

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: For immediate release

Event Title: **Brent Makes Music 2010 – 8th July 2010
(Post Show Coverage)**

Organisers: Brent Music Service (A Brent Council Service)

Summary Details: An impressive and diverse collection of multi-cultural musical talent was met with standing ovations for the 1,500 young Brent musicians who performed at the showcase extravaganza, *Brent Makes Music 2010*, presented by Brent Music Service (a Brent Council Service), at Wembley Arena on Thursday, 8th July 2010.

The evening's programme presented a wide variety of instrumental and vocal performances, to suit every musical taste, and provided by the many BMS music ensembles, Brent schools and Brent Special Schools with which Brent Music Service work. Special guest soloist, Indira Grier (winner of Brent Young Musician of the Year 2010) also enthralled the performers and audience alike with her impressive performance on the cello. The close of the show encompassed all the performers and even included the audience for an overwhelming rendition of 'Hey Jude', enabling Wembley to realise that this was the night that '*Brent Makes Music*'.

Paul Fensom, Head of Brent Music Service, summed up the evening with the definitive words addressed to the audience: "*These were your children performing tonight and weren't they fabulous*" – needless to say, this was met with yet more rapturous applause, standing ovations and enthusiastic cheers as a clear indication of the audience's appreciation for the event and its talented performers.

Further Details: Brent Makes Music 2010 was supported by Brent Council and The Wembley Stadium Charitable Foundation. The event took place at Wembley Arena as one of the 'Wembley Arena Community Days'. Brent Music Service is a strong supporter of the 'Tune In – Year of Music' and 'Sing-Up' national music programmes and the evening's performances were a clear demonstration of their commitment to these initiatives.

Brent Makes Music 2010 opened with a 'student's perspective' video-insight on the progressive way music can be enjoyed through the innovative tuition, early learning classroom programme and evening centre services provided by Brent Music Service. The audience was then led to a spell-binding rendition of the event's sub-title music 'I Have A Song To Sing', where the Year 4 soloist Aashish Khimasia, was gradually joined by 5 further co-singers and finally a 1,400 strong massed choir represented by 36 of the 58 Brent schools with which Brent Music Service work.

This dramatic start to the event continued with an equally impressive programme throughout which showcased the many talented performers. There were resounding performances from the BMS Junior Ensembles who presented a collection of film favourites, well received debuts from both the BMS Flute Choir

and the new rock/pop group *the bAnd*, together with a chance to hear Year 1-6 representatives from the highly successful early learning classroom music programme – “*Music’sCool*”.

As winner of the Brent Young Musician of the Year 2010 competition, Indira Grier was welcomed as the special guest soloist and offered an overwhelming performance of the 1st Movement of Haydn’s Cello Concerto in C Major – mesmerising the audience and performers with her musicality and dexterity in performing this most challenging of classical works. Following an impressively striking introduction by the Brent Dohl Band, the BMS Junior Choir displayed their vocal versatility with a wonderful offering of African and Coldplay songs. The Brent Special Schools gave a moving interpretation of ‘Love Is All Around’ and clearly demonstrated how much fun and enjoyment music can bring to young people.

Leading the evening to a close, the BMS Youth Orchestra performed a breathtaking collection of music from West Side Story which brought the audience to yet another of the well deserved standing ovations of the evening. The magnificent finale of ‘Hey Jude’ filled Wembley Arena with an unparalleled musical sound as it encompassed all 1,500 singers and instrumentalists and even brought the audience into the spotlight when they were asked to join in with the singing!

Attended by a welcomed group of honoured guests, the evening was summed up when Mr John Christie, Director of Children & Families at Brent Council took to the stage and warm-heartedly commented on the *‘indisputable success of the evening and indeed the unquestionable success of Brent Music Service’s work throughout the London borough of Brent to bring a performance of such quality to this venue’*.

He continued to say that *‘during his 8 years at Brent Council he has had the enjoyment and benefit of seeing the constant development and improvement of the diverse range of music that young people in the borough can achieve because of the work of Brent Music Service.’* Continuing *‘after this evening’s performances it is easy to see why Brent Music Service is truly the best music service in the country that he has encountered throughout the many years he has been in this area of work.’*

After thanking Mr Christie for this notable accolade, Paul Fensom, Head of Brent Music Service, closed the evening by addressing the audience with the definitive words – *“These were your children performing tonight and weren’t they fabulous!”*

Notes

Further post-show information and a choice of alternative photographs will be available at www.BrentMusicService.com

Publicity Contact:

Clair Tomalin

Mobile: 07949 123 069

Email: brentmusicservice@justselect.co.uk