



Founded 1125

Dear Parent/Carer/Guardian,

House Music Competition 2018

As I am sure you are already aware, this year's House Music Competition will be taking place at The Hexagon on Sunday 18th November. This competition is always one of the most notable highlights of our school calendar and I very much hope that you will be able to attend.

The purpose of this letter is to outline essential arrangements for the day, particularly as this is an 'off-site' activity. Reading School will assume that by returning the attached form you consent to your son participating as described unless notified to the contrary.

On the Day

- Each house will have a timed 75-minute slot in which to rehearse at The Hexagon as follows:

9.15am	School	1.45pm	West
10.40am	County	3.10pm	Laud
12.05pm	East		

- From 4.45pm there will not be any official facility for boys to remain on site and they should not be in the building at this time.
- All boys will need to return to The Hexagon no later than 5.15pm for final preparations.
- It is anticipated that the competition will finish at about 9.30pm. Day Boys are to be collected by parents directly from the Hexagon; Boarders will be escorted back to campus by duty staff.
- Boys are to wear full school uniform (clean, pressed and polished).
- No refreshments will be provided by the school so boys should take this into account when planning their day.

In order to finalise a seating plan for the evening it is vital that we know accurately how many boys are involved. So, if your son is confirmed as taking part, please fill in the form overleaf and return it to your son's Head of House no later than **29th October**. Any unused performers' seats will then be released for sale to the public and this may mean your son is unable to take part.

An innovation for this year is an expanded adjudication panel. Rather than a single judge we will have a trio of experts offering their feedback and thoughts on performances. A brief synopsis of who they are is attached to this letter for your information.

I very much look forward to seeing you and your son(s) at this exciting event.

Yours sincerely,

James Tunstill
Director of Music

READING SCHOOL, Erleigh Road, Reading RG1 5LW

T: 0118 9015600 F: 0118 9352755 E: secretary@reading-school.co.uk W: www.reading-school.co.uk



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Please return this to your son's Head of House no later than 29th October to ensure your son can take part.

Name: _____

House: _____

Form: _____

I confirm that my son (detailed above) will be taking part in the Reading School House Music Competition 2018.

I have noted and understood the information published above and made the necessary arrangements to ensure transport and availability.

Signed _____
Parent/Carer/Guardian

(delete as applicable)

Name _____

Date _____

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The Adjudicators 2018

Caroline Tyler

Award-winning concert pianist Caroline Tyler has performed at venues including the Barbican Hall in London, Enka Auditorium and Maya Sahnese in Istanbul, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts in Birmingham, and the Martinu Hall and British Embassy in Prague. She studied with Joan Havill at The Guildhall School Of Music and Drama from 2001 to 2007, graduating with a first-class Honours degree and Masters degree with Distinction in piano performance.

During her studies she was chosen to represent the Guildhall in the inter-collegiate Sir Anthony Lewis Memorial Prize, competing with candidates from the Royal music colleges and Oxbridge. As a result of winning the prize she was asked to perform at various UK venues. Caroline is also the winner of other awards including the Norah Sande Piano Competition, the Christopher Duke Piano Recital Competition and the Anglo-Czech Trust Piano Competition.

Caroline also enjoys music education, having given masterclasses and private piano lessons in Istanbul and in the UK; she has recently become a piano adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals and is an examiner for the ABRSM. She is also a solo artist with The Concordia Foundation of London, which has led her to perform full-house concerts in London at St-Martin-In-The-Fields and St James' Piccadilly.

Simon Pickering

Simon is a musical director and piano player with musical experience that is as broad as it is deep. The strength of his reputation lies in his sensitive and musical accompanying skills that make him one of the most sought after piano players on the circuit. He has earned a trusted reputation among those he has worked with over the years, and as such is able to call upon some of the country's greatest musical theatre talents.

Currently, Simon performs regularly in London on the musical *Dreamgirls*. Prior to this he spent several years on *Billy Elliott* and was the Associate Conductor of *We Will Rock You* at the Dominion Theatre. Other West End experience includes *Hairspray*, *Never Forget*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Cabaret*, *Dr Doolittle*, *Whistle Down The Wind* and *Grease*.

Simon is also an accomplished jazz pianist, a renowned vocal coach and a highly experienced and called-upon arranger.

Alex Baranowski

Alex is a Tony nominated composer and arranger and an alumni of Paul McCartney's LIPA. His work for film includes the twice BAFTA nominated *McCullin* released in cinemas by Artificial Eye directed by Jacqui Morris and produced by the British Film Company, Rankin Film and James Gay-Rees (*Senna*, *Exit Through The Gift Shop*).

His collaboration with Mercury winning band *The XX* was recently performed by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra along with the band, and broadcast live on Radio 1 and the BBC's red button. He has also recently collaborated with multi Klassik winning violinist Daniel Hope for his album *Spheres* alongside composers Max Richter, Ludovico Einaudi and Gabriel Prokofiev for Deutsche Grammophon, which debuted at number three in the US Billboard Classical charts.

Alex's work in theatre has included productions in the West End as well as the National Theatre, Royal Opera House, Donmar, RSC, Royal Court, Shakespeare's Globe, Sheffield Crucible, Old Vic Tunnels and 59e59 in New York. Recently these have included *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (directed by Michael Grandage, starring Daniel Radcliffe), *Frankenstein* (directed by Danny Boyle, as music associate with Underworld, nominated 2012 Olivier for Best Sound Design), *Earthquakes in London* (directed by Rupert Goold), *Hamlet* (directed by Nicholas Hytner, starring Rory Kinnear) and *Macbeth* (directed by Jamie Lloyd, starring James McAvoy). Both *Hamlet* and *Frankenstein* were broadcast live to cinemas for NT Live.

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