

### Music for Youth: National Festival

This letter is for members of the following ensembles:

- Iris Quartet
- Guys & Dolls
- County Youth Big Band
- NYPE
- County Youth Orchestra
- County Training Wind Orchestra



Congratulations on being invited to participate in the Music for Youth National Festival!

The event will take place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July, in Birmingham, and this letter outlines the information we are able to confirm at this stage. Please scan the QR or follow the link to use the online form to confirm whether you are available to perform:

<https://forms.office.com/e/A0McAbrvTn>

Please complete and submit this form by **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**, even if you have already confirmed availability with your group leader.

### Tickets

Tickets for the Festival are now on sale from the B:Music website, or by calling 0121 644 6140 [Music for Youth: National Festival 2026 | B:Music](#)

Please ensure you have checked the performance venue and session times of the group(s) you wish to support before selecting your tickets. It is also possible to book full-day or weekend tickets, which allow entry to most sessions (see full details on the website).

Group name	Date and time of performance session	Performance venue
Iris Quartet	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 10.15am-12.15pm	Justham How Room
Guys & Dolls	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 3.45pm-6.15pm	CBSO Centre
County Youth Big Band	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm-9.30pm	Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space
NYPE	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 10.15am-1.00pm	CBSO Centre
County Youth Orchestra	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 10.15am-12.45pm	Symphony Hall
County Training Wind Orchestra	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 4.30pm-7.00pm	Symphony Hall

### Travel

Where we have booked coaches, these will depart and return to NMPAT, according to the day schedules further down this letter.

There will be a cost of £20 per student for coach travel. If a student is travelling on more than one day, only one payment is due.

Payment for all coach seats will be requested after all coach forms have been submitted, and we are certain of the viability of the proposed coaches.

There may be some space for supporters to travel on the coaches – please indicate any requests on the online form. Requests will only be confirmed once all student forms have been received. Seats for supporters will cost £25 per person.

Please complete the online form, to confirm your travel plans, no later than **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**.

### **Expectations and behaviour**

Whilst traveling on the coach, students must use the seatbelts provided. Any rubbish must be placed in bins or taken with you.

There will be very limited free time whilst in Birmingham and students will remain in the relevant auditorium to support other performers in their session. We encourage students to bring plenty of food and drink for the day, as facilities inside all venues are limited and costly.

Whilst taking part in the Festival, students are representing themselves, their ensemble, NMPAT, and Northamptonshire. They should be on their best behaviour at all times and adhere to the NMPAT Code of Conduct (available at [www.nmpat.co.uk/policies](http://www.nmpat.co.uk/policies))

Where required, there will be a nominated member of staff to accompany students while walking between Festival venues. No student should leave the group unless the group leader is aware and has given permission.

### **Absence from school**

If your ensemble is due to perform on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, you may need to be absent from school in order to travel to / participate in the performance. It is your responsibility to obtain the necessary permission from your headteacher - please send a copy of the absence authorisation to [office@nmpat.co.uk](mailto:office@nmpat.co.uk)

Please contact the NMPAT Office if you need any support with your absence request: [office@nmpat.co.uk](mailto:office@nmpat.co.uk)

### **Students performing with school groups**

Some students will be performing with school groups on the same day as they are performing with NMPAT ensembles. We will already have identified this as part of our planning, and will liaise with schools to ensure that supervision and responsibility for those students is transferred appropriately.

### **Daily schedule**

On the following pages is a schedule for each day, including travel information, performance times and other details you need to be aware of.

Should you have any questions after reading this information please contact Tommy Cundell, Events Co-ordinator: [tcundell@nmpat.co.uk](mailto:tcundell@nmpat.co.uk)

- [Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July - page 3](#)
- [Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July - page 4](#)

### **Next steps**

1. Obtain permission to be absent from school, if necessary
2. Complete the online form, even if you are not able to attend the event, by **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**: <https://forms.office.com/e/A0McAbrvTn>
3. Make payment for student coach travel, via the **NMPAT Shop**: [www.nmpat.co.uk/payment](http://www.nmpat.co.uk/payment)
4. For supporter coach seats, please wait for confirmation before making payment

# NMPAT

Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Name of group	Group leader	Venue	Session
Iris Quartet	Richard Smith	Justham How Room	10:15am-12:15pm
Guys & Dolls	Jemma Adams	CBSO Centre	3:45pm-6:45pm
County Youth Big Band	Nikki Hannent-Corbett	Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space	7.30pm-9.30pm

### Also performing on this day:

- Y-Not Arts
- Northampton School for Boys Symphonic Winds
- Northampton School for Boys Big Band
- Sponne School Jazz Orchestra

### Iris Quartet

Coach departs Northampton School for Boys – details to be confirmed by school

9.30am Iris check in at Justham How Room

10.15am Session starts – Iris performance (first in session)  
When not performing, students will watch performances from other groups

12.15pm Session ends  
Coach returns to NSB – details to be confirmed by school

### Guys & Dolls

1.00pm Arrival at NMPAT and load coach

1.30pm Coach departs NMPAT

3.15pm G&Ds check in at CBSO Centre

3.45pm Session starts

4.55pm G&Ds performance  
When not performing, students will watch performances from other groups

6.45pm Session ends

7.15pm Coach returns to NMPAT

9.00pm Estimated arrival back at NMPAT

### County Youth Big Band

4.45pm Arrival at NMPAT and load coach

5.15pm Coach departs NMPAT

7.00pm CYBigB check in at Jennifer Blackwell Performance Space

7.30pm Session starts

8.38pm CYBigB performance  
When not performing, students will watch performances from other groups

9.30pm Session ends

10.00pm Coach returns to NMPAT

11.45pm Estimated arrival back at NMPAT

## Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July

Name of group	Group leader	Venue	Session
County Youth Orchestra	John Bickerdike/Richard Smith	Symphony Hall	10.15am-12.45pm
NYPE	Tim Green	CBSO Centre	10.15am-1.00pm
County Training Wind Orchestra	Andy Macfarlane	Symphony Hall	4.30pm-7.00pm

### Also performing on this day:

- Too Many Saxz
- Metalworks (NSB)
- Bishop Stopford School Brass Band

### County Youth Orchestra & NYPE

7.15am CYO & NYPE arrival at NMPAT and load coach  
 7.45am Coach departs NMPAT  
 9.30am CYO check in at Symphony Hall  
 10.15am CYO session starts - CYO performance (first in session)  
 When not performing, students will watch performances from other groups  
 11.00am NYPE to move from Symphony Hall to CBSO Centre (10 mins walk)  
 11.50am NYPE performance  
 When not performing, students will watch performances from other groups  
 12.45pm CYO session ends  
 1.00pm NYPE session ends, students to walk back to Symphony Hall  
 1.45pm Coach returns to NMPAT  
 3.30pm Estimated arrival back at NMPAT

### County Training Wind Orchestra

1.30pm Arrival at NMPAT and load coach  
 2.00pm Coach departs NMPAT  
 3.45pm CTWO check in at Symphony Hall  
 4.30pm Session starts - CTWO performance (first in session)  
 When not performing, students will watch performances from other groups  
 7.00pm Session ends  
 7.30pm Coach returns to NMPAT  
 9.15pm Estimated arrival back at NMPAT