



MusicLeader

by Katie Johnson, Youth Music

Youth Music launch national initiative for music leaders

Youth Music is one of the National Lottery's great success stories. Set up as a charity in 1999, Youth Music supports music-making activities for all 0-18 year olds, particularly for those who would otherwise not get the chance.

In November 2005, Youth Music announced a UK-wide initiative to provide music leaders with access to training, networking and professional development at every stage of their career. It aims, through the support it provides, to improve the standard of music leadership in the UK and deliver better music-making opportunities to children and young people.

MusicLeader, which is aimed at anyone

working in music with children and young people including all music practitioners (teachers and musicians) and project managers (music service managers, education officers and youth workers etc.), will be operated through regional networks and an online resource.

(www.musicleader.net) This provides a search facility covering training and development opportunities, job listings, career advice, news and profiles on other music leaders, community message boards, email updates.

Youth Music developed this programme following findings from a number of

research reports which identified that music leaders need greater access to information and development opportunities. By 2010, Youth Music hopes to have networked 11,000 music leaders, enabled 1,100 new practitioners to enter the sector and to have provided 2,500 practitioners with development opportunities.



Phil Mullen, a community musician, music leader and Course Director at Goldsmith College says "training and professional development for music development workers and community musicians is essential... We need a real change for the professional and trained practitioner to really achieve the success they deserve." Pete Moser, Artistic Musical Director at More Music in Morecambe and a freelance musician feels "networking is vital". The MusicLeader programme aims to tackle both these issues; the scheme has already been launched in London, the West Midlands, the North West, Yorkshire and the North East and now the programme has launched on a national level.

To find out more about MusicLeader, see www.musicleader.net or www.youthmusic.org.uk

MUSIC LEADER.NET

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Youth Music's New Open Programmes

Awards are available for up to £30,000 for music-making activities for 0-18 year olds.

Supporting music of all styles and cultures, Youth Music's Open Programmes – First Steps, Make It Sound and Vocalise! – will make a difference to young people's lives across England.

For more information about these and other Youth Music initiatives visit www.youthmusic.org.uk or call 0207 902 1060



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