



Gloucester Academy of Music

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JOINING INSTRUCTIONS SINGING WEEKEND

Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th July 2011

The Daily Programme

There is an outline daily programme on our website for you to look at (www.gamusic.co.uk). The weekend programme provides an opportunity to explore a wide vocal repertoire together with general musicianship, including an introduction to sight singing. When not singing, the Welfare team provide opportunities for relaxation and fun to suit all students. At the end of each day – and considered one of the highlights of the courses - is the popular 'after cocoa session' where students and staff put on impromptu performances!

Where to come to

Beauchamp House, Churcham, Glos. GL2 8AA. Beauchamp House is approximately 3 miles west of Gloucester on the A40. Coming from Gloucester, west on the A40, follow the dual carriageway until you get to a roundabout where the A48 splits off to the left for Chepstow. Continue on the A40 for about another half a mile; when you get to woods both sides of the road, start looking out for Beauchamp House (also signed 'School of the Lion') on the left hand side. If you get to Churcham Garage you have gone too far! When you turn into the drive, please be aware of other students and their families as you find a parking space.

What time to come

Please arrive between 4.00 and 5.00 p.m. on 22nd July to register with the Welfare staff and find out where to pitch your tent. The Welfare staff will normally suggest that young students, particularly those not sharing a tent, pitch theirs close together – and close to one of the Welfare tents. If anyone wants to share a tent, please discuss this on arrival with the Welfare team who should be able to team you up with someone or contact Anne Ingram in advance. At 5.00 p.m. there is a welcome / introductory talk by the course Director and the Welfare team. Refreshments are available on arrival. *Please inform us if you are arriving late.*

Welfare Team

The Welfare Team look after students when they are not in rehearsals. The team members for this week are Hannah Brooke, Carwyn Watkins, Alex Hale and Aislinn Watkins.

Dietary Needs

The Health Form asked if about special dietary requirements. Our catering team do try hard to accommodate all our students' needs but need a minimum of two weeks notice to do this. If your child has a very strict dietary need, like a gluten free diet, we would find it helpful if you could provide some of the basic ingredients, eg. flour and pasta.

Medicines

Please give any medicines (clearly labelled and with full instructions) to a member of the Welfare Team on arrival. The Welfare Team will ask you to complete a Medication Consent Form if you are leaving medication to be administered to your child/ren.

What to bring

- 🎵 A small cake that keeps well – an essential ingredient for 'after cocoa sessions'!
- 🎵 A tent, sleeping bag, lilo/camp bed, torch and any other items necessary for a weekend under canvas. No penknives please!
- 🎵 Towels and toiletries
- 🎵 Casual clothes, nightclothes, underwear, etc. (NB: Sometimes there is 'messy play' so please include some 'old' clothing!)
- 🎵 Waterproof outdoor wear, swimming kit for water games etc. Flip-flops / wellies are always useful in the unfortunate event of rain!
- 🎵 Sun protection (hopefully sunny weather), including a hat.
- 🎵 We don't ask anyone to bring formal clothes although some of our students (not all by any means) like to have something smarter to wear for the concert.
- 🎵 Pencil, sharpener and rubber
- 🎵 Anything needed, eg. music, for performing at 'after-cocoa session' – optional

Please label everything clearly! We don't accept any liability for losses or breakages.

Insurance

The Gloucester Academy of Music's insurance does not cover instruments and valuables brought to the courses – these need to be covered on your own insurance. The instruments are locked up overnight.

Pocket money

It is suggested that children bring a little bit of pocket money to spend on tuck should they wish to. The Tuck Shop is run by the catering staff at morning break-time. We recommend that younger children deposit all their money with the Welfare staff who keep a running tab. Any remaining pocket money is returned prior to departure.

Mobile phones

We know that our students often want to bring a mobile phone with them so that they have the reassurance of phoning home. In our experience, particularly with younger children, phoning home can be counter-productive as it can bring on a wave of homesickness. We obviously do not want to be too heavy-handed over this sensitive issue. If you would like your child (if younger) to phone you, we would like to suggest that this happens at dinner-time (between 6.00-7.00 p.m.) rather than at bedtime. We suggest that all mobile phones are handed in to the Welfare team on arrival. If you consider this inappropriate, then please ensure that the student understands that he/she is responsible for it and that it **MUST** be switched off during rehearsals *and* at night. This way we avoid disruption of rehearsals and inter-tent texting at night. *If the student brings a mobile phone, please make sure they bring their own charger.*

Emergency contact

The course mobile phone number for use in emergency is 07804 915549. This phone will be monitored by a member of the Welfare Team. If for some reason this fails, please phone Anne Ingram on 01452 522170 (home number).

Concert

Sunday 24th July, 2.00 p.m.

All family and friends very welcome. *Concert followed by afternoon tea!*