

Big May Meet Up 2015 – Minutes

Wednesday 13 May 2015 6pm-8pm

The Albany
Douglas Way
Deptford
London
SE8 4AG

Attendees:

Jess Loveless (Programme Coordinator)	Amelia Braz
Jenn Raven (Programme Manager)	Michael Olorunfemi
Nicole Williams (Wired Office Assistant)	Alika Jeffs
Sian Dicker-Thorne	Marcos Melo
Adem Holness	Loretta Tossen
Aldean (Heart n Soul)	Kayleigh Cheer
Harry (Heart n Soul)	Juliana Ekhosuehi
Richard Phoenix (Heart n Soul staff)	Alex Irons
Keiran Pearson	

Updates from Jen and Jess

Jenn and Jess updated the team on recent Wired4Music activities, the new website that will soon be online and potential future projects. Topics discussed included:

- Ambassadors and Advocates – Facilitate and promote Wired4Music at events, co-facilitating at youth consultations). Advocates promote Youth Voice on behalf of Wired4Music speaking on panel discussions and at conferences. Both of these roles are usually paid and there will be opportunities to apply.
- Wired4Music members requested: “Please explain this better on the website so that the members are clear of the roles and what they are signing up for”.
- Heart n Soul suggested that if W4M are looking at holiday consultations in schools, SEND schools are considered.
- New funding stream for the next three years from Youth Music has just been awarded. This is to be used in a number of areas including member-led projects, advocacy and assistant placements and a new Leadership Programme. Under the Youth Voice area of work, we are also looking at two pieces of research: The Taking Off projects, which looks at progression routes for young people in challenging circumstances, and ReWired Spotlighting; research which looks at organisations across the UK who are delivering good youth leadership in music opportunities.

WIRED4MUSIC

Questions Raised by Members:

- What career opportunities are there at Wired4Music that aren't to do with leadership roles?
- What do these members get out of Wired4Music?
- What is the message of Wired4Music and what is it that Wired4Music say they do? (This may be in Manifesto).
- What is there for musicians to do who only want to play music, not necessarily attend meetings.
- If there are any opportunities for performances can more be advertised online?
- Can there be a slogan or phrase created describing what Wired4Music do?
- Can Wired4Music do more campaigning and building in order to match the manifesto?
- Can Wired4Music speak with the head of music at schools to give young people more opportunities at school?

Member Led Activities

- Instrumental - **Please refer to appendix A**
- Choir – **Please refer to appendix B**

Wired Business

- During meetings: plan what do we want to do with the manifest, perhaps plan a networking event with the opportunity to perform as well. Plan a Wired4Music 5th birthday party.
- Regarding member led meetings members would like half the meeting led by the members and the other half led by the Wired4Music staff.
- New ways to record meetings: Through filming and voice recording. (Highlights of filming could be put on the website).
- **For other information about the new Wired4Music website and member views please refer to appendix C, D and E.**

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Appendix A

Main topic discussed: **Wired4Music Band**

How can this happen? Members' thoughts:

- Start off with a massive Jam Session/Gig: Members will be able to listen to eachothers' performances and give feedback. This will allow everyone to understand what level everyone else is and how they can fit together as a band.
- This could be a private gig help possibly at Rich Mix.
- Members would like a broad range of musical genres merged together in the band.
- Once the band was established various rehearsals could be held at Rich Mix.
- Various different rehearsal groups as this will make it easier for everyone to attend.
- Groups could either be genre specific or mixed depending on what members feel is best.
- If music was written and recorded, members suggested that it could be published on the Wired4Music SoundCloud and YouTube.

Appendix B

Main topic of discussion: **Wired4Music Choir**

- Recruitment for the choir could take place through the Wird4Music website and social media.
- Members would like a Wired4Music leader to be involved in the choir. Also a trainee leader could be allocated.
- Paid and voluntary roles will be incorporated into the Choir, for example and accompanist (paid), musical leader (paid), trainee leaders (voluntary).
- Members feel that it is important for there to be strong and clear branding for the choir in order for the choir to have it's own identity.
- An administrative role will be delegated to someone who will be responsible for the organisation of it all.
- The venue for rehearsals ideally could have good quality microphones and speakers.
- Members would like short weekly sessions around 1½ hours long to practise for the choir.

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Appendix C

What the members thought of the new Wired4Music website:

- “I like the new design but I don’t feel that the website needs updating this much”
- “More videos and visuals should be incorporated”
- “The background is a bit dark, if brighter it would seem more exciting”
- “I love how modern it looks now”
- “Introduce team Wired4Music on the website with mini profiles – similar to the SoundConnections website”
- “An update of new photos for the members would be good”

Appendix D

Why are you involved with Wired4Music?

Members said:

- “Because of my passion for youth music”
- “Because of the friendly, nice people”
- “For my professional development”
- “I want to make a difference to those people who’ve not had as many opportunities as I’ve had”
- “To connect what SGS does with what Wired4Music does and to offer my skills to the team”
- “It’s a great chance to help me make a home for myself in the performing world”
- “So that I can encourage the youth voice activity with other organisations across London”
- “So I can find out about opportunities and how to get involved with music marketing and administration”
- “To meet with like minded people and to increase my knowledge of music”
- “To make a difference for my life as a musician in London and to maximise my opportunities whilst helping and supporting my peers”
- “So I can network and develop my professional skills”
- “I have big hopes for Wired4Music, I want to grow creatively and be able to see how young Londoners engage with music”
- “I’m very interested in opportunities for youth music”

Appendix E

What Else Could Wired4Music Offer/Do?

Members said:

- New merchandise e.g shirts and new promotional material.
- Articulate what Wired4Music do in a clearer manner.
- Talking/campaigning to politicians and policy makers.
- Explore links with RSA.
- Create a Wired4Music orchestra which could be put on SoundCloud.
- Wired4Music goes on tour (musicians).
- More support regarding how to promote and brand yourself, how to freelance, fund yourself and applying for opportunities.
- Masterclasses/seminars with industry experts.
- Information on how to get involved with music hubs.