

WOODCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL
BEST SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT - 2015 WINNERS
MUSIC TEACHER AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

Woodcroft Primary School has been awarded the 2015 Music Teacher Awards for Excellence, Best School Music Department.



At a gala ceremony on Thursday 12th March the awards were presented by Classic FM's Margherita Taylor. Taking place at the stunning Grange St Paul's Hotel and attended by more than 230 guests from across the industry, the awards were presented on an evening that also included performances from Yamaha scholar and Guildhall student Jonathan Morris, and internationally renowned vocal group VOCES8.

Now in their third year, the Music Teacher Awards celebrate excellence in the field of music education, with 11 award categories ranging from Best Music Education Product to the Lifetime Achievement Award, for a seminal contribution to music education. The winners were chosen by an expert panel of judges.

Lynn Holman-Fox, CEO Barnet Education Arts Trust, commented

'Congratulations to Woodcroft Primary School who were selected as the winners of the award for the best school music department in the country! The school should be commended for the successful integration of music into the curriculum, performance opportunities for the children, their work with the music hub and other partners and their tireless attention to giving the children at the school the best opportunities'

This prestigious award confirms Woodcroft's reputation for providing outstanding Arts and Music education. Woodcroft is an Artsmark Gold school and an accredited Arts Award Assessment Centre. The school regularly participates in prominent local and national performances, and is a frequent host for events organised by the Barnet Music Hub in partnership with BEAT (Barnet Education Arts Trust).

Woodcroft has also developed an exciting Arts and Music programme titled AIM@Arts. This was identified by Ofsted in a recent inspection as providing excellent enrichment opportunities.

'The wide ranging curriculum is enhanced by an extremely varied and well attended enrichment programme. An aspirational programme of study called 'AIM@' supplements the curriculum...and inspires pupils to do their very best.' **Ofsted Report Jan 2015**

Ian Harrison, Education and Skills Director, The London Borough of Barnet, commented

The principles and practice of 'inspiration and aspiration' reflected in your pioneering 'AIM@' curriculum encapsulates your motto 'Together Towards Success'... the distinctive nature of this enhanced curriculum is a real strength of the school. (Ian Harrison, 19th January 2015)

Craig Tallon, Headteacher at Woodcroft Primary School said:

'It was my aim as Headteacher to bring the highest quality music and arts education and facilities to the Woodcroft community. This award is the culmination of three years' work; developing our choirs, introducing instrumental tuition, implementing state of the art stage and performance facilities, the creating an exciting range of extra-curricular clubs and participating in national events at world class venues. With the help of our dedicated staff we are raising the confidence and self-esteem of all pupils through music and the Arts so they can benefit from the highest aspirations in life'

Caitlin Sherring, Music Specialist at Woodcroft Primary School, commented

'We are delighted that our commitment to the rapid growth of our Music Department has been recognised by the Music Teacher Awards for Excellence. The creation of a quality instrumental and vocal programme, providing every pupil with the opportunity to engage in an outstanding music education, is a priority at Woodcroft.'

To find out more about Woodcroft and its music curriculum please visit

<http://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/>

To find out more about **Music Awards** please see the accompanying press information sheet or visit <http://www.musiceducationexpo.co.uk/awards/>

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