

Press Release Julianstown Youth Orchestra Open Day

The Julianstown Youth Orchestra (JYO) are excited to open their doors to welcome aspiring young musicians and performers for a morning of musical exploration on Saturday 18th May. This is a family-friendly event and parents are welcome to bring their families to see and hear the delights of the orchestra.

On Saturday the 18th of May, between 10am and 11 am, JYO will offer a fun, informative insight into what young musicians in JYO get up to, and how you might join them on your journey! Come to see the wide range of instruments to choose from in the orchestra. The string section has violins, violas, cellos and double basses. The wind and brass sections can have flutes, piccolo, oboes, clarinets, bass clarinet, trumpets, French horns, trombones and bassoons. There is also a very exciting percussion section complete with timpani drums, bass drums, snare drums, cymbals and a glockenspiel as well as many other smaller percussion instruments.

Visitors will have the opportunity to watch an open rehearsal under the experienced baton of Conductor Ailbhe Kirkan, while the young JYO musicians practise the wonderful music they are to perform the following week for the JYO end of year junior concert in the Drogheda Arts Center. The open rehearsal will be followed by a Q&A session with Ailbhe and the JYO musicians where children will have the opportunity to find out about a variety of orchestral instruments.

Primary and secondary school children are invited to become members of the Julianstown Junior and Senior Youth Orchestras and be introduced to classical music in a fun and friendly manner. The Julianstown Youth Orchestra was founded in 2011 by Maria and Fergus Sheil. It now has approximately 100 members organised into junior and senior orchestras.

The junior section of over 40 members, consists of mostly primary school children, under the direction of conductor Ailbhe Kirkan. These blossoming musicians are looking forward to performing for friends and family at their end of year performance of classical, popular and contemporary music in the Drogheda Arts Center on Sunday 26th May.

The JYO senior orchestra comprises of over 60 very talented young musicians from the local area. Together with their conductor and musical director, Fergus Shiel, the group has had the opportunity to perform at many prestigious events and concerts, including the National Concert Hall in February where they received an achievement award from the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras. They also performed with the Dublin Youth Orchestra in the Solstice Arts Center in Navan in March and are currently rehearsing a variety of music for their trip to Portugal in June to collaborate and perform with a youth orchestra there.

Julianstown Youth Orchestra also facilitates tuition in a wide range of instruments and has an instrument rental policy particularly for some of the more expensive and less common instruments.

JYO are looking forward to welcoming the community to share what they do.

Come and join your local youth orchestra at Coláiste na hInse on Saturday 18th May between 10am and 11am for a fun hour of exploration and discovery. It could be the beginning of a long musical journey for a player who would like to develop musical skills and make new friends with a shared interest. For further information, please visit www.jyo.ie