



arts
award

Arts Award and Music

TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

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Introduction



Why run Arts Award?

Arts Award is a unique set of qualifications that supports children and young people to enjoy the arts and develop as artists and arts leaders. They also acquire communication and professional skills which are essential for success in 21st century life. Since Arts Award launched in 2005 more than a quarter of a million young people have achieved awards at one of five levels - Discover, Explore, Bronze, Silver and Gold.

Arts Award offers young people the chance to:

- ▶ discover the enjoyment of creating and participating in any art form
- ▶ develop their creativity and leadership skills
- ▶ learn new skills and share them with others
- ▶ work with or experience artists and creative professionals
- ▶ gain experience and knowledge to progress into further education and employment

What does Arts Award offer to music educators?

- ▶ A framework for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 whole class ensemble music making and singing
- ▶ Extension for Key Stage 4/5 exam students and graded music exam students, giving them an extra qualification which demonstrates leadership and builds their knowledge of career paths
- ▶ An accredited progression pathway for unusual instruments, genres, and youth culture music - from ocarinas to GarageBand, from medieval choral music to grime
- ▶ Support for children and young people with special educational needs and those who need adapted musical instruments or assistive technology
- ▶ Measurable outcomes for project funders and other stakeholders

Front cover photograph: Bollywood Brass



Chris Hill is an award-winning young musician. He is currently at Oxford University on a Choral and Instrumental Scholarship. Chris used his Gold Award to stretch his classical musical talents by working with jazz musicians and to develop his leadership skills by organising a concert of young musicians. He says:

“Arts Award really extended my musical range and encouraged me to experiment. I was able to think outside the box and develop new skills beyond the classical music genre.”

How is Arts Award different from a graded exam?

Arts Award fits well alongside graded music exams or as a standalone qualification. Young people get involved in practical music-making, listen to live music, do research, find out about inspiring musicians or composers, and pass on musical skills to others. They collect evidence of their musical journey as they go along, using a wide range of formats, including online and accessible formats.

Arts Award	Qualification Level	Music Grades (equivalent standard)	School exams (equivalent level of difficulty)
Discover	Introductory Award	N/A	N/A
Explore	Entry Level 3	Initial (Trinity College London)	N/A
Bronze	Level 1	1-3	GCSE Grades D-G
Silver	Level 2	4-5	GCSE Grades A*-C
Gold	Level 3	6-8	AS Level (16 UCAS points)

In England, Arts Award is managed by Trinity College London in association with the Arts Council England working with 10 regional Bridge organisations.

First Access and ensembles, opportunities to play/sing and perform

Arts Award can capture progress in music making and encourage young people to reflect on their learning.



"Arts Award is a great way of supporting our Bollywood playing days, creating a place for children to make a note of their progress and what they have found out about music and musicians."

*Kay Charlton, Projects Manager,
Bollywood Brass Band*

Bollywood Brass Band have created an Arts Award Discover logbook as part of 'Whole Class Bollywood Blast!' a book of resources for First Access teaching (published by Spartan Press).

bollywoodbrassacademy.co.uk

Arts Award and music in practice

Progression routes

Arts Award's higher levels provide a framework for progression by asking young people to set their own challenges in their art form, build their knowledge of the music industry and explore training and career opportunities.

"Arts Award accreditation helps us work with secondary schools as well as developing our own team's skills in supporting progression routes. It's a great way for students to gain accreditation through our ensembles."

*Julie Sharpe, Manager for Teaching and Learning,
Newham Music Education Hub*

Newham Music has developed a range of Arts Awards offers for secondary schools. This has included adviser training, discounted moderation and supporting with overseeing the admin.

Arts Award can be delivered by any school or music organisation that works directly with young people. Current Arts Award centres deliver groups, choirs, music ensembles, festivals, Gifted and Talented programmes, special schools, and those working with disabled young people. Freelance, peripatetic and private music teachers can train to be an Arts Award adviser for organisations they work with. Arts Award works e



"We found **Arts Award Discover** was an excellent way of not only assessing how the children were progressing, but also helped children gain a much wider understanding of music making than they would normally do in a whole-class practical music project."

*Mike Simpson, Musical Director
Inspire Works*

Workforce development

Being an Arts Award adviser offers teachers and music educators a new way of supporting young people to progress and achieve, and is suitable for a range of abilities and settings.

artsaward.org.uk/training

"Training as an Arts Award adviser has been beneficial in my personal development as an arts practitioner and a valuable addition to my CV."

Kate Dunstone, Arts Award Adviser.

Inspirational experiences

Arts Award connects young people with professional musicians and generates a love of music.

Inspire-works used Arts Award for two big projects; Road to Rio 2014 and Bang the Drum 2016. Both projects involved over 1,600 children from 25 schools who spent a term learning drumming music to perform together and gain a Guinness World Record!

g music-based Arts Award programmes include schools, colleges, Music Education Hubs, Music Services, Music Schools, musical theatre and those with special educational needs.

equally well with one-to-one tuition or large groups.

Inspire-works, photo: Joshua Earle Photography (top-left)

Support



artsaward.org.uk/contact

Our dedicated support team can provide phone and email advice to trained advisors

artsaward.org.uk/adviserhub

The Adviser hub is a website packed with case studies and resources to inspire and support you with planning, delivery and assessment of Arts Award

artsaward.org.uk/support

Face to face support is also available to all Arts Award advisers and can be requested on the hub

artsaward.org.uk/accessfundinfo

The Access Fund offers an opportunity to apply for a small grant to support the costs of your Arts Award project with young people facing challenges



artsaward.org.uk/bridges

Arts Council England's 10 Bridge organisations support the development of Arts Award within their region

artsaward.org.uk/supporter

Organisations which have registered as Arts Award Supporters offer activities, events, expertise or resources which help young people working towards their Arts Award

“As an **Arts Award Supporter** Charanga provides a range of opportunities which can count toward an Arts Award, for example we are working with many music hubs who are supporting large numbers of Arts Award Discover.”



Mark Burke,
Director, Charanga

Inspire-works, photo: Joshua Earle Photography (top right)



The music you want to play, the performer you want to be, the recognition you deserve

trinitycollege.co.uk/music

As well as Arts Award, our graded exams in classical, jazz, rock and pop music, acting, speaking and musical theatre are all designed to develop students' skills from Initial/pre Grade 1 all the way through to Grade 8 (Grades 6-8 carry UCAS points).

trinityrock.com



Our exams are easy to enter and flexible so that students can choose the kind of additional tests they are best at and perform to their strengths. They also contain the most relevant and contemporary material. Join Trinity on Tour and get exclusive behind the scenes access to the new Trinity Rock and Pop syllabus. Look out for tour dates in your area at Trinityontour.com

trinitycollege.co.uk/cme

Those looking to progress from musical leadership into teaching may be interested in working towards the Certificate for Music Educators. The CME aims to develop music practitioners' pedagogical knowledge and reflective practice as well as covering the topics of safeguarding and equality, diversity and inclusion.

Photography from the Trinity archive (top)

Arts Award works with many partners

BBC Ten Pieces
bbc.co.uk/tenpieces



Arts Award and BBC Ten Pieces are working together to support schools who would like to deliver Arts Award's unique qualifications alongside their Ten Pieces project. It's a great way to recognise the creativity and engagement of students involved and earning an award can give students a great sense of achievement at the end of the process - and an added opportunity for schools to celebrate.

Friday Afternoons
fridayafternoonsmusic.co.uk



Friday Afternoons is about encouraging young people to sing. Their newly commissioned songs and support material aim to help teachers develop their students' skills - as performers, listeners and composers. All resources are available on the website for free, including downloadable Friday Afternoons log books.

Take It Away
takeitaway.org.uk



Take it away offers interest free loans from £100 - £5,000 for musical instrument purchases for young people when they are bought from approved retailers. The loan makes it easier to afford an instrument and associated equipment by allowing you to spread the cost over either 9 or 18 months.

Voice
voicemag.uk



This youth arts magazine provides interviews with musicians, information about careers and listings. Young people can post their own reviews of concerts and gigs and get support and inspiration in the Arts Award on Voice section.

Youth Music
youthmusic.org.uk



Youth Music encourages organisations to embed Arts Award in their music programmes as an accessible way of accrediting young people's creative and leadership skills and to provide a framework for structuring programmes to ensure a focus on young people's progression. It also helps provide evidence of impact and more importantly, young people are supported in their next steps.

Get in touch:

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