing has constantly risen; the interest of participation is still increasing every year and with the constant growth of the festival, a need for increased volunteer support from parent helpers. By now, a small army of around 50 Coole Music parents help out every year to pull all the strings together from front-of-house jobs and parking stewards to stage management and raffle organisation. It has become a real community effort which is a celebration in itself. On a social level, the festival has seen friendships develop between participating musicians from different orchestras and networking ideas started when conductors met each other during the day of the festival and kicked off other projects.

Welcome to the June edition of Newsnotes, catching you up on the main events since Christmas at IAYO. We've been very busy on foot of a very strong endorsement of the work of IAYO by way of a funding increase of close to 50% from The Arts Council in 2017. The increase is to fund a new staff member and the creation of two new national-level ensembles, the Irish Youth Baroque Orchestra - a collaboration with the Irish Baroque Orchestra - and the Irish Youth Brass Ensemble. Both of these ensembles are supported by the Royal Irish Academy of Music and will have courses during a very busy July that will also see the Irish Youth Wind Ensemble tour to the Mid-Europe Festival in Austria and an earlier-than-usual ConCorda course taking place for the first time in its new home of Newtown School in Waterford. Applications for all the courses are now closed although we are still looking for a few players to fill seats in the Brass Ensemble: we'll be sending around requests by email for players of specific instruments over the coming weeks. We're also delighted to be supporting the Esker Festival Orchestra again this year. They will hold their course in August with a national tour playing Tchaikovsky,

Mahler and, as is their custom, a new work by a young Irish composer.

We're delighted to welcome a new member of staff to IAYO. Yvonne Owens has just joined us as Marketing and Communications Officer, having previously worked in corporate communications at RTÉ. There has been a lot of growth in the opportunities available to young instrumentalists over the past few years from providers all around Ireland and also in the amount of opportunities and rules and regulations for youth groups to follow. Yvonne will be making sure that everyone is in possession of the information that they want and need in addition to promoting the value of our own ensembles and youth orchestras generally to the public at large.

Finally, we're very delighted to see the launch of the new Sym-Phonic Waves orchestra as part of Galway 2020. The growth in the regional community of youth orchestras and youth music in the West over the last ten to fifteen years has been most encouraging and this new orchestra will continue the development. They'll be playing over the summer - you can keep an eye out on their Facebook page for details.

Pauline Rodgers receives the Agnes O'Kane Award for her work with the Mayo Youth Orchestra

[Fionnuala Tynan and Anne Moriarty-Martin submitted their recommendation for Pauline's 30 years of volunteering in music in Mayo.]

We are proud to nominate Pauline Rodgers for the Agnes O'Kane Award on behalf of Mayo Youth Orchestra. Pauline's involvement in music education stems from her own children's membership of Castlebar Concert Band thirty years ago. Deciding to take up the euphonium and attend lessons at the same time as her children, she became so impassioned by the community of music that she wanted it to be experienced by as many people as possible.

Putting her passion into action, Pauline took over the organisation of music lessons by Castlebar Concert Band and was instrumental in developing the range of instruments taught and extending the catchment area for classes. In 1995 she was a founding member of Mayo Concert Orchestra, at a time when regional orchestras were few and far between, and later helped establish Mayo Youth Orchestra. Castlebar Concert Band now attracts learner-musicians from across the county and these lessons have become the mainstay of MYO.

Pauline's commitment to inclusion and accessibility is significant. MYO is not about recruiting the best musicians in the county, it's about enabling interested musicians to play together. We have a number of members with special needs, whom Pauline has supported with what can only be described as love. Through liaison with parents, teachers and the musical director, she ensures all musicians benefit musically and socially from our organisation. For those in the most remote areas, she co-ordinates times to make classes convenient for parents and co-ordinates teacher timetables to reduce parent waiting time. She has volunteered every Saturday for the past twenty-one years and works to make sure there is a consistent graduation of musicians from music lessons to the orchestras; ensuring the make-up of both orchestras remains sustainable.

Added to all this, Pauline has sourced numerous grants, is in regular contact with Irish Association of Youth Orchestras and the Arts department of Mayo County Council, and has enabled MYO to play twice at the Festival of Youth Orchestras in the National Concert Hall. She is the organiser of educational trips abroad and on these trips is the known to parade the corridors at night to ensure all young musicians are tucked up safely in their beds. (Though this is not always appreciated). Pauline practised the engagement of the 'participant voice' long before the term was coined, actively involving young musicians in planning social activities. All of the members



Pauline Rodgers and Philip O'Kane at the Festival of Youth Orchestras.

know her and trust her and, in turn, Pauline is intensely proud of the many members who have gone on to pursue a career in music.

Pauline has the vision to imagine the bigger picture. In 2000 Pauline supported two young and enthusiastic teachers in developing 'Classroom Cacophonies', a music education programme for primary schools. The first of its kind in the west of Ireland, it won an IAYO National Achievement Award in 2001 and became a flagship outreach programme leading to a surge in membership. Pauline has also worked to establish Mayo Academy of Performing Arts to provide MCO/MYO with their own premises, the space to buy and store a wider range of instruments and a community recording studio. A demonstration of her commitment to this was her recent 50th wedding anniversary party invitation, on which she requested not presents but donations in lieu to MAPA. We are delighted that a premises has been purchased and plans are in place for its refurbishment, thanks in large part to our wonderful Pauline.

Pauline had no background in music when she began all those years ago but in giving of her incredible organisational and people skills she has changed youth music education and performance in Mayo dramatically. Pauline recently nominated George Lee, musical director of MCO, for a 'Mayo Person of the Year Award', demonstrating her pride in the people who work on her behalf. She would never dream of nominating herself for an award, unaware of her own pivotal efforts. We, however, hope you see Pauline for the gem she is; truly one in a million.

Symphonic



On Sunday 5th March in the hall in Claregalway College, the 41 members of the new Sym-Phonic Waves orchestra played their very first notes together as a brand new orchestra for the west of Ireland. The orchestra, strings only to start with, worked with conductor, Sinead Hayes, and members of the ConTempo Quartet, the Galway Music Residency's ensemble in residence on the Capriol Suite by Peter Warlock. Sinead, a native of Galway, specialises in conducting chamber orchestra and contemporary repertoire and is in her third season as conductor of the Hard Rain Soloist Ensemble - Northern Ireland's professional contemporary music ensemble - and is principal conductor of the Amaretti Chamber Orchestra, Manchester since 2010.

Sym-Phonic Waves is being developed as part of a four-year plan which will see this new group create links with established youth orchestras in Germany, Finland, Scotland and Spain and will result in a major performance here during Galway 2020. The orchestra is the first project from Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture; a collaboration involving the Galway Music Education Partnership led by Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board (GRETB) and Galway 2020 and including Athenry Music School, Coole Music & Arts, Headford Music Works, GTI School of Music, Galway Youth Orchestra, Maoin Cheoil na Gaillimhe, Music Matters, Galway County Council, Galway City Council and Ealaín na Gaeltachta. Other supporting organisations who have pledged their support are the Irish Chamber Orchestra, IAYO, Esker Festival Orchestra and the Galway Music Residency.

Ingrid Nicola of ConTempo spoke of their delight at taking part. "A youth orchestra for the Western region is a project we have been waiting for many years. We are so proud and happy that it is finally happening. What stood out for us at the first rehearsal was the excitement and pleasure of the young people who have come together to share an experience that will benefit them for the rest of their lives. And it was wonderful to see participants coming from all over the West of Ireland to take part. We are delighted to be working with Sym-Phonic Waves and Sinead Hayes, the orchestra's brilliant conductor. It is very exciting to have a Galway native at the helm."

The orchestra is rehearsing monthly in



Sinead Hayes

preparation for their July residential course with the outstanding German youth orchestra Schoenbuch Strings. Before then, conductor Sinead is keen to involve the region's string teachers and the wider community in the process of building the orchestra's level. "The idea is to continue to develop the community of string teachers in the west of Ireland so that we can bring the orchestra to the highest level." Sinead will invite the teachers of the Sym-Phonic Waves players, and other interested teachers, to attend the orchestra's second rehearsal on Sunday 2nd April to meet the team.

The orchestra will perform an informal concert in Claregalway College on Sunday 25th June ahead of their season finale concert with Schoenbuch Strings in the Lodge at Ashford Castle on Thursday 3rd August. In the meantime, regular updates on the orchestra's Facebook page will give a fly on the wall view of how this exciting group of talented youngsters are making musical waves in the west of Ireland.

... this is really exciting, we have been working strategically to develop and support a number of projects and we are really thrilled that Sym-Phonic Waves is starting now.

Marilyn Reddan, Galway 2020



County Wexford Youth Orchestra Participate in International Youth Orchestra in Italy

The County Wexford Youth Orchestra (CWYO) won one of two achievement awards presented at the 2017 Festival of Youth Orchestras in February. CWYO made contact with an organisation in Italy after reading an article on the IAYO website back in September 2013 which led to the orchestra taking part in an international orchestra festival 'Music is Calling: Let's play together' in July 2014, in San Salvo, Italy with orchestras from Slovakia, Italy and The Netherlands. The festival was funded by a Youth in Action programme, through Léargas. Due to the success of this trip, the orchestra stayed in regular contact with the organisers, conductors and students and were thrilled to be invited back for a new festival, 'Music Inclusion', in July 2016. They started planning for this trip in November 2015 and it took 9 months to prepare. The CWYO conductor, Emily Redmond, travelled to San Salvo for meetings and preparation in April 2016. This was a huge benefit for the planning process of the festival which, this time, was made up of orchestras from Spain, Austria, Italy and Ireland. The repertoire for 'Music Inclusion' was of a much higher standard than the previous festival which was a real challenge for the Wexford players. Over 170 young musicians rehearsed Beethoven, Gershwin and Williams for 8 hours each day over a 10 day period. They performed 2 concerts under the baton of Italian conductor Simone Genuini.

The main objectives of the project and trip abroad were to nurture strong links with the organisation in San Salvo, to build on existing friendships and to form new links for future exchanges. It was also a chance to

Emily Redmond, conductor of the County Wexford Youth Orchestra, receives the Achievement Award from Niall Catney, IAYO Director and conductor of the Queen's University Symphony Orchestra.



The combined orchestra performing in San Salvo.

give CWYO members the opportunity to work on more difficult repertoire with orchestras of a high standard from around Europe and to immerse themselves into the daily life of a new culture by living with host families for 10 days. The Irish orchestra commissioned Wexford composer / pianist Fintan Cleary to write a piece to perform in Italy called *I gCuimhne* which was received warmly. CWYO members worked on presentations about their heritage and culture and also prepared demonstrations of Mumming and Irish dancing. The Mumming was such a novelty with the other countries involved in the

festival that CWYO had to teach players during the break times of rehearsals! Other members of CWYO performed Irish traditional instruments such as the banjo, concertina and bodhrán.

Students from the orchestra decided to come up with their own fundraising ideas and planned a teenage table quiz and raised almost 1,000 euro. Other students held Easter raffles and coffee mornings in their secondary schools. The full orchestra also organised a large coffee morning at the County Wexford School of Music and offered face painting and games to families who came along. Some even provided background music in the foyer of the school. Students approached local businesses for sponsorship too. In total over 4,000 euro was raised. Students also came up with the idea of setting up a separate Facebook page for CWYO leading up to the trip which has had an extremely positive effect on the growth of the orchestra in 2016 / 2017.

Other aims of the project were to promote the creativity and spirit of initiative of young people from different European countries through the joint creation of an orchestral and musical repertoire containing messages related to the themes of "cultural diversity" and "European Citizenship". The young people, aged between 13 - 25, experienced what it means to be European citizens through the universal language of music. Students gained much more than they expected from this exchange, both on a personal and academic level.





Summer Camp 2017

July 10-14, Esker, County Galway

for orchestral players age 12-18/approx grade 3-8



- Activity Programme
- Orchestral Playing
 - Chamber Music
 - Trad. + Juggling
 - Move and Play
 - Public final Concert
 - Campfires
 - Summer Camp Fun

Cost: €220 residential, all inclusive

Basic accommodation in large dormitories

Home-cooked food prepared by parent volunteers



email: athenrymusicsschool@gmail.com
or info@coole-music.com for application forms

Course Directors

Katharine Mac Mághnuis (Athenry Music School)

Katharina Baker (Coole Music & Arts)



National Youth
Orchestra of Ireland
Ceolfhoireann Náisiúnta
Óige na hÉireann

Join the 105-strong National Youth
Orchestra of Ireland on it's Wild Atlantic
Way Tour 2017 this summer!



24-year-old Venezuelan-American Ilyich Rivas will
conduct the orchestra for the first time as they
perform Ravel's *La Valse* and Prokofiev's
Symphony No. 5 in Bb major.

25-year-old Irish soloist Patrick Rafter, former
Leader of the orchestra, will perform Dvořák's
Violin Concerto in A minor.

Tuesday 4 July 19:30 | Bailey Allen Hall, National
University of Ireland, Galway

Wednesday 5 July 19:30 | Knocknarea Arena,
Institute of Technology, Sligo

Thursday 6 July 19:30 | INEC, Killarney, Co. Kerry

Tickets: €19 (Standard) /€16 (concessions,
unwaged) /€13 (children U-18)

Book ticket online at ticketmaster.ie

www.nyoi.ie

SENIOR COURSE SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE MUSICIANS
Strings | Wind
Sunday 25th June to Friday 30th June
Courses held at Aravon School, Bray Co Wicklow

SUMMER CHAMBER MUSIC COURSES 2017

JUNIOR COURSE PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE MUSICIANS
Strings | Wind | Percussion
Sunday 2nd July to Wednesday 5th July
Courses held at Aravon School, Bray Co Wicklow

For further information contact Lisa Scanlan, Administrator at 087 770 1470 courses@dyo.ie



IRISH
YOUTH
BRASS
ENSEMBLE

Director: Brendan Breslin

St Anne's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin

Saturday 22nd July @ 7:30pm

Tickets €15 / €10 conc. available on the door.

The Irish Youth Brass Ensemble is the youth brass band for the entire island of Ireland from the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras, supported by the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

Find out more at iybe.ie



Royal Irish
Academy of
Music

Irish Association of Youth Orchestras

Conducting Workshops

Directed by Robert Houlihan

**Royal Irish Academy of Music
Monday 03 - Friday 07 July 2017**



To take part, contact IAYO

021 421 5185 info@iayo.ie www.iayo.ie



Royal Irish
Academy of
Music



A Comprehensive Guide for the Third Sector

Digital is a growing area for many charities, from strategy to fundraising to communications. The Charity Digital Toolkit is for everyone, from frontline staff at small charities to experienced digital managers and leaders wondering how to take their charity's use of digital up to the next level. Your trustees might also benefit from the section on digital governance, which is one of the most critical areas in helping your charity unlock the potential of digital.

Find the toolkit at skillsplatform.org/charitydigitaltoolkit.

Youth Mental Health Signposting Tool

A new mental health resource for those working with young people has been released by the National Youth Council of Ireland. Mental health has been identified by young people, and those working with them, as the number one area of importance in the National Youth Strategy. One of the emerging themes identified was the need for information about mental health services and referral pathways. As part of their response, NYCI developed a tool for youth workers, young people, parents and members of the community. The Youth Mental Health Signposting Tool helps people find information about supports, services and training programmes, available nationally and locally, that relate to youth mental health and self-care.

Find out more at youthhealth.ie/signposts.

Email your news and photos to info@iayo.ie

Arts and Cultural Enhancement Support Scheme

The Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs has announced the opening of Stream 3 of the 2016 to 2018 Arts and Cultural Enhancement Support Scheme.

It is a small capital grant scheme with grants limited to €20,000.

Application deadline 16th June.

For further details on this scheme please see below link

<http://www.ahrrga.gov.ie/arts/creative-arts/grants-and-funding/>

This scheme is intended for 'public-facing' arts organisations and a further scheme for 'non-public-facing' arts organisations (i.e. artists' spaces) is likely to be announced later this year.



An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta,
Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta

Department of Arts, Heritage,
Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs



Artistic Director: Claire Duff

The Irish Youth Baroque Orchestra is a new collaboration between the Irish Baroque Orchestra and the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras supported by the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

Concerts in Kilkenny and Dublin on 8th and 9th July.
Visit iybo.ie for details.



Irish Association of Youth Orchestras

**National Chamber Music Workshop
for Strings, Woodwind and Brass**

14 - 15 October 2017
Summerhill College, Sligo
Director: Katharina Baker

For String and Wind Quartets, Ensembles and Individuals - Grades 2 to 5. More advanced players welcome as full quartets.

Residential and Non-residential Places Available.
Residential Fee - €80
Non-Residential Fee - €60

To take part
Contact IAYO
021 421 5185
info@iayo.ie
www.iayo.ie

Email your news and photos to info@iayo.ie

€189,000 awarded through Music Capital Scheme

Music Network has announced the results of the Music Capital Scheme 2016. A total of €189,000 in funding from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs has been awarded to 22 performing groups and 15 individual musicians.

The Music Capital Scheme, supported by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and managed by Music Network, comprises two distinct awards that provide funding for the purchase of musical instruments to both non-professional performing groups and to professional musicians.

Find out more about this year's awards and see a list of who got funded on musicnetwork.ie

Workshops and Masterclasses with Music Network

Music Network are continuing their Learning and Participation programme in 2017 with workshops and masterclasses by touring artists. Students will have the opportunity to work with professional musicians and Music Network will subsidise the activity costs. If you are interested in setting up an activity for your school, music group, or orchestra, please contact Sarah Cunningham at: programmesadmin@musicnetwork.ie or call her on: 01 475 0224.



CONCORDA
CHAMBER MUSIC COURSE FOR STRINGS

31st July - 8th August 2017
Newtown School, Waterford

Artistic Director
Katherine Hunka
Course Director
Joachim Roewer

Apply online at concorda.ie
or contact IAYO on 021 421 5185
Closing date for applications is 26th May 2017

Funding Opportunities from The Arts Council

People, Children, and Education Bursary Award

The Young People, Children, and Education Bursary Award supports individual professional artists working with, and producing work for, children and young people across a range of artforms. The purpose of the award is to support professional artists to develop their art practice.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 13 July 2017.

Arts Participation Bursary Award

The purpose of this award is to support professional artists to develop their art practice. It provides artists with the time and resources to think, research, reflect and critically engage with their art.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 13 July 2017.

Travel and Training Award

The Travel and Training Award has three main strands with different objectives and priorities.

- Travel and training outbound
- Travel and training inbound
- Creative Europe (Culture Sub-programme) Travel Award

There are no formal deadlines for the Travel and Training Award. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis, while there is an available budget within the relevant artform or arts practice area.

Applicants seeking support for eligible opportunities, including formal courses (postgraduate or equivalent), must submit their application at least four weeks before their date of travel.

Arts Council Next Generation Bursary Award

The purpose of the Next Generation bursary award is to support a group of promising artists across all disciplines at an early but pivotal stage in their career. Recipients will receive €15,000 and will also take part in a collective week-long residential programme in spring 2018. Joint applications and interdisciplinary applications are welcomed. The selection panel will comprise, a non-voting Council Chair, two Council members, and a number of external panellists. This award is designed to support emerging artists to:

- Buy time to develop their work and practice
- Support unique development needs to advance their own practice (this might be through engagement with a mentor, research, non-formal study and/or non-vocational training, collaborative partnerships, etc.). Applicants must detail the development need that would most advance his or her career at this time.

The closing date for applications is Thursday 29 June 2017.

Find out more about all these opportunities at artscouncil.ie. Please be aware that there is a registration process to apply for funding online with The Arts Council and you need to allow time for this in your preparation for an application.



Artist in the Community Scheme



Twice yearly, The Arts Council offers grants to enable artists and communities of place and/or interest to work together on projects. The Artist in the Community Scheme (AIC) is managed by Create. The AIC scheme is open to artists from

architecture, circus, street art and spectacle, dance, film, literature, music, opera, theatre, visual arts and traditional arts. Projects can take place in a diverse range of social and community contexts, for example arts and health, arts in prisons, arts and older people, arts and cultural diversity. The next closing date for applications is Monday 26 June 2017. Find out more at create-ireland.ie.

Youth in Action Funding Through Erasmus+



The Erasmus+ 'Youth in Action' programme promotes and funds youth exchange throughout the European Union and with partner countries from outside the EU. Several Irish youth orchestras,

including the County Wexford Youth Orchestra and the Young Dublin Symphonia, have availed of the funding for touring and exchanges in recent years. The fund in Ireland is promoted by Léargas who are very helpful in relation to applications and provide training workshops. Find out about Youth in Action at leargas.ie. Click Erasmus+ and then Youth.

IAYO is grant aided by The Arts Council and supported by Cork City Council. IAYO acknowledges the support of The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Music Network through the Music Capital Scheme 2010-2015.



An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht



THE IRELAND FUNDS
PROMISING IRELAND
CAMPAIGN

