



15 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: St Martin's Christmas Concerts 2021

I am writing to invite you to one of our Christmas Concerts, which will be held on Wednesday 8 December and Thursday 9 December in the South Hall, both starting at 6pm.

For the first time ever, this year we will have two concerts in order to accommodate the large number of students taking part. All Year 7 students will be taking part, with students on the 'X' side of the year group performing in the first concert, and students in the 'Y' side performing in the second concert; a letter has already gone out to Year 7 parents confirming this.

The concerts promise to be extremely special occasions, particularly since they will be the first performing arts events to take place at St Martin's at full capacity since the pandemic first began over 18 months ago. In addition to our Year 7 performances, the concerts will feature an impressive number of extra-curricular ensembles, including the Junior and Senior Choirs, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Steel Pans, Brass Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble and Ukulele Ensemble. All of these groups will be performing in both concerts.

A sign-up sheet for solo performances is now up in the department, and students have a week to put their name down. Solo spaces are limited, and in the interests of fairness, a random draw will take place to determine successful participants. However, in order to accommodate as many solo spaces as possible, each concert will feature different soloists; they will not be performing in both. I will be contacting successful participants to inform them which concert they will be taking part in.

Tickets are priced at £6 for adults and £4 for students and are available to book via e-mail. Requests should be sent to our Performing Arts Technician and Administrator, Mr Scates at jscates@st-martins.essex.sch.uk. Payment for reserved tickets will be due at the door on the night. Whilst any unreserved tickets will be available to purchase on the door, this cannot be guaranteed so I would strongly encourage you to reserve your tickets to avoid disappointment. This is a fund-raising event, and all proceeds will be donated to the school.

Finally, as I'm sure you know, we were unable to do anything like this last year. However, we didn't let this stop us, and we resorted to the magic of technology in order to bring you a Christmas Concert unlike any other. The results can be found here, should you wish to see what our amazing musicians are capable of: <https://youtu.be/aLZpQiNHbbg>

Thank you very much in advance for your support, and I hope to see you at the concerts. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01277 238353 or mharris@st-martins.essex.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Harris
Head of Music

Be The Best You Can Be