



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF EDUCATORS

The Educators' Trust Awards 2022

Trustees

Chairman Dr Jennifer Somerville

Brett Bader

Paul Bowers Isaacson

Nicholas Bence Trower

Dr Susan Cousin

Professor Sir Deian Hopkin

Professor David Skidmore

Brian Ward

Enid Weaver

Past Master Peter Williams CBE

The Master Roy Blackwell

Foundation Master Professor Raoul Franklin CBE

Immediate Past Master Richard Evans

Honorary Secretary Martha Burnige

Honorary Treasurer Professor Martin Collins

FOREWORD
by
Roy Blackwell
Master of the Worshipful Company of Educators

The Annual Awards Dinner is a highlight in the Company's calendar as it honours those engaged in educating people of all ages and backgrounds and in a wide range of activities. Alongside "mainstream" education in schools and colleges, it recognises those working in areas such as The Arts, hospitals, prisons, community centres, specialist provisions, careers, skills and apprenticeships.

The Educators' Company has always been inclusive and philanthropic, and this is exemplified by the work of the Educators' Trust. It is a clear demonstration of its commitment to supporting the work of those engaged in making a positive difference to the lives of so many people.

As Master, I had the privilege of nominating someone to receive the Master's Award for demonstrating outstanding school leadership. I am also delighted that the theme of the main "Inspirational Educator" Awards is music education, a subject dear to my heart and which has been the theme of my Master's Year. Just three dazzling examples of winners are: the internationally famous violinist Nicola Benedetti, awarded for her tireless advocacy in promoting the value of education for all; school leaders who have woven music into the whole school curriculum with students achieving outstanding results; and a project with a unique blend of music and medical science to help recovery from Covid-19. Other awards span a variety of educators working in youth theatre, heritage books and paper conservation and promoting careers in finance and business.

Heartfelt thanks to the Trustees of the Educators' Trust, its Chair and the judges of the awards and warmest congratulations to all the winners and all those nominated.

Awards Programme

The overarching aim of the charitable activities funded by the Educators' Trust is '*to promote the development of the profession of educator*'. The main way we pursue this aim is to provide awards to individual educators, celebrating outstanding innovation and excellence in educational practice. The awards reflect the unique character of the Worshipful Company of Educators in that they include all levels of education and all settings in which learning takes place. Our choice of the term 'educator' is also deliberately inclusive, to cover all those professionals who contribute to creating a stimulating, diverse and supportive environment in which people learn and enrich their lives.

The Trust is able to make awards to these inspirational individuals because of the generosity of Liverymen, Freemen and other individuals and organisations who share our values and aspirations for the profession of educator.

The Trust currently has 24 awards and bursaries. Our eight military education awards to the RAF No 22 (Training) Group, the Cadet Vocational Qualification Organisation, the Defence Academy, the RAEC & ETC Association, the Army and the Navy are awarded at our annual City Celebration Dinner in the autumn or in military ceremonies elsewhere. We also have a joint bursary scheme with City and Guilds to support peer mentoring in prisons, additionally funded by Past Master **Peter Warren**.

In addition, the Trust funds a Professional Developments Grants Scheme for individual educator applicants of any subject or level of education, whether full-time, part-time or freelance practitioner.

The awards to be presented in 2022 are:

- **The Master's Award**, the topic and winner of which is chosen each year by the Master
- **The Award for Art & Design**
- **The Mary Lou Carrington Award for a Businesswoman with a significant contribution to Education**
- **The Keith Hutton Legacy Award for Theatre and Performing Arts**
- **The Inspirational Educator Awards** to eight impressive and inspirational educators working in the field of study chosen every year by the Trustees. This year the theme is *Music Education*.

Unfortunately, the process to select a winner for **The Prison Educator of the Year Award** was made impossible by regulations to control the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Panel of Judges: The Trust is grateful for the expertise, time and diligence of its panel of three regular award judges: Susan Cousin, Caroline Haines, and Peter Williams, and of our Music Education Specialist Subject Adviser, Enid Weaver.

1. Master's Award

Winner: Julie Harrington

Nominator: The Master, Roy Blackwell

Julia Harrington is the winner of the Master's Award for Outstanding School Leadership and in particular for her record for curriculum creativity and innovation.

In 2006 Julia Harrington was appointed Headmistress of Queen Anne's School, Caversham, which is part of the Grey Coat Foundation and contains a mixture of independent and state schools. She was determined to improve academic standards and pursued this aim by, amongst other things, strengthening the musical and drama offering in the school and by sponsoring, hosting and supporting foundation-level 'enrichment' events such as public-speaking and art exhibitions. She developed effective partnerships with local state schools through staff exchange programmes, and at Sixth Form level through sharing staff subject expertise and equipment, hence expanding the offer to students. Julia and her staff were able to demonstrate a remarkable increase in student achievement and demand for places at the school.

What particularly impressed the Master, however, was the *BrainCanDo* Scheme which Julia introduced in 2014. The aim of the scheme is to accelerate the understanding of the mechanisms and processes in our brains, using neurological research, that enhance learning and positive mental health, and apply these insights to classroom practice. Teachers can undertake a CPD accredited course in neuroscience applied to teaching and learning and run individual learning study projects in areas of their choice. The approach is also included in INSET training for schoolteachers, and pupils are inducted through workshops and training.

The approach is also embedded in the school's PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum and is applied to well-being and mental health projects to build resilience, create coping strategies, and use sport and musical engagement to enhance well-being. During the Covid pandemic, anxiety workshops developed for parents, pupils and staff reached beyond Queen Anne's to 25 different state and independent schools throughout England.

The impact of the *BrainCanDo* Scheme is considerable. A Teachers' Handbook has been produced and Reading and Oxford Universities, Goldsmiths and UCL have become involved in related schemes and research.

Julia has represented the independent schools' sector on several national bodies such as the Council of the Association of School and College Leaders and is an elected member of the Council of the Chartered College of Teaching. She is also a Governor at Oxford Brookes University. She provides an excellent example of School Leadership in action.

2. The Award for Art & Design

Winner: Sarah Davis

Nominator: Tamiko O'Brien, Principal, City & Guilds London Art School

The City & Guilds of London Art School (CGLAS) was founded in 1854 for craftsmen of the City of London, and the College remains true to its origins in 'learning through making', with an emphasis on the understanding of materials and developing the traditional skills of heritage conservation. It is independent, funded by trusts, foundations and individuals.

Sarah Davis graduated from Chelsea College of Art & Design with a BA in Fine Art, following which she studied woodcarving and gilding at CGLAS, graduating with a distinction. She set up her studio in South London and gained a considerable reputation as an artist, using hands-on sculptural techniques to explore the cyclical nature of recovery and renewal. Her approach to making is informed by a love for historic crafts such as carving and gilding. Her carving is very sculptural and contemporary but rooted in the language of ornament. She has worked with many large institutions including the BBC, ICA, British Museum and British Art Medal Society. She has given talks at Imperial College London and the Herjleid School of Woodcarving in Norway about her professional art practice.

She returned to the CGLAS to teach as both a Drawing & Woodcarving Tutor. She teaches on multiple courses including the BA (Hons) Conservation: Books & Paper, BA (Hons) Conservation: Stone, Wood & Decorative Surfaces and the BA (Hons) Carving: Woodcarving & Gilding. Her students find her intense love of material and making inspiring.

Sarah routinely volunteers as a patient advocate for Macmillan Cancer Support. She recently spoke at the Economist War on Cancer's annual conference and is currently co-running a project that seeks to fill gaps in holistic cancer care in new and creative ways. She has integrated her involvement in cancer care into art practice. In 2021-2 Sarah created an audio art piece titled *Day Zero* for BBC Arts, originally broadcast 2nd August 2021 on *Introducing Arts*, BBC 6 Music. *Day Zero* is a surreal account of receiving and recovering from a stem cell transplant for Hodgkins Lymphoma. It is a personal re-telling, blending monologue, poetry and collaged sounds.

Sarah has won several awards for her artwork. Her wax model, 'Coiled Snake', won Gold in the modellers' category at the 2021 Goldsmiths Craft & Design Awards. She was also one of the awardees in the recent Grinling Gibbons 300 Award for woodcarving, a national competition for carvers to mark the 300th anniversary of the death of the 'Michelangelo of woodcarving' Grinling Gibbons. The exhibition opened in Bonhams, New Bond Street and travelled to Compton Verney, Warwickshire.

The Trust's bursary will contribute towards fees for a three-day course 'Gilding & Painting a Mediaeval Illumination' with renowned specialist Patricia Lovett MBE in May 2022. Participation in the course will extend Sarah's knowledge and feed into her teaching on the Books & Paper Conservation course.

3. The Mary Lou Carrington Award for a Businesswoman making a Significant Contribution to Education

Winner: Valeria Locatelli

Nominator: Jason Elsom, Executive Director, *Speakers for Schools*

Mary Lou Carrington was a businesswoman and a Common Councillor in the City of London with a passionate commitment to education. A founding member of the Educators, she sadly died in 2008. This award is in her memory. It is for a businesswoman who is making a significant contribution to education.

Speakers for Schools (SfS) was founded in 2011 by the broadcaster, Robert Peston. It is a charity providing expert speakers from leading industry professionals and academics free of charge to state schools and colleges. These eminent figures donate their time to share their knowledge, insights and experience with students, to inspire and motivate them.

This year's winner is Valeria Locatelli, Group Financial Crime Director and Group MLRO at M&G plc, one of the UK's largest and longest established global investment houses, headquartered in the City of London.

Valeria is a high-flier in financial services with over 10 years' experience in senior audit roles, including at Lloyds Banking Group, HSBC and Pioneer Investments. She is also a prominent diversity and inclusion campaigner in the financial corporate sector, being the founder of The Book Club Mentoring Association, that has donated 50 copies of inspirational books to schools she visited. She is a qualified mentor, with a track record of managing high performing teams.

Passionate about giving back to the community, Valeria has regularly held non-profit roles as a trustee and as a volunteer. She has been seen pushing a trolley for The Guild of the Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew! Valeria joined *Speakers for Schools* in 2018 and gives both in-person and virtual talks in schools which, owing to their location, may not have the chance to hear from a major industry professional. Her key message is that anything can be achieved if you work hard enough. Valeria always makes the point of emphasising that she is not anything special; she just worked very hard and had a bit of luck. This message is tempered with the point that you don't have to come first to succeed. She emphasises that work life should be balanced by making a difference in the community. She also counters the negative idea held by many students that the City is a closed shop to people of diverse backgrounds, by recounting the ways in which the financial sector is changing in terms of its recruitment and promotion practices. She talks to students about how to develop resilience and how to create supportive networks, with examples from anecdotes from her own career. The teachers' feedback to *Speakers for Schools* was very positive – “Valeria is a truly inspirational and motivational speaker” was the verdict.

4. Keith Hutton Award for Theatre & Performing Arts

Winner: Sheryl Malcolm

Nominator: Melanie Anouf, Learning Producer, The Young Vic

Keith Hutton was a founder member of the Company of Educators. He sadly died in 2016. Keith was passionate about theatre and performing arts, so it is fitting that his legacy bursary supports the professional development of educators in this field

The Young Vic Theatre has deep roots in its local south London community and its Learning Strand focuses on the neighbouring boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. It collaborates with local schools, colleges, and universities to enhance the students' experience of theatre, providing them with direct access to its artists, meaningful work experiences and placements. During the pandemic, the Learning Strand moved its work online to engage young people remotely.

This year the award goes to Sheryl Malcolm, a Project Associate for INNOVATE, a two-year theatre-in-education project launched in 2021 in collaboration with two secondary schools, Dunraven School and South Bank University Academy. This exciting new project explores how the arts can enable students to engage, learn and thrive across the whole curriculum

Sheryl is assigned to the English and Media departments at Dunraven School, where she works with the teachers offering creative techniques to approach the curriculum from a different perspective. Sheryl sets great store on listening intelligently and sensitively. She initially immersed herself in the school culture and experience through 'Listening Days', talking to students and teachers, then offered her reflections, particularly on the nuances and subtexts of language in the interactions between staff and students and their importance for mutual understanding and benefit. This led to a new approach to the Student Voice in the school and a new emphasis on active learning and engagement, and creativity in online learning.

Sheryl has also been instrumental in greater individuation of teaching and learning strategies. Her insight into the need for alternative teaching approaches or structure of activities to meet students' learning needs is quite remarkable. The teachers say she can read a room with ease and move seamlessly into a different learning style to better suit learners. She can read what a young person is really trying to communicate in behaviour that might present as odd or disruptive to others, and respond sensitively.

One might ask how Sheryl overcomes the natural resistance to change? Her nominator explains that Sheryl works from a space of compassion, curiosity, generosity and collaboration, that draws teachers and students towards her and encourages them to take creative and personal risks to try new things out, enabling real change. This ability comes from over 20 years' experience of delivering and coordinating a variety of education and arts projects within statutory, community and voluntary settings across London. Sheryl has worked as a Participation Manager, Freelance Theatre Director and Facilitator, including at the National Theatre Education and Roundhouse Studios. She is currently a Visiting Lecturer at Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and University of East London. Sheryl is a Trustee of Little Fish Theatre Company.

5. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Nicola Benedetti CBE

Nominator: Sarah Gee, CEO, Spitalfields Music

Spitalfields Music has been bringing diverse communities together in one of the most deprived boroughs in the UK for more than 40 years through award-winning projects in schools, special educational needs and disabilities settings, care homes and community centres, high-quality musical performances, and an artist development programme.

Nicola Benedetti is an internationally famous virtuoso violinist, a former BBC Young Musician of the Year - a rock star of classical music – almost a household name. But that is not why she was nominated by *Spitalfields Music*.

She is also an outstanding ambassador for the whole-person impact of music, using her celebrity status to promote the case widely in the media, at conferences, with politicians and policymakers and with educationalists. She is a passionate advocate for music education in mainstream schools, particularly those with pupils from low-income households in disadvantaged areas. She says, “Any one moment can flick a switch and turn a tide. Each moment with someone young can be that moment for them – when they choose hope over apathy or choose to persevere over giving up. Music fires the imagination in young minds and can be that switch.”

Nicola also puts her philosophy into practice. She is a founder of and ongoing teacher contributor to a charitable organisation, the Benedetti Foundation, which delivers stimulating and effective musical experiences to children, young people and communities.

The Foundation was launched in January 2020, initially as a response to the chaos wrought by the pandemic. Nicola saw it as an opportunity to give hope to people across the world who were isolated, lonely and grieving, through making music with others. The Foundation offered over 700 Zoom sessions and reached more than 25,000 participants.

When restrictions were lifted, Nicola and her tutors added live sessions to their repertoire and put on transformative orchestral and musicianship-based workshops for young people and their families, instrumental and classroom teachers, university and conservatoire students and adult learners. Nicola used her professional contacts to deliver concerts in high profile venues such as the Southbank Centre and Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, and with ensembles of all sizes from symphony orchestras to string quartets. The charity continues to use modern technology to support, inspire and educate young people. Its YouTube resources have been played 4.8m times. The impact is global.

Nicola is passionate about teaching and about the life skills that are embedded in music education. These are reflected in the values of the Foundation which include: strive to improve, remember to ask questions and to question everything, never be afraid to make mistakes, and always be kind.

6. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Andrew Gamble

Nominator: Alan Yellup, Director, Alan Yellup Education

Andrew Gamble is the Executive Headteacher of Low Road and Windmill Music Federation, a group of two primary schools serving a challenging deprived area close to the centre of Leeds. 54% of children are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, 52% come from an ethnic minority background and 27 languages are spoken in the schools.

A university-trained classical violinist, pianist and guitarist, and a qualified teacher with Advanced Skills Teacher status, Andrew has a passionate belief in the power of music-making to enhance the whole curriculum. He believes that, at its best, learning to perform a musical instrument proficiently not only develops skills of dexterity and the ability to read and understand an abstract language, but enhances concentration, develops patience and resilience, raises self-esteem and how to cope with setbacks. It is learnt in a social and co-operative environment that requires respect of and dependence on others. These attributes are valuable to all the subjects in the curriculum.

As Headteacher, Andrew established a unique, relevant, broad curriculum across the two schools with music serving as a unifying thread. All pupils experience classical/traditional choral and instrumental tuition, balanced by an innovative programme of contemporary music delivering strong messages relating to diversity, racism, tolerance and respect.

The Federation was the first in England to establish In Harmony links with Opera North and currently stands alone in offering the full curriculum with access to vocal and a wide range of instrumental tuition each week. Through Andrew's drive, the Federation achieved a Gold partnership agreement with Class Dynamix, a Leeds-based contemporary company creating music with and for children and young people. The Federation has also formed links with Broomfield SILC autism unit so that their students can also access specialist music tuition.

Pupils have performed locally and nationally in town halls, cathedrals, London's Southbank Centre, Leeds Arena and in TV studios. They were semi-finalists in 'Britain's Got Talent' and featured in Sainsbury's 2019 Christmas television advert. These experiences have taken pupils from their closed environment and exposed them to a wider world and a rich range of technical and aesthetic skills.

Andrew's vision has become a trailblazer for other local authority schools to adopt similar curricular models. The impact of the music-integrated curriculum is seen in the improvement in students' achievement levels, well documented in external reports from inspections and consultants. It is strengthening the pupils' capacities for and attitude to their wider academic study, demonstrating that with a creative enlightened educational environment pupils from a disadvantaged community can make significant progress, above the national average. Andrew's leadership has transformed the reputation of the schools in his Federation and the educational and social well-being of his pupils. It justifies the motto of the schools: 'Excellence Achieved Through Effort and Aspiration'.

7. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Nick Hayes

Nominator: Sara Lee, Artistic Director, The Irene Taylor Trust

The Irene Taylor Trust (ITT) was founded in 1995 and is a leading arts charity in the field of criminal justice, inspiring prisoners and those at risk to achieve their potential via creating original music and developing transferable skills.

Nick Hayes, a graduate clarinettist of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, wanted to work in community-based settings. With no training available at that time, Nick learned his craft working in situ with groups without a musical education. He devised creative methods of working geared to each person's literacy and comprehension competence, sometimes using pictures, signs, symbols, leading to very basic music notation. He tailored these to each individual while ensuring they felt an integral part of the group. This approach was perfect for the prison population which the ITT wished to serve and Nick joined the creative team at the start. Prisoners often come from disadvantaged communities, with poor experiences of school and negative attitudes towards learning. Nick's quiet sensitive approach persuades them to engage, enthuses them to learn and increases their self-worth. His nominator says, 'Nick enables reticent musicians to find their inner 'rock star'; exciting them about the music they can create engages them.'

Nick was central to the ITT's signature model, *Music in Prisons*: professional musicians work with prisoners to create original music as a band, to be performed live to an audience and recorded for a CD. This was followed by: *Sounding Out*, designed to support ex-prisoners through a combination of live performances and paid training placements; and *Making Tracks*, targeting young people at risk, with music workshops, live performances, and follow-on sessions.

Nick's best-known work is *The Lullaby Project*. With the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Nick took lyrics and musical ideas written by vulnerable parents and created music memories that parents and children carry through their lives. He guided musician colleagues and a group of 30 women prisoners to create a series of songs for their children, '*Beyond the Secret Door*', which won a British Composer Award in 2003. He reworked five of these songs for other choirs and arranged one of the lullabies written by a prisoner dad for the BBC Singers as part of the Proms at Home series in 2020.

Nick has supported thousands of people to write and play music, creating precious memories and offering an experience which has on many occasions been lifechanging. Nick's form of music education helps to make hidden and underserved communities less fractured and supports people to grow as individuals and succeed through music. He achieves this with care, competence, and the innate ability to communicate his art form.

8. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Laureen Hodge

Nominator: Anne Wright, Director of Education, VOCES8

Laureen Hodge is the Curriculum Leader for Music and a SENCO at North Cambridge Academy (NCA). NCA is an Academy sponsor-led secondary school (11-16) of around 600 pupils, part of the Cambridge Meridian Academies Trust. NCA's catchment area includes areas in the most 20% deprived in the country with over 50% of the students eligible for the pupil premium.

Laureen's family and school background was not propitious for a career in music. Her schools offered few music experiences and her family's finances didn't run to paying for private instrumental tuition. However, when Laureen was 11, she heard of a local community brass band which provided instruments, tuition and ensemble experience. She seized the opportunity. This was the trigger that set her on a journey to become a musician and music teacher via a BA at the University of Bristol, a PGCE (Music) and a MEd (Arts, Creativity and Education) from Cambridge University.

When Laureen started at NCA music was struggling to reach most pupils. Five years on, 30% of pupils have instrumental tuition in school, there are multiple ensembles, a powerful school choir, and the school now offers GCSE Music. Laureen's approach has been to start small on existing provision, create interest and use the momentum to build up to a whole-school approach. For example, NCA has a free Saturday School of activities, so Laureen established a Saturday School Music Ensemble, providing instruments and using experienced pupils to mentor beginners. Her approach to developing a school orchestra was similar. Starting with the existing resources of keyboards, guitars and percussion, she built up demand from students, persuaded the school to provide string instruments and began providing violin, viola and cello lessons. There is now a string ensemble as well as a guitar and ukulele group, a keyboard ensemble, and a steel band.

However, her greatest success has been with the school choir. Laureen forged partnerships with the VOCES8 Foundation, Apollo5 and the Armonico Consort, providing the pupils with the opportunity to work and perform with outstanding professional vocal ensembles. Students from NCA participate in the VOCES8 Young Leader Project developing their ensemble singing and leadership skills while learning to lead workshops for primary school children. The 2021 Armonico Consort project culminated in NCA students performing in a performance of 'Carmina Burana' at the Royal Albert Hall. Other collaborations include jazz band and music technology projects with Cambridgeshire Music.

Laureen is also passionate about how the arts can support students with SEND. Her approach to supporting children with autism has benefited from her research interest in how creative collaboration can engage such pupils and improve their social skills. In one project, the children were engrossed in creating musical films based on primary level story books, for which the students composed the music. This experience led Laureen to become interested in working as a SENCO, completing the SENCO qualification last year, and in September 2021 becoming the school's SENCO. Laureen's work at NCA demonstrates how music education can be a transformative power in schools.

9. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Matt Newell

Nominator: David Jones, CEO, Changing Tunes

Changing Tunes is a Bristol-based charity set up in 1987 which advocates the intrinsic value of the arts for vulnerable people in the criminal justice system and believes in the therapeutic benefits of music-making in engaging prisoners and helping to unlock their creativity and potential. It pursues this mission by running long-term music and mentoring programmes in prisons, secure children's homes and post-release. The charity works in 20 prisons in the South West and South East of England, the Midlands and South Wales.

Matt Newell is one of *Changing Tunes*' Musicians-in-Residence, a key element of the delivery model. A graduate lawyer, Matt is a talented musician and teacher. He set up the music services in a brand-new prison, HMP Swinfen Hall and, despite the pandemic, supported 50+ prisoners to reach high-quality musical outcomes, resulting in performances and musical recordings, including a number of high-quality Koestler Award submissions.

Normally, Matt works through group work and 1:1, tailoring each session to meet the needs of participants, whether complete beginners or competent musicians. He blends music theory into his work alongside song-writing and performance techniques. During COVID-19, face-to-face delivery was not possible, prisoners being locked up in their cells 23/7. However, Matt created 'In Cell Learning Packs' covering subjects such as Beginners Guitar, Music Theory, Rhythm, Vocals and 'Beats and Bars' which were hugely popular.

In a Social Prescribing Project in the prison, Matt works with young offenders who are self-isolating, self-harming, struggling with sleep or who have an unhealthy relationship with food. Matt has achieved remarkable results with these vulnerable young people: 94% of respondents reported improved self-esteem; 91% reported a more positive identity; 93% reported improved inter-personal skills; 87% put it down to the musical skills and the ability to express themselves using music, acquired through Matt's support.

Matt brings in other talented facilitators from *Changing Tunes*, so that prison residents can be exposed to different genres of music and music-making approaches. Prison concerts have included classical piano pieces, self-written rap, indie classics and smooth jazz. This is part of his collaborative style which makes him popular with colleagues and prison staff alike.

Matt has also been instrumental in setting up a Post-Release Hub in Birmingham so that learners do not have to stop learning music and can maintain the positive experience of well-being when they leave prison. The Hub was initially set up to meet once a month, but its success has led to it now running twice a month.

Prison education staff report that Matt's engaging style and innovative teaching techniques win huge respect from residents. They actively participate and are productive in his sessions, more so than many other interventions in prison. Clearly, Matt's music-making makes a life-enhancing difference to prisoners and helps them to lead meaningful, creative and crime-free lives.

10. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Nicholas Shaw

Nominator: Marie Lemaire, Education Digital Manager, Opera North

Opera North is a national opera company based in Leeds. It tours throughout the North of England, in London and to major international festivals. Its aim is to make bold, innovative, ambitious work through an eclectic artistic programme of opera, concerts, spoken word and film. Opera North believes opera and music is for everyone, and champions diversity in artists, repertoire and audiences. Nowhere does this belief express itself better than in *Opera North Education* which connects with communities and inspires each generation through arts participation and performance.

Nicholas Shaw, an Oxford organ scholar with an MMus in choral conducting from the RAM, was appointed Youth Chorus Master in 2017. He works with about 120-150 young people aged 8-19 in three choruses, with a commitment to weekly rehearsals, and residential courses developing skills in singing and stagecraft. Nicholas' extensive knowledge of youth choral repertoire, his understanding of vocal development and techniques, his rigour and high expectations have lifted the Youth Company to the next level. He has developed exciting collaborative projects, bringing in a range of practitioners to work with the three choruses. The quality of singing and professionalism of young participants has greatly improved as a result.

Nicholas' students have a rich diet of musical and dramatic experiences. In 2018 they performed *Pirates Revisited* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and in 2019 they collaborated with *Phoenix Dance* where young singers and young dancers exchanged skills. Building on this, Nicholas brought together a composer, a director and a choreographer to create a new take on *Aesop's Fables*. In 2020, students had the opportunity to work with a composer and an author on a musical response to the Holocaust. A visit to Huddersfield Holocaust Exhibition and Learning Centre was followed by a trip to Prague and the Terezin Ghetto where the students learned and performed music by Jewish composers. The devised piece, *Standing Together*, was then performed at Leeds Town Hall in the Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration and at the Sage in Gateshead. After a lockdown delay, this project was finally completed with a tour of Hans Krása's opera *Brunidbár* which Nicholas conducted. His work preparing children for all main stage productions was recognised when Weill's *Street Scene* was nominated for a Sky Arts Award in 2020.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Nicholas pulled together a variety of artists of different genres to collaborate on a more interactive and engaging online programme, developing dramatic and composing skills and challenging preconceptions of what it is to be a musician. The response was enthusiastic, with the majority of the company engaging regularly.

Nicholas is a passionate advocate of the importance of a strong music education for all young people. He directed the choirs at Junior Guildhall for over a decade and until 2019 was Music Director of the open access youth choir, Cantate, with whom he won double gold medals at the 2014 World Choir Games. And with all these commitments he continues to be Organist and Director of Chapel Music at Lincoln's Inn in London. With an unflagging devotion to music-making for everyone, he is an inspiration to young people and colleagues alike.

11. Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Joe Townsend

Nominator: Havilland Willshire, Director of Music, Trinity Laban

Trinity Laban is a world-leading conservatoire of music and dance. Among its illustrious alumni, it lists many international figures, and it ranks high in the specialist institutions' league table. It is regarded as a leader in the advancement of creative artistic practice.

Joe Townsend is Head of Popular Music at Trinity Laban. Initially a self-taught musician in the punk era, he later trained in Jazz on the violin at the Guildhall School of Music in the 1980s and then at Community Music, focusing on improvisation. His eclectic musical background led him into composing for the theatre and opera, including the National Theatre, Opera North and the Berlin Ensemble. He developed a specialism in cross-disciplinary performance, exploring cultural and artistic boundaries, which he applied at Trinity Laban.

Joe is leader of the BA Music Performance and Industry programme, for which he developed the *Voices of the Industry* series, using recent alumni professionals to speak to final year students about their post-graduation experiences. This gives students a contextualised understanding of how disparate skills are used in different combinations across the industry and an idea of potential future employment. Joe also leads the BMus Year 4 *Artist as Innovator* module, in which students create an externally-facing project that applies their music specialism to a specific, real-world context. Subsequently they may apply for an Innovation Award, which provides seed funding and professional development for their projects and mentorship which enables structured access to professional environments, especially for those students without familial musical networks.

However, perhaps Joe's greatest achievement has been his creative leadership of the annual *CoLab*, a festival of collaboration, creativity and experimentation where, guided by expert professional mentors, students build artistic relationships with performers and other artists across genres, disciplines, nationalities and cultures, to create projects based on all kinds of music and dance: from Motown to Mozart, from ballet to Bollywood. Described as 'a riot of experimentation, risk-taking and creativity', with typically 800 participants, CoLab has demonstrated that collaboration across the arts provides a powerhouse for new approaches and new works. When the entire CoLab Festival had to be delivered online in 2021 as a result of COVID-19, it was Joe's dynamic and innovative approach to technology-enhanced learning that enabled students to continue to develop aesthetic awareness, technical and craft skills.

Joe is in demand to speak at conferences on collaboration, pedagogy, audience development and social entrepreneurship. He consults on early career survival for emerging artists and led on the development of the *Go DigiTL* initiative, which provides micro-grants to music and dance artists living in Lewisham and Greenwich. Joe also runs courses for the V&A Innovative Leadership Programme and holds a Senior Fellowship from the Higher Education Academy. Trinity Laban has acknowledged Joe's outstanding pedagogic practice in his appointment as a Senior Teaching Fellow.

12. The Inspirational Educator Awards for Music Education

Winner: Suzi Zumpe

Nominator: English National Opera

English National Opera traces its roots back to 1931 when Lilian Baylis established the Sadler's Wells Opera Company with the ambition of making opera more affordable and accessible. In 1968, it relocated to the London Coliseum and in 1974 the Company was renamed English National Opera. This inspiring work is continued by *ENO Engage*, the ENO's learning and participation programme, which works with schools, health trusts and community organisations across the country to reinvent opera as a tool for social impact. One of its most innovative projects is *ENO Breathe*. A joint endeavour between the ENO and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, the aim of *ENO Breathe* is to empower participants in the management of breathlessness and anxiety post COVID-19 infection.

Suzi Zumpe is the Creative Director of *ENO Breathe*. A singing specialist and experienced facilitator, Suzi worked closely with medical experts and the ENO's Engage team to design the overall project scope. Her approach was to explore and mirror techniques employed by opera singers, who achieve the physical coordination required for singing via emotional connection with music and imagery, rather than by giving their bodies explicit physiological instructions. Suzi chose lullabies as the musical anchor for the programme, selecting them for their intrinsic soothing qualities. Universal in their appeal, lullabies cross boundaries of culture and tend to sit comfortably within a non-specialist singer's vocal range, making them accessible for all.

Her care for accessibility and usability has always been at the forefront of her thinking. NHS-referred participants attend six, weekly, online workshop sessions backed up by bespoke online digital resources. Participants leave sessions with a calming song in their hearts, a positive emotional connection to their breath and armed with simple tools and exercises to practice. Suzi's on-going refinement of the work requires regular conversations with a range of clinicians and specialists, such as respiratory physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, cardiologists, and health psychologists. Her thirst for knowledge and research in connecting the art/music component with the medical has been impressive and makes this a unique programme.

Suzi has trained five other session leaders to deliver *ENO Breathe* to the highest standards alongside her. They note Suzi's ability to engage with all 20 participants on screen, creating first an atmosphere of trust, then seamlessly moving towards in-depth work in a playful way, with confident knowledge and a lightness of touch. This learning by stealth approach allows her to build strong connections with participants, who embed these techniques in their daily lives, enabling them to better manage their symptoms. The programme is highly successful and is set to reach over 1000 participants by April 2022.

Alongside her work for ENO and other large arts organisations, Suzi is the director of Mondegreen Leadership Ltd, providing bespoke and immersive experiential workshops in a corporate training environment. Clients include London Business School, HSBC, Unilever and The Academy of High-Performance Teams. She is living proof of the transferability of the skills of a good musical education.