

# North East of Scotland Performing Arts

*The latest news, views and announcements*

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Welcome to the fifth edition of the **North East of Scotland Performing Arts** Newsletter.

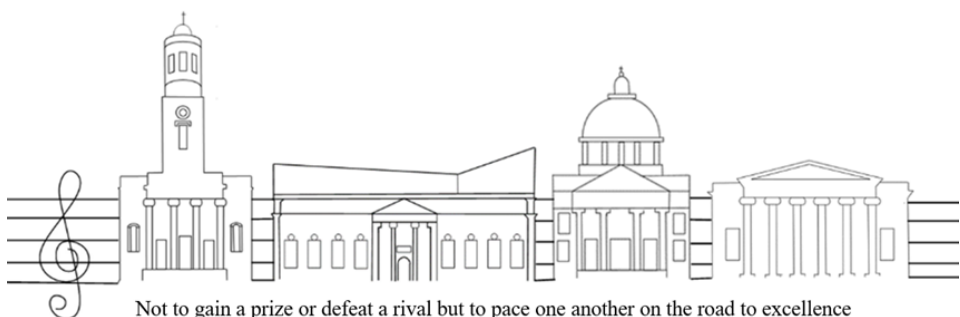
We are delighted to be returning to a week of live performance and are looking forward to the fast approaching Music and Drama Festival in June of this year.

Building on the amazing performances submitted for the Covid Creative classes last year, we have taken this idea forward with a new section "Together Again" where performances in any combination of genres are invited.

In challenging times for music education, we hope that there is something for everyone in this year's festival.

Also in this edition we are looking ahead to highlight the need to provide a team to take the Charity forward to the future in a way that is still relevant.

NESPA, for ANESMFA SC002130





# Aberdeen Music Festival

## June 13th - 17th 2022

<b>What is the June Festival of Music and Drama all about?</b>	Information about the Charity and its work can be found on the website: <a href="http://www.nespa.scot">www.nespa.scot</a> .
<b>Where is the syllabus?</b>	The syllabus is available on the website and has details of all classes. Pdfs of each section are available for download free of charge.
<b>How do I enter?</b>	Entries should be made online. Teachers may elect to send a cheque separately, or use the paper entry form.
<b>What do I do about an accompaniment?</b>	The charity provides an Official Accompanist for many performances. Exceptions are Open classes, Adult Performances and Repertoire classes.
<b>How do I find out the time and place of my Class?</b>	Applicants will receive a ballot slip by email with details of class times and venue.
<b>What if I am unable to attend the class?</b>	If the timetable permits, an alternative slot will be offered. However this is not always possible. Refunds are not normally offered.
<b>What if I am late?</b>	You may still perform, so long as the adjudication for your class has not begun.
<b>Can anyone come and hear me perform - is the Festival open to the public?</b>	Yes, all are welcome. A supportive audience makes the festival a special experience. Tickets will be available online or can be purchased at the door.

Please refer to the [Guidelines & Regulations](#) before completing your entry.

If in doubt, contact [info@nespa.scot](mailto:info@nespa.scot)

# Aberdeen Music Festival

## June 13th - 17th 2022



### TIMELINE

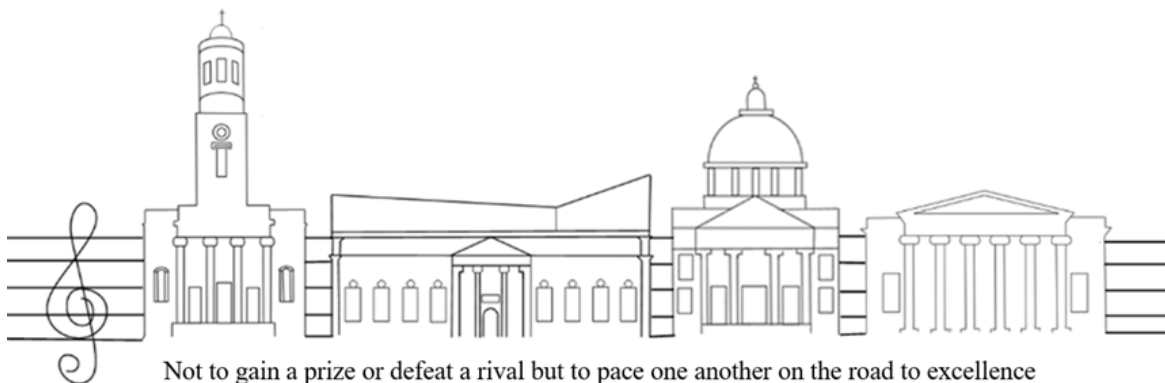
Friday 22nd April	Deadline for Entries
Friday 29th April	Extended deadline for entries with 50% surcharge
Middle of May	Issue of ballots by email with details of class times and venues
Friday 20th May	Due date for - music for Official Accompanist - submission of compositions
Friday 27th May	Deadline for change of programme
Sunday 12th June	Traditional Music Workshop Ceilidh
Monday 13th June	The Festival Begins
Friday 17th June	Closing Concert Competition

# What's new in '22

The organising committee were concerned that after 2 years of fragmented and online tuition, combined with the celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee, there may not be an appetite for a competitive festival this year. After some debate, a short survey was held and the results clearly indicated that the majority of festival participators wished to retain a primarily competitive event. See [Survey Spring 2022](#).

We are aware that competition this year may not be for everyone but would encourage ALL to take part, either in specifically non-competitive classes, or in any class on a non-competitive basis.

Together again, let's open the curtains, and share the joy and delight of the performing arts in all its forms



## Key changes

Together Again Classes - 4 categories

Extension of Recital Classes

Dance Drama Class

Put On a Play Class

Improved consistency of class fees and age/standard

# What's new in '22

## Together Again

*The absolute highlight of online 2021 was the Covid Creative Section. We were amazed by the range of performances and the adjudicator Andrew Nunn could not praise the participants enough. The evening is still available on the [NESPA Youtube channel](#).*

After the success of the Covid Creative classes introduced in 2021 this section has been renamed and offers classes in celebration of the return to live performance.

Entries may be in any combination of genres – music, speech, drama, video, photography, etc. Live performances or video/live combined presentations are welcome.

Classes are available for solo entries, and for groups of 4 and below and groups of 4 and more in three age bands: Primary, Secondary & Open

Themes are:

▯ **Pomp and Circumstance:**

*Any performance with a regal theme.*

**Contemporary Performance**

*A performance of any work created since the year 2000.*

**Sondheim**

*Any performance inspired by or written by Steven Sondheim.*

**Sharing and Celebrating Cultural Diversity**

*Any work, in any genre from any culture.*



# What's new in '22

## Extension of Recital & Repertoire Classes

*As well as providing an opportunity for performance these classes offer an alternative to examination diets provided by professional bodies.*

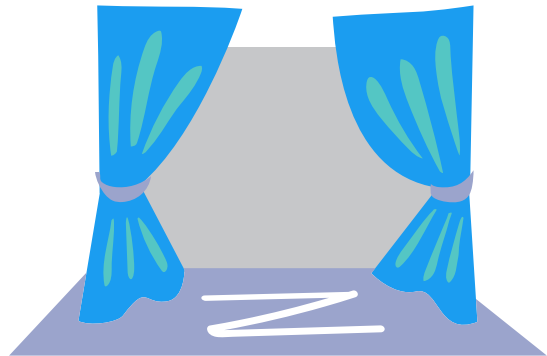


## Dance Drama

*Tell a story through creative movement or contemporary dance*

## Put on a Play

*We are looking for budding directors, actors and writers with a love of theatre and performance, to come together and produce something inspiring, thought-provoking and spectacular!*



*Less obvious in the syllabus is an attempt to improve consistency between the sections in terms of grades/standards, groupings, and of course fees.*

*We are working on a new website, so if you have any other suggestions for inclusion in the syllabus, please let us have them so that they can be incorporated.*



# Traditional Music Workshop



**Adam Sutherland**

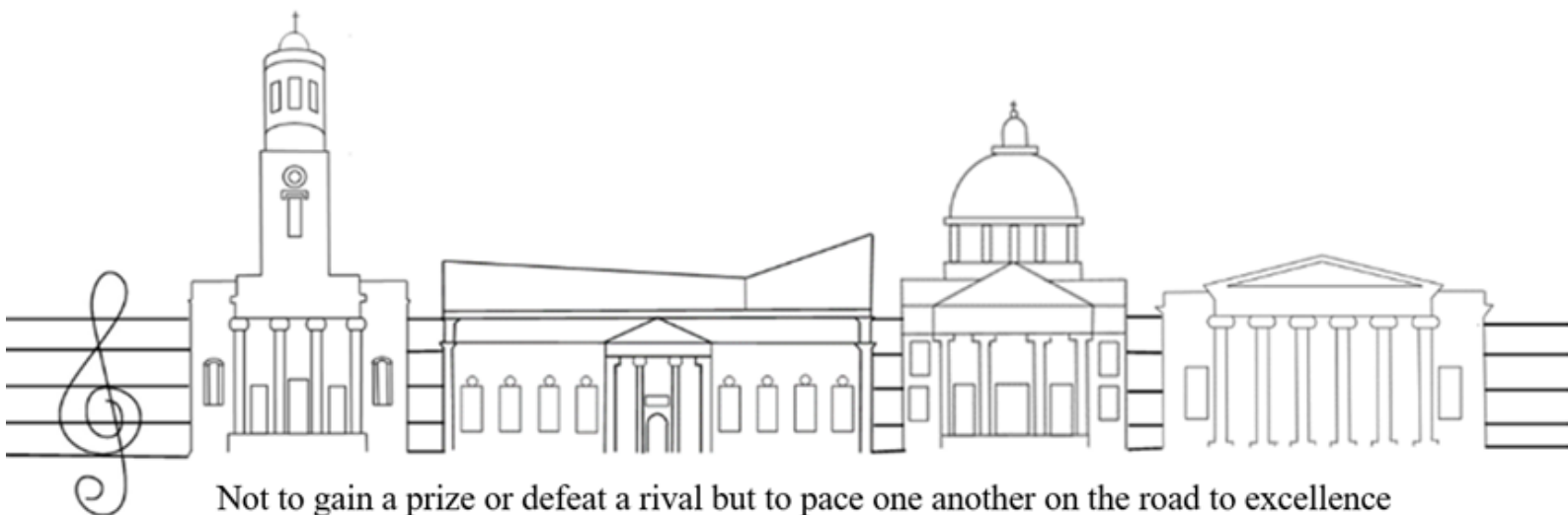
**Sunday 12th July**

**H1 Building  
Hill of Rubislaw**

**Details of tickets/timings  
available soon**

**WE ARE SUPER-EXCITED TO BE ABLE TO OFFER A  
COMPOSITION WORKSHOP WITH THE  
AMAZING ADAM SUTHERLAND.**

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# Funding Festival Week

The Music & Drama festival strives to cover its costs but to make the event as accessible as possible, entry fees and audience admissions are low. The charity depends on contributions from supporters and sponsors to fund annual shortfalls.  
*Please remember your ticket covers all the performances in a three hour session.*

## Sponsorship Packages for 2022

Can you help please?

Do you know of a business that might wish to support the Charity?



**Bronze Package- £50**

Class Sponsorship, etc.

**Silver Package- £100**

Small Section Sponsorship, etc.

**Gold Package- £250**

Larger Section Sponsorship, etc.

**Platinum Package- £500**

Music Hall Sponsorship, etc.

### *What are the main costs?*

Adjudicators: £300 per day  
(plus travel & accommodation)

Halls: £500 - £2,000 per day

Accompanists: £250 per day  
(plus travel & expenses)

Printing: £1,000 per festival

*For more information please contact [info@nespa.scot](mailto:info@nespa.scot)*



# Securing the Future

The Charity is seeking new helpers to shape its future and take it into its next century.

All are welcome and a wide range of interests, skills and experience will help to form a dynamic team.

## Volunteers urgently required

### Required for Festival Week 2022:

- Stewards: at the door, in the hall and to help the adjudicator
- Trophies Secretary: to collect, polish, deliver, trophies
- Results co-ordinator: to record and report class results/prizes
- Office helpers: to man the festival hub
- Runners: to provide support at all venues
- Catering help: for Drinks Reception on closing night

## *Looking beyond 2022*

### What roles are available?

Basically, there is something for everyone. Like all Charities, there is a need to plan for succession through a range of skills. There is a role for anyone with an interest in the performing arts and one or more of the following

- an interest in community engagement
  - experience in running concerts and other events
  - IT knowledge
  - the ability to do word processing/produce publicity material
  - legal or accountancy experience
- but above all else, *enthusiasm*.

### What does the Charity offer?

- an opportunity to enjoy, share and promote music, drama and dance
- a place within a friendly, sociable team
- training in the specific role
- access to resources available through Making Music
- access to relevant software packages.

The Charity is currently based at the H1 Building in Hill of Rubislaw where there is a cafe and rooms available for meetings, rehearsals, storage and administration.

# Planning for the Centenary

**We are all very excited. The Charity has been running since 1909, war years apart.**

*2023 will be the 100th Festival.*

**We are putting together a Committee to handle the preparation and delivery of what is hoped will be a memorable event, doing justice to the contributions of its many participators over the years.**

- **Would you like to be involved?**
- **Do you have a Festival story/memory to tell?**
- **Are there any Festival photographs that you would like share?**
- **Would you like to make a donation, or sponsor the 100th Festival?**

**Please get in touch with [info@nespa.scot](mailto:info@nespa.scot).**



## **Trophy Historian required**

If anyone is interested in helping us track down the history of each trophy, including the persons/reason behind their donation to the festival please contact [info@nespa.scot](mailto:info@nespa.scot).

It is bound to be an interesting and absorbing project.

# New Faces

**At our AGM in September, the Board welcomed these new active volunteers: the two Sams.**

Hello!

I am Sam Allan and I have recently started helping out on the promotional side of things at the festival.

A little about me...

I have always enjoyed Speech and Drama from a young age, joining The McGill School at 5 years old and staying on for 13 years, before bowing out with our production of Willy Russell's Blood Brothers this summer! I am now studying English- Film and Visual Culture at The University of Aberdeen and working part time with Aberdeen Performing Arts as a Creative Assistant at HMT. I credit the Aberdeen Music and Drama Festival and the events run by NESPA for giving me a chance to perform to an audience year on year, an opportunity not always available to young drama enthusiasts.



What I'll be doing with NESPA...

After taking part in the festival for a number of years, I am very excited to get a peak behind the curtain and see the amazing work that goes on throughout the year by all the volunteers at NESPA. I will be responsible for running the Twitter and Instagram accounts and jointly running the Facebook account with Janette Hall. We are very much looking forward to sharing some brilliant performances, exciting quizzes and news about upcoming events with you on our pages very soon!



Sam Paul grew up in Aberdeen where he studied French horn with Kevin Cormack, before going on to study chemical engineering at the University of Aberdeen. A keen member of the Aberdeen music community, he conducts the University of Aberdeen Chamber Choir and Concert Band, and Aberdeen Vocal Ensemble. Outside of engineering and music, Sam is fond of hillwalking, photography, sound engineering, and the occasional whisky.

Sam has a particular interest in promoting quality amateur music making in the North East, and is working towards creating a framework to allow groups to share resources, rehearsals and concert dates; and to provide information to new and existing musicians in the area on the multitude of music making opportunities in Aberdeen.

# Rehearsal space and Meeting Rooms at H1

## Facilities available at H1

We are very lucky to have an extremely generous space at Hill of Rubislaw. There is an office, library, store, two rehearsal rooms and a coffee shop.

And thanks to Gordon Bell, plenty of pianos!

Do you and/or your friends/group want space to meet - rehearse - chat?  
Would you like two pianos for duets?

Please get in touch if you want to book a room.



## Contact Details



NESPA is a company limited by Guarantee and has been set up to administer the registered charity Aberdeen & NE of Scotland Festival Association SC002130

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