

ROYAL  
ACADEMY  
OF  
MUSIC 200

---



JUNIOR ACADEMY



“ Being part of Junior Academy has really boosted my confidence. It pushes me out of my comfort zone and challenges me

Student

# WELCOME

At the Royal Academy of Music we are passionate about nurturing potential. That's why we dedicate every Saturday to Junior Academy and all the programmes under its umbrella.

Junior Academy offers a unique opportunity for talented young musicians from all backgrounds to be inspired and challenged in their music making. Whether you are still young and would benefit from the special focus of Primary Academy, or are ready for the full Junior Academy, Jazz or Musical Theatre experience, you will find yourself among others who share your love of music.

Young musicians travel from all over the UK to take part in the creative learning environment at Junior Academy that enables students to develop all aspects of their

musicianship – forming strong bonds and lifelong friendships along the way. Nearly 70% of our leavers go on to study music.

Our teachers are successful performing musicians and educators; they combine active careers with the reward of helping young performers and composers fulfil their potential. Many also teach on the Academy's undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

If you love music, enjoy performing and are committed to your individual musical journey, Junior Academy could be the perfect place for you. More information about how to apply is available on our website. We look forward to meeting you at our open day or auditions.

**DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR ACADEMY** John Hutchins

**DIRECTOR OF PRIMARY ACADEMY**  
Krystyna Budzynska

**HEAD OF JUNIOR JAZZ**  
Gareth Lockrane

**COURSE LEADER, JUNIOR ACADEMY MUSICAL THEATRE**  
Grainne Renihan

**DEPUTY LEADER, JUNIOR ACADEMY MUSICAL THEATRE**  
Deborah Stinton

**COURSE LEADER, FIRST STRING EXPERIENCE**  
Paola Delucchi

**COURSE LEADER, FIRST GUITAR EXPERIENCE**  
Luke Dunlea

**ADMINISTRATOR**  
Karen Ingram

**OPERATIONS MANAGER**  
Caroline McGuigan

**OPERATIONS ASSISTANT**  
Besheer Abbaro

Tel: 020 7873 7380  
Email: [juniors@ram.ac.uk](mailto:juniors@ram.ac.uk)  
Web: [ram.ac.uk/junioracademy](http://ram.ac.uk/junioracademy)

All images by Frances Marshall



# JUNIOR ACADEMY

Immerse yourself in a busy schedule of enriching musical activity with like-minded musicians

On Saturdays, the Royal Academy of Music transforms into Junior Academy. Intensive one-to-one lessons, a variety of performance opportunities, specialist classes and excellent teaching staff all add to the musical vibrancy.

Weekly activities are varied and might include:

- a one-hour lesson in your principal study with a specialist teacher
- second study lessons, where appropriate (not included in the course fee)
- chamber ensembles coached by one of our teachers or a visiting musician
- classes to develop aural and theory skills, general musicianship and an understanding of style and form
- rehearsals and performances of standard orchestral repertoire, with concerto opportunities for outstanding instrumentalists
- choir
- masterclasses and workshops with distinguished performers
- a variety of performance opportunities for solo, chamber, choir and orchestral players, from weekly informal performance platforms to major concerts in the Academy and in venues across London

Other opportunities include keyboard skills, composition, conducting and Alexander Technique. There are annual competitions for each discipline and for chamber music, adjudicated by prominent visiting musicians.

## WE OFFER PRINCIPAL-STUDY AND SECOND-STUDY LESSONS IN:

VIOLIN | VIOLA | CELLO |  
DOUBLE BASS | HARP | GUITAR |  
FLUTE | RECORDER | OBOE |  
CLARINET | BASSOON | HORN |  
TRUMPET | TROMBONE | TUBA |  
PERCUSSION | PIANO | ORGAN |  
CLASSICAL ACCORDION |  
VOICE | COMPOSITION

“ I feel very privileged to teach at Junior Academy. The students are outstanding and I learn so much from teaching them. Saturday is the best day of the week! ”

Poppy Beddoe, teacher



# JUNIOR JAZZ

Work with renowned performers and educators to develop your skills, confidence and passion for jazz

Established in 2003, our Junior Jazz programme accepts jazz musicians aged 14 to 18. Previous students include Joe Armon Jones, Jacob Collier, Kit Downes, Nubya Garcia, Michael Kiwanuka, Femi Koleoso and Alexandra Ridout.

Working under the direction of Gareth Lockrane and Matt Anderson, you will receive a weekly small ensemble session and, over the course of the year, take part in masterclasses and workshops. In recent years, students have had the opportunity to work with Pete Churchill, Bokani Dyer, Adam Glasser, Dave Holland, Nikki Iles, Pete King, Dick Oatts, Jason Rebello and Gwilym Simcock, among others. You will also enjoy numerous performance opportunities, including a summer term concert at Soho Pizza Express or Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club.

Work is largely practical, with most learning and performing happening in small ensembles. You will focus on improvisation, the study of harmonic and rhythmic elements, and playing in a variety of styles.

The course also includes the arrangement of standard jazz tunes for ensembles, and the importance of the ear-instrument relationship in jazz performance is strongly emphasised. You will be encouraged to listen to a wide range of genres

and will learn about some of the musicians of the past who helped to shape the development of jazz.

Completing the course will not guarantee you a place on the undergraduate jazz course at the Academy, but one of our key aims is to prepare students thoroughly for further specialist study, and graduates of the Junior Jazz programme have had an almost 100% success rate of gaining entry to one of the UK conservatoire jazz courses. We have close links with the senior Jazz Department, led by Nick Smart, and junior and senior students regularly work together.

**WE WELCOME APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

GUITAR | BASS | SAXOPHONE |  
TRUMPET | TROMBONE |  
DRUMS/PERCUSSION | FLUTE |  
CLARINET | VOICE

# JUNIOR ACADEMY MUSICAL THEATRE

**Hone your acting, singing and performing skills with expert coaches**

Junior Academy Musical Theatre (JAMT) is a new and developing course for 13- to 18 year-olds, where individuality is nurtured, diversity embraced, and students empowered to be creative and brave.


Our young artists make new friends, build confidence, find their voices and learn how to tell stories through song. They also gain the necessary skills to go on to further specialist training in musical theatre, should they choose to. Previous experience is not required – we're looking for potential, passion and talent.

Every Saturday, our students work in small groups, receiving tailored support from resident musical directors, theatre directors and artists to develop their talent. The timetable varies, with activities including:

- musical theatre repertoire
- acting through song
- ensemble singing
- drama
- character and text work
- movement
- audition technique
- workshops
- industry panel day

During the year, we invite industry professionals to lead exciting and inspiring masterclasses and workshops on specific shows or disciplines. Recent guests include Mark Hedges, Resident Director of *Mary Poppins*; Sam Hiller, Associate Director of *Les Misérables* and *The Phantom of the Opera*; and Jill Williams, Resident Director of *The Lion King*. Disney Theatrical Productions Scholarship alumni from the Academy's MA Musical Theatre course – some of whom have appeared in shows such as *The Prince of Egypt*, *Hamilton*, *Six* and *Come From Away* – also returned to work with students.

Each year culminates in a staged showcase performance in front of an invited audience, giving every student the opportunity to learn how to work in a professional theatre environment, with technical and dress rehearsals, lighting, sound and live music.



“ My daughter is blossoming – she relishes every Saturday and has a new, positive independence that is tangible. Thank you for providing such incredible opportunities ”

Parent



// Healthy Young Musician has helped me find balance. I definitely make more time for relaxation in my day-to-day life now //

Student

# HEALTHY YOUNG MUSICIAN

**Gain valuable skills that will sustain your physical and mental health and enhance your growth as a musician**

Student wellbeing is vital, and at Junior Academy we take it very seriously. Our Healthy Young Musician course helps our musicians to approach performance growth in an effective and healthy way through performance psychology, Alexander Technique and much more.

Our aim is to build calm, confident and co-ordinated young musicians who can make good choices about how to look after themselves, both physically and mentally, and apply these skills not only to being a musician but to all aspects of their lives, now and into the future.

The course is open to all Junior Academy students, regardless of programme. Each session introduces knowledge, self awareness and tools through performance creativity. Among the areas we explore are:

- performance anxiety – being calm and confident
- goal setting – how to achieve your goals
- healthy perfectionism
- memorising confidently
- effective practice – growing faster, in less time
- painless practice – reducing the risk of injury

We also run a weekly one to-one active listening service. This allows students to share any worries they have, music related or otherwise, in a non judgmental space. The listener is trained to signpost students to a range of resources, to ensure that all students are supported both inside and outside the Academy.

In addition, we hold open Yoga classes three times a term, and run a young leader scheme that encourages older musicians to nurture, support and inspire their younger peers.

# PRIMARY ACADEMY

**Make the most of your musical ability in a friendly, supportive learning environment**

Talented musicians aged 8 to 12 will thrive at Primary Academy. As well as developing musically, you'll have lots of fun with friends who, like you, really enjoy their music-making. It's a great way to spend your Saturdays!

In addition to your individual instrumental lessons with outstanding teachers, all of whom also teach in

Junior Academy, you will play chamber music, sing in the choir, improve your aural, theory and general musicianship and – if you are a string or wind player – play in a string or wind ensemble.



## PRIMARY ACADEMY OFFERS PRINCIPAL STUDY LESSONS IN:

PIANO | VIOLIN | VIOLA |  
CELLO | DOUBLE BASS | FLUTE |  
RECORDER | OBOE | CLARINET |  
BASSOON | HORN | TRUMPET |  
TROMBONE | TUBA

# FIRST EXPERIENCES



## FIRST STRING EXPERIENCE

The Junior Academy First String Experience (FSE) gives children as young as four the best possible start to their musical journey as string players. Now in its fourth decade, the course encourages basic musical skills, physical ease with the instrument and the enjoyment of playing through group tuition and ensemble playing.

The atmosphere is relaxed, friendly and nurturing, to ensure that the children get the most out of their learning. Each year group gives a concert at the end of every term.

There are 30 Saturday sessions over the year. In Year 1 of the course, students attend a 45 minute pre instrumental class on a Saturday morning; in Years 2 and 3, this extends to two hours.



## FIRST GUITAR EXPERIENCE

The Junior Academy First Guitar Experience (FGE) welcomes children aged six to join our three year course, which gives them a unique opportunity to learn the guitar.

Using the Jigsaw Guitar Course devised by FGE director Luke Dunlea, the programme incorporates classical guitar and Kodály method based training, advancing the children's basic musicianship skills in areas of pulse, rhythm and pitch. Fun games and singing activities play a key part, and the lessons develop a solid foundation in classical guitar technique.

There are 30 Saturday sessions over the year. In Year 1 of the course, students attend a 45 minute pre instrumental class on a Saturday afternoon; in Years 2 and 3, this extends to one hour 20 minutes.

# HOW DO I APPLY?

Ready to take the next step on your musical journey? Find out more about the application process

## APPLICATIONS

Entry to the First String Experience and First Guitar Experience is by online application in late October, closing in early January. To promote equal opportunities, student applications are entered into a ballot and selected at random, so there is no guarantee of entry to these programmes.

Applications for all other programmes open in January and can be made using our online application form. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information on the application process, including closing dates for each programme.

## AUDITIONS

Information about audition dates and requirements for each programme are available on our website.

We aim to make the audition experience as enjoyable and supportive as possible – we want to hear you at your best and we always enjoy meeting students who love music as much as we do.

The exceptional musical training we offer means that successful applicants must possess a combination of musicality, commitment and potential.

There is an audition fee. However, finances should not be a barrier to applying, so if you have concerns

about this, please contact us at [juniors@ram.ac.uk](mailto:juniors@ram.ac.uk).

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND FEES

We want everyone who is successful at audition to be able to attend Junior Academy, so don't let finances stop you from accepting your place – means-tested bursaries are available. You will be sent information about how to apply for assistance following the audition process.

Fees are payable before the start of each term. If a student wishes to withdraw, we require one term's notice.

## OPEN DAYS

If you're thinking of applying and would like to get an idea of what it would be like to study here, why not come along to our Primary or Junior Academy Open Day in the spring term? Dates and further details, including a registration form, are available on our website.





## PATRON

Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

## PRESIDENT

HRH The Duchess of Gloucester GCVO

## PRINCIPAL

Professor Jonathan Freeman Attwood CBE

The Academy is a registered charity, number 310007, and a company registered with Companies House, number RC000438.

 [royalacademyofmusic](#)

 [royalacademyofmusic](#)

 [RoyalAcadMusic](#)

 [royalacademyofmusic](#)

MARYLEBONE ROAD, LONDON NW1 5HT  
+44 (0)20 7873 7373 | [RAM.AC.UK](#)