

RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION

WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DRAMA

The only Conservatoire in Wales, one of only eight in the United Kingdom and one of only three offering both Music and Drama;

Unique blend of courses at undergraduate and post graduate levels, including :
Music, Acting, Stage

Management, Theatre Design, Arts Management, Music Therapy and Popular Music.

Graduates working in the performing arts throughout Wales, the United Kingdom, Europe and

beyond

Over five hundred students in a flourishing centre for the Arts with six performance venues and over three hundred public performances each year

Major contributor to the cultural life of Wales

Significant contributor to the Arts and the economy

Close ties to a range of professional companies

Dynamic interface with national and international artists

Embarking on an ambitious five-year Development Plan which recognises

the importance of its position as a national institution for Wales;

its significance within the arts training framework of the United Kingdom;

the development of its international reputation and standing;

the nature and quality of its learning environment (teaching, courses and facilities);

the character and potential of its student body.

The College's Mission :

To provide performance-centred and practically-based courses which enable students to enter and influence the music and theatre professions and their related industries and, being aware of its unique position as the major provider of this type of education in Wales, to fulfil its responsibilities and develop its role in a European and international framework.

The College's objective :

To provide vocational training and education for students which will enable them to

pursue careers to national and international standards,

work in a diversity of employment within the music, theatre and related industries,

contribute to the development of the creative world around them.

The College defines the nature of its conservatoire education and training as being distinguished by the following criteria :

practically based training,

an emphasis on individual development,

the acquisition of performance skills,

the release and refinement of personal artistry,

a wide range of performance opportunities under professional conditions,

the integral participation of professional artists in programmes of work,

a specialised cultural environment.

WCMD Aims

To be an institution of national significance, uniquely providing vocational training for the performing arts professions and able to respond and contribute to the evolving cultural identity of Wales

To be recognised as an integral partner in the United Kingdom's training framework for the performing arts

To be an institution of international reputation in the capital city, providing a culturally diverse learning environment

To attract the most gifted students from a range of cultural, social and economic backgrounds, with a mix of age and experience

To provide a learning environment of excellence which offers students every opportunity to develop their artistic potential.