

Friday Afternoons Evaluation Headlines

WHAT WERE THE MAIN WAYS PEOPLE HAD ENGAGED WITH FRIDAY AFTERNOONS?



- DOWNLOADED SONGS
- BEEN PART OF A SINGING GROUP
- REGISTERED AN EVENT
- ORGANISED A SINGING PROJECT
- ATTENDED TRAINING
- RECEIVED FUNDING
- OTHER

What are the benefits?

HIGH QUALITY RESOURCES AND REPERTOIRE

"It's a 'high end' product, not elite, but provides the 'highest common denominator' for young people"

"Good way to stretch and challenge young voices"

ENGAGING WITH CONTEMPORARY COMPOSERS

"You know it's going to be an established composer with a track record"

"A genuine way of getting classical music into school"

BEING PART OF SOMETHING 'BIGGER'

Pinning the songs on the map was seen as an event for children which showed them they were part of a much bigger thing

"I used it to lift singing in the school. I showed my music teacher what aspiration looks like... It's a very helpful part of our journey of a cultural shift around music."

"One of the things I value about Friday Afternoons is the musical quality. It would be a real shame to lose that. Others are doing singing for pleasure very well – it's the high quality which is unusual."

What are the barriers?

Fewer barriers than benefits were stated, however the two main barriers involved inaccessibility for students and teachers:

LITTLE GUIDANCE FOR THE TEACHERS

“The dotted system is a good starting point, but it is a bit overwhelming for the majority.”

RELEVANCE FOR THE STUDENTS

“A lot of our classes find it highbrow. That is a good thing as long as it is approached in the right way.”

“You have to train your audiences, particularly with young choirs - a lot of parents have never been to concerts. Even with the groups of ten songs, sometimes it's disparate to try and put them together as a set.”

What's next?

34% of our users said they'd like to see more of the same but we're using your thoughts to make some improvements



This evaluation was conducted through a discussion with our core group of practitioners, an online survey distributed via our e-newsletter, telephone interviews with 22 respondents from a range of organisations and with a range of levels of engagement and through a strategic planning workshop at Snape Maltings, with staff from across the organisation.

Huge thanks to Abigail D'Amore, who conducted this evaluation for Snape Maltings, and to all the brilliant people across the world who contributed to this important piece of work.