



**simply  
singing**

# Vocal 14/07/17 Conference

at The Cornerstone

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## Simply Singing at The Cornerstone

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### 14th July 2017 -

## Simply Singing at The Cornerstone -

Liverpool Hope University - for Teachers, Music Coordinators, Vocal Tutors and for all who love to sing!

### Programme of Events

Time	Event	What's Happening, Where?	Lead by
8.45am	<b>Registration</b>	Go to Coffee and trade stands in the Great Hall	
9.15am	<b>Welcome</b>	In the Great Hall	<i>Chris Lennie &amp; Cate Madden</i>
9.30am	<b>THE BIG SING</b>	In the Great Hall	<i>Ula Weber</i>
10.30am	<b>Workshop 1</b>	Singing through the curriculum (KS1) Cornerstone 114	<i>Janice Hadwin, Sue Payet &amp; Cate Madden</i>
		<b>From the top! Starting a choir, resources and improving the quality of pupil's singing (KS2) Great Hall</b>	<i>Shirley Court &amp; Stuart Overington</i>
		<b>Improve your Vocal Leadership - Intermediate (KS3+4 Vocal Tutors) Capstone 009</b>	<i>Ula Weber</i>
		<b>Sing and play - using the voice in instrumental lessons (Inst Tutors) Capstone 004</b>	<i>Janet Hitchen, Catriona Talbot &amp; Sue Hughes</i>
11.25am	<b>Coffee Break</b>	Go to Coffee and trade stands in the Great Hall	



## Simply Singing at The Cornerstone

Time	Event	What's Happening, Where?	Lead by
11.50am	<b>Workshop 2</b>	<b>Off we go! Getting singing started in your classroom</b> (KS1) <a href="#">Cornerstone 114</a>	<i>Sally Egan</i>
		<b>You can do it! Vocal Leadership for beginners (and the Terrified!)</b> (KS2/3) <a href="#">Capstone 009</a>	<i>Ula Weber</i>
		<b>But i'm not a singer! Improving the quality of singing in Whole Class Settings</b> (KS3+Inst Tutors) <a href="#">Great Hall</a>	<i>Shirley Court, Stuart Overington</i>
		<b>Singing futures - preparing your pupils for Higher Education</b> (KS4/5+Vocal Tutors) <a href="#">Capstone 004</a>	<i>Kate Gavaghan</i>
12.45pm	<b>Lunch</b>	<a href="#">Go to Coffee and trade stands in the Great Hall</a> <a href="#">Please bring your own as there are no shops near by.</a>	
1.30pm	<b>Strawberries &amp; Cream</b>		
1.45pm	<b>Primary Vocal Performance</b>	<b>Primary Performance (SKY) <i>SPEED</i></b> (or " <i>Faster, Faster and... Faster</i> ") – Pupils from St. Nicholas CofE Primary School <a href="#">In the Great Hall</a>	<i>Stuart Overington</i>
2.00pm	<b>Choir Launch</b>	<b>Launch of New Inter-Hub Youth Choir and updates</b>	
2.15pm	<b>KEYNOTE</b>	<b>Dr. Andrew Curran (Alder Hey Childrens Hospital)</b> Introduced by Jeremy Sleith	
3.05pm	<b>Plenary</b>	<a href="#">All in the Great Hall</a>	<i>Cate Madden &amp; Alison Corten</i>
3.20pm	<b>End</b>		





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# Workshop Descriptions

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### Workshop 1 Options

#### **Singing through the curriculum (KS1)**

**Janice Hadwin & Sue Payet**

**Cate Madden**

Music – still the scariest subject to teach? Singing is the answer.

For KS1 classroom teachers and Primary music co-ordinators, this session will explore the potential of vocal activity as a more accessible method of delivering curriculum music. Practical taster activities will introduce participants to new supporting teaching materials to be introduced in 2017/18. This session will include some free lesson plans to accompany the practical activities.

#### **From the top! Starting a choir, resources and improving the quality of pupils' singing (KS 2)**

**Dr Shirley Court**

**Stuart Overington**

The dynamic duo return!

For practitioners of all abilities currently working with any type of singing group, this session will cover what to look and listen for to help your group progress and will be packed with simple and effective practical advice

#### **Improve your vocal leadership – Intermediate – Ula Weber**

Already conducting regularly but unsure how to take it to the next level?

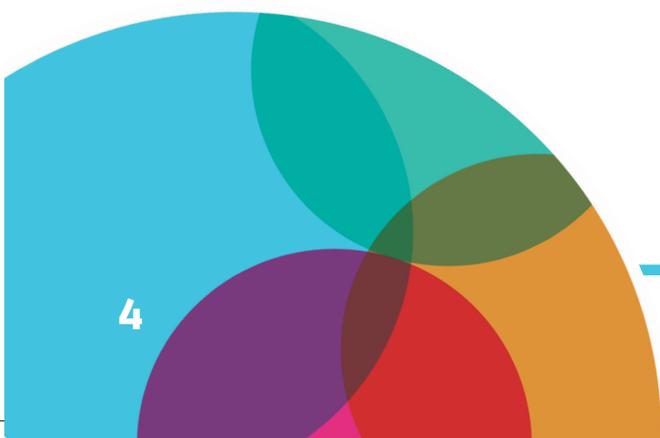
Primarily aimed at vocal tutors and school music leaders, this session will provide practical next and KS3 repertoire steps for those wishing to continue their journey towards confident and successful vocal leadership.

#### **Sing and play - using the voice in instrumental lessons**

**Caitriona Talbot, Janet Hitchen and Sue Hughes**

Unsure of how singing fits in with your instrumental teaching?

This session will provide practical advice on using the voice to support teaching and learning in instrumental lessons. Participants will be asked to bring their instruments and share examples from their own practice with time for discussion.



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# Workshop Descriptions

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## Workshop 2 Options

### **Off we go! Getting singing started in your classroom (KS1)**

**Sally Egan**

Ideal for the classroom teacher, this entry level practical session will explore a simple, structured method that can be used in any KS1 setting. Participants will leave with the confidence and skills to begin the musical journey of singing with their class!

### **You can do it! Vocal Leading for beginners and refreshers! (KS2/3)**

**Ula Webber**

Yes you can! Vocal leadership is accessible to all and will help to improve the singing of class groups. This practical session will provide an introduction to simple techniques, such as starting and finishing a song. Participants will leave with the skills to get those arms waving with confidence!

### **But I'm not a singer! Improving the quality of singing in Whole Class Settings**

**Dr Shirley Court**

**Stuart Overington**

For anyone involved in the delivery of WCET, whole class singing or instrumental lessons, this session will provide practical activity, advice, resources and ideas that will help participants to improve the quality of pupils' singing in simple and effective ways.

### **Singing futures - preparing your pupils for Higher Ed**

**Kate Gavaghan**

For specialist vocal tutors and those working with KS3 and beyond, this session will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about what will be expected from pupils post-18. Included will be advice on how to prepare pupils and equip them with the skills and knowledge to enter the next phase of their education with confidence and how best to prepare for the audition process.



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### Biographies

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#### Dr. Shirley Court



Shirley has spent her entire teaching career working with young people of all ages and abilities, in order to motivate and improve their singing. In September 2006 she was awarded with an Honorary Degree of DMus for her work as a conductor of Youth Choirs and Music in Schools from the University of Leicester.

Shirley was the conductor of both the Senior Girls and Junior CBSO Youth Choruses from September 1995 until July 2009. In September 2008 she was appointed as Director of the Halle Children's Choir and prepares the choir working alongside world famous conductors for prestigious concerts. Recently the choir has been involved in the filming for a BBC production of Victoria Wood's play 'That Day They Sang' called "Tubby and Enid."

Up until April 2014, Shirley was the Director of the Cheshire Youth Choir for twelve years. Shirley also teaches singing to diploma level and many of her past pupils have a successful singing career.

Her ladies choir, The Chanterelles won the Llangollen International Eisteddfod in 2011 and The North Wales Choral competition in November 2011. The Choir were chosen to take part in the Cork International Choral Competition in May 2012 and in October 2013 won the Ladies category in the Isle of Man Choral Competition.

Shirley was privileged to be one of the three adjudicators for the BBC Choir of the Year held at the Bridgewater Hall and is a regular adjudicator at the Manchester Choral Competition.

Shirley also acts as a consultant on many National Singing initiatives and delivers inset courses for SKY Music Hub. She is delighted to be the Programme Leader for the Hallé Mentoring scheme for Vocal leaders in the Greater Manchester Music Hub.

#### Dr. Andrew Currin



Dr. Andrew Currin is a practicing paediatric neurologist at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool and an Independent Thinking favourite for many years, Andrew makes the complicated workings of the learning brain not simple but understandable. And he does it in such a way that everyone can use what they have learned to improve what goes on in school. Apart from his hospital and education work, Andrew has also been featured on TV and is the author of *The Little Book of Big Stuff About the Brain*.





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### Biographies

#### Sally Egan



Sally Egan was born and educated in Leeds. She read music at Cambridge University and studied singing in Paris with Maria-Grazia Dilluvio and in London with Lillian Watson. She has sung opera and oratorio all over the world under the baton of many leading conductors including Claudio Abbado, Daniel Harding, William Christie and Pierre Boulez. Sally has specialised in training treble voices for many years and has worked as a vocal coach and singing teacher in some of the UK's finest choral foundations, including Westminster Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

Sally returned to Leeds eight years ago to take up a position as Choral Director of the Leeds Cathedral Choir School project, part of the Diocese of Leeds' acclaimed singing programme. Sally's work at the choir school is attracting attention from educationalists and musicians alike, as the project is clearly enriching the lives of the children involved.

Sally is a vocal and musicianship practitioner for the Voices Foundation and she also works as a vocal animateur and workshop leader for Opera North. Sally is Musical Director of Sally's Army, a women's voice choir based in Otley and Ilkley and which raises money for Heart Research and St Martin's Children's Hospice.

#### Kate Gavaghan



Kate has been teaching singing and acting for 20 years and has been a professional singer for over 30.

Since completing a Masters Degree in Music Performance (singing) at Salford University in 2006 Kate has been teaching on a Musical Theatre Degree Programme for which she also wrote the specification for all singing modules.

Initially trained in The Estill Voice Training System, over the last 7 years Kate has been mentored by Dr Gillyanne Kayes and Jeremy Fisher – known as Vocal Process – and she is one of a small number of accredited VP teachers in the country.

Kate brings together a deep understanding of vocal anatomy and physiology with a 30 years of performance skills and an understanding of the psychology of performance in order to bring the best out of her students.





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### Biographies

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#### Janice Hadwin

Janice Hadwin has nearly 30 years experience teaching in Primary Schools in inner city Manchester, Cumbria and Sefton. She completed a PGCE in Primary Education at Sheffield Hallam University in 1989 and has spent 23 years employed as an infant teacher and music co-ordinator.

She was also a SENCO for 12 years. She is passionate about the multitude of benefits that music education brings to young children and now works supporting schools in Sefton and Knowsley as a specialist music teacher.

#### Janet Hitchen



Janet has over 40 years' teaching experience in various educational sectors; peripatetic, primary, secondary and further education.

She began her teaching career as a peripatetic strings teacher with Lancashire, when in addition to travelling round various schools she taught violin and piano at the highly competitive Lancashire County Music School, which took place in Ormskirk on Saturdays.

Later posts included peripatetic teaching with Wigan, lecturing in Music at Wigan and Leigh College, and Head of Performing Arts at a Wigan high school – a post she held for 25 years.

Since 'retirement' in 2011, Janet has worked part-time as an educational mentor, and as an instrumental tutor with Sefton, where in addition to upper strings tuition, she teaches WOPPS

recorder - and (as a 'non-singing specialist') singing to an junior school's entire KS 2 pupils at once!

Janet is a Fellow of Trinity College of Music, and holds an MA in Education from Lancaster University, focusing on educational psychology relating to music. She is well-known throughout the North-West as a violinist and leads the orchestras for several choral societies and shows.

#### Sue Hughes

Sue Hughes is a vocal, curriculum and keyboard teacher for Knowsley Music and Performing Arts Service. She has over 30 years of classroom experience across all ages and runs a variety of vocal ensembles in Knowsley, including project work for the SKY hub.

She has directed and sung in many ensembles and currently sings with Just Midnight, an award-winning acapella choir and the jazz vocal group Mainstreet.



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### Biographies

#### Stuart Overington



Stuart is a choral director and vocal animateur based in Manchester. Having trained as the RNCM as an opera singer he has since worked for a number of music services and companies across the North West. He started at Sefton music Service 5 years ago working with Sefton Voice, the services upper voices youth choir. Over the past few years he expanded that work to also run a series of singing projects in various primary schools. We now run these projects regularly throughout the SKY hub bringing together hundreds of young people each term to sing what they have learnt.

Alongside this work Stuart has worked as a choral conductor for a number of groups. Currently he is director of the Hallé Youth Choirs, Chethams School of Music Chamber Choir and RNCM's choirs as well as working regularly with Opera North And the Royal Opera House.

#### Sue Payet



Sue is an experienced Classroom Practitioner, having taught for over thirty years in KS 1 and 2 settings, as well as in Learning Resource and Nurture bases supporting pupils with additional needs. During this time she has also worked in Higher Education, most recently with PGCE Music Specialists delivering a Music Leadership programme.

In the past fifteen years she has worked as a Music Specialist in primary schools teaching children from Nursery to Year 6 age range. In partnership with Sefton Music Service colleagues Sue planned and delivered the vocal Think Singing programme in a number of schools. Singing is an integral part of her classroom practice and she is eager to help children find and use their singing voices. She believes music is accessible to all and that, in

addition to the final performances we can enjoy in our schools, the processes involved in music activities can help build self-esteem, communication and social skills enhancing the whole class environment.



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### Biographies

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#### Caitríona Talbot



Caitríona Talbot was born and educated in Dublin. After graduating in Music and Irish from The University of Dublin, she pursued further studies in flute and singing at The College of Music, Dublin and The Royal Irish Academy of Music. She spent some years teaching in Dublin and in 1994 moved with her family to East Yorkshire. She soon established herself as a teacher of woodwind and singing, working in East Yorkshire, Hull and Scarborough. Another family move brought her to Sefton, where she has once again established herself as a teacher, working in Sefton, Cheshire West and at Edge Hill University.

Caitríona has spent many years working with large groups, as a singing animateur, teacher of first access instrumental lessons, and as a choral and instrumental conductor. She has looked to put her academic and instrumental experience, her work on Kodály, and her recent completion of a Post graduate Cert in Applied Professional Practice (Vocal Pedagogy) to best use in her working life.



## Biographies

### Ula Weber



*"I have yet to see anyone mesmerise 250 children at a time more than Ula. From first meeting she has the children completely under her spell, inspiring confidence & belief that they can do something extraordinary together."*

Edward Armitage, JAM Chairman

A former "Outstanding" (Ofsted 2004) primary school teacher, Ula is a leading conductor, teacher trainer and workshop leader, whose work has taken her around the UK and as far afield as Uganda, Ukraine, Thailand, China and New Zealand.

Ula is an expert in developing choral and classroom singing and has delivered singing strategies for Sandwell and Dudley Music Hubs. She has had a number of songs and arrangements published and is the Co-founder of music education organization

Vocal.Point. Ula sings with the renowned choir Ex Cathedra and is one of their lead education vocal tutors. She co-created Ex Cathedra Education's internationally acclaimed and award winning Singing Playgrounds project.

A trained choral conductor, Ula currently conducts CBSO SO Vocal (a 200-strong community choir run by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra) and the Birmingham City Council Choir (as featured in the 2013 BBC2 programme 'The Choir', with Gareth Malone). She is the founder and Musical Director of Echo Doliny (The National Polish folk choir) and, most recently, the National Teachers' Choir.

As Head of Events for the National Choral Organisation, Sing for Pleasure (SfP), Ula organises conducting and singing courses across the UK and abroad. She regularly tutors on SfP conductor training courses and is Course Director for their annual Summer School.

Ula guest conducts at national and international events and is regularly invited to lead singing, training, and corporate workshops for organisations including ABCD, BBC, G4S, Glyndebourne, NYCOS, Music Mark, Sing Up, Sistema Scotland and numerous Music Hubs across the UK.



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## Notes

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