

# National Youth Arts Wales

Inspiring avid creativity in future generations of Welsh musicians through technology



**Funded by the local authorities and Arts Council of Wales, and managed by WJEC (the examinations board in Wales) as part of its commitment to developing Welsh creative talent, National Youth Arts Wales (NYAW) offers young people living in the Principality a range of opportunities to practise the performing arts.**

An internationally recognized part of NYAW's offering is the National Youth Orchestra of Wales (NYOW), or the "Nash" as it's known to its friends and followers. World famous NYOW alumni include composer Karl Jenkins and violinist Eos Chater, and special collaborations with world class performers such as harpist Catrin Finch. Many other members have gone on to become professional musicians in orchestras of worldwide repute such as the Royal Philharmonic and the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

A firm advocate of developing young talent through technology and education, and with a strong belief that business should support the arts, Pugh Computers has been working in partnership with

NYAW on a range of initiatives to invest in and develop future generations of Welsh performers. As education technology specialists, Pugh seeks to make a significant contribution to the sector and over the course of time, has developed a close affinity with NYAW, acting as a conduit to facilitating relationships with other Welsh business leaders and senior figures.

Founder and Managing Director of Pugh Computers, Jeffrey Pugh explains why: *"Wales and music are synonymous and there is a pride in seeing and hearing talented young Welsh students perform and develop. We value being able to support the young people who are writing new music for Wales."*

## Harnessing creativity through Sibelius



Pugh has become more closely involved in an education context through the NYOW's Young Composers Summer Residency programme.

Each year a cohort of over 100 young musicians drawn from schools and universities across the UK, all intent on developing their music-making and performing skills, attend an intense summer residency under the expert tutelage of experienced instrumentalists. A small group of these focuses on composition, working with an internationally-renowned, professional Composer.

Avid's Sibelius music notation software, supplied by Pugh, provides the technology platform for the young composers' work to be developed and includes a masterclass in how to use the software by a Sibelius expert, also arranged by Pugh.

The aim of this is to help the students acquire a deeper understanding of the software helping to improve the quality of their composition work. Sibelius also speeds up this process enabling them to meet the stringent course deadlines and finish their compositions in time for the end of programme concert performances. This experience gives the students real world insights into the realities of modern day composition.

Used by composers, arrangers, publishers, educators and students alike, Sibelius provides sophisticated yet easy-to-use tools for music notation and composition enabling the young composers to write music, annotate it and navigate their way through their compositions easily and quickly.

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## Bringing new skills, new styles and new music to life quickly



The benefits felt by the NYOW students in terms of development and compositions are clear.

As one participant put it: *"It's impossible to compose these days without some sort of notation software such as Sibelius. Having Sibelius and knowing how to use it well is incredibly useful as a composer. The better you are at Sibelius, the shorter the gap between your conception of music in your head and how it appears on paper becomes."*

Another member explained: *"In the multi-faceted, multi-skilled world of new music, the provision of Sibelius and the expertise shared in training enables a young composer like myself to not only equal others in my field, but also allows me to get ahead of the game in new music making."*

Pauline Crossley, Principal Manager of NYAW welcomes the partnership working with Pugh: *"Pugh are delightful to work with and we welcome their support and help in developing Wales' talented musicians and composers. Using the same software as professionals and supported by training in its use, has really helped our members grow in terms of skills and understanding of what it takes to be a successful composer. And judging by the feedback from those who attended the summer concerts, our young musicians have really encouraging futures ahead of them."*



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## How can we help you?

You have seen how we have helped Wales' young musicians through NYAW to develop their composition skills, confidence and creative potential.

Whether you need help identifying and implementing potential products and solutions to enhance your learning and teaching or to create a training package that has maximum impact for the school, covering all curriculum areas. Pugh can help.

To find out how we can add value to your IT solutions, why not call us today? You will find a warm, responsive and informed welcome waiting.

**01974 200 201 | [sales@pugh.co.uk](mailto:sales@pugh.co.uk)**