



Communities and Reform Directorate

Oldham Music Service
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Dear Parent / Carer / Performer,

Virtual Christmas Festival 2020

You will not be surprised to learn that the annual Christmas Festival will not be taking place at the QE Hall this year. However, at this time when so many individuals and families are in need of some seasonal cheer, I am delighted to be able to announce that the Music Centre groups will be giving a virtual Christmas Festival over the internet that will be a part of Oldham's Christmas festivities.

We have tried to find a way to include as many members of our Music Centre 'family' as possible in this project, even including students that would normally have moved on at the end of the Summer term. Therefore, each of the following groups will be creating a composite video of their members playing or singing a piece for inclusion in the concert which will be streamed from 18th December. All materials and backing tracks can be accessed from 9th November on that group's Yumu page using the log in that was provided to members back in April. The ensembles participating are:

- Junior Brass Band (OMC Elementary or Training Brass Band member)
[Uploads for Junior Brass Band](#)
- Senior Brass Band (OMC Intermediate or Youth Brass Band member)
[Uploads for Senior Brass Band](#)
- Training Strings
[Uploads for Training Strings](#)
- Senior Orchestra (OMC Intermediate or Youth Orchestra member)
[Uploads for Senior Orchestra](#)
- Junior Wind Band (OMC Elementary or Training Wind Band member)
[Uploads for Junior Wind Band](#)
- Senior Wind Band (OMC Intermediate, Youth Wind Band or Adult Community/Late Starters Wind Band member)
[Uploads for Senior Wind Band](#)
- 5-Note Bands
[Uploads for 5-Note Bands](#)
- OMC Choir (OMC Junior Choir, Vocal Recall, Girls' Choir, Youth Choir member, Music Theatre)
[Uploads for OMC Choirs](#)
- Community Choir (Pop Choir, members of any groups not specifically named above, OMC parents and family members, OMS staff – everyone is welcome to take part in this one).
[Uploads for Community Choir](#)

All you need to do then is:

- Log on as usual to Yumu and download your part and the backing track. If you are unsure how to do this, please contact your group's musical director.
- Use your smartphone or any other suitable device to video yourself playing / singing along to the backing track. Please use **headphones** so that all we can hear is you and shoot the video in **landscape** format. If you prefer not to appear on screen, no problem. Just make a sound recording of yourself instead.
- If you are submitting a video, you must click [here](#) to complete a consent form that will enable us to use your film online as part of the finished concert.
- Our fantastic percussion teacher and technical 'whizz', Mr. Smith, is compiling the films and recordings for us. Please upload your contributions to the appropriate Dropbox using the links shown in the list above.

All of the Music Service teachers are taking part in and supporting this project and will be able to assist with rehearsing pieces in school-based lessons. It may even be possible to record videos or audio tracks as part of those lessons to help with the process.

The deadline for submissions of video and audio files is **5pm on 5th December**. However, it would be really helpful if you were able to make submissions before then if possible.

Should you have any questions or queries related to this project, please do not hesitate to contact your group's leader or contact the [Music Service](#).

We would very much like to publicly acknowledge the support of the Manchester Superstores Group, the UK's largest ethnic food superstores chain and which has branches all over the North West, who's financial assistance has made this project possible.

Yours sincerely,



Gerard Booth
Head of Service

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<http://www.oldham.gov.uk/music tuition>