



**75 YEARS OF SUPPORTING
AND CHAMPIONING
VOLUNTARY MUSIC**

Case Study

No. 7

Bedfordshire Orchestral Society

One of Making Music's five areas of activity is working with and for young people. Through Making Music's Young People's Programme a substantial library of youth project case studies has been developed. These case studies are designed to highlight and share best practice from the experiences of Making Music member societies undertaking youth projects. Many of the case studies arise from Making Music's two national youth programmes *tuned in* (2001-2002) funded by Youth Music and The Carnegie UK Trust and RESOUND (2003-2005) funded by Youth Music, Scottish Arts Council, The Carnegie UK Trust and Headley Trust.

1. Project Description

Project Aims

- To raise awareness of the society in the local community
- To offer the experience and expertise of the orchestra to young musicians
- Enrichment of the society by involvement with the young people
- To help develop music skills in the young people involved in the project and provide material for them to use in their 'A' level music assessment

Project Description

In June 2002 Michael Rose, the conductor of the Bedfordshire Symphony Orchestra (one of two orchestras that make up Bedfordshire Orchestral Society) gave a half day composition workshop to 38 'AS' music students and they were asked to submit a short composition for orchestra. There were 10 submissions from which 6 were chosen. The six successful composers were each given one hour of individual tuition by Michael Rose and invited to a further workshop in September where their pieces were played to an invited audience and recorded by the orchestra. In February 2003 the best two compositions, as chosen by the members of the workshop audience and the orchestra, were performed at a full BSO concert and the composers wrote their own programme notes.

Legacy

This project changed the attitude of many of the members of the orchestra who were made aware of the musical talent that exists amongst young people. The young people developed a professional approach to their work which will be important to them in the future.

Improvements

The small number of submissions after the initial workshop was possibly due to the students being "over-awed" by the situation. A more student friendly approach may be necessary to encourage more involvement in the later stages of the project.

2. Project Details

General Details

Nature of Youth Project	Other
Number of Young People involved	38
Age Range of Young People	14 - 18
Type of Young People involvement	All 38 attended an initial workshop. 10 submitted compositions of which 6 were invited to a further workshop. Their compositions were recorded by the orchestra and the best two were performed at a concert.
Recruitment of Young People	Schools
Level of LEA involvement	An advanced skills teacher was consulted
Project budget	£500 - £1,000
Sources of funding	tuned in Fund, Partnership funding
Video available	False
Audio available	False
Photographs available	False
Programme available	True
Publicity leaflets/posters	False

Society Details

Name of society	Bedfordshire Orchestral Society
Type of Society	Classical orchestral
Size of Society	80
Age profile	Only adult
Under 19s in society	0
Under 19s from project	0
Repertoire	Exclusively classical
Typical concert budget	Over £5000
Typical performance	Major works
Number of performances	Over 5
Willing to be contacted	False
Contact name	Antona Barker
Contact phone	
Contact address	
Contact email	
Contact fax	

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