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Your Voice in Music Education

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Young musicians to play Glastonbury

EMMA FINDLOW

The winners of Youth Music's Build a Band initiative, who will perform at Glastonbury festival in June, have been announced. They are Lizzie Massey (guitar/lead vocals), Tom Ralphs (rhythm guitar/backing vocals), Luke Ryan (lead guitar), Max Langley (bass guitar) and Thuluxton Janenthirarajah (drums). The initiative forms part of Youth Music's work with the 14–18 age group.

The winners will meet for the first time on the Thursday of the festival, when they will be challenged to compose a 'modern-day protest song'. Their mentors will include a number of musicians also performing at the festival – Billy Bragg, Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly, and Jerry Dammers. They will perform the song on Glastonbury's Left Field stage in front of 5,000 people on Sunday, 24 June.

Established in 2002, the Left Field stage aims 'to reaffirm the spirit of political debate among festival goers', so winners were selected for their ability to 'articulate a clear interest in protest', as well as for their musical aptitude. Michelle James, director of marketing and communications at Youth Music, told *Music Teacher*: 'We have been working with the Left Field Stage since 2004 and some young bands have had a great opportunity to play on the stage, but this competition gives young musicians an even better opportunity to use their music to get their message heard.'

