

PRESS RELEASE

2nd July 2008

Release Info: For Immediate Release

Event Title: Brent Makes Music ... and memories

Organisers: Brent Music Service (A Brent Council Service)

Event Date: 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 2nd July 2008, Wembley Arena

Event Summary: On Wednesday, 2nd July at Wembley Arena, the Brent Music Service (a Brent Council Service) made its mark with its presentation of a phenomenal musical spectacular under the banner of 'Brent Makes Music 2008 – The World In One Borough'. A spectacular culmination of talent and musical styles with over 1,500 of Brent's young musicians singing, playing, dancing and enthralling the extremely enthusiastic, near capacity audience.

This world famous venue (kindly provided as one of Brent Council's Wembley Arena Community Days) played host to an evening which promised to offer a musical tour of the world and it didn't disappoint. With the carefully structured programme choice, the audience experienced an eclectic combination of musical styles, instruments and techniques. Performances included the 80+ strong Brent Youth Orchestra, David Wong (Young Musician of the Year 2008) with his accompanying BMS Staff String Quartet Brent, 1,200 voices of the massed primary schools' choir, The BMS Junior Ensembles, 300 pupils from the Year 3 "Music'sCool" programme, Brent Dhol Drummers, Brent Special Schools and Brent Drums, together with Shlomo the human beatbox artist and the 'One Voice' Group who performed an extract from their unique repertoire of song and beatboxing (a Brent Council commissioned collaboration, the full version of which will be performed at the Brent 'Respect Festival' on 6th July).

The audience were presented with music originating from Africa, China, Jamaica, India, Poland, America, Great Britain, Finland, Brazil, Germany, the Caribbean and Brent itself! The wide variety of styles and the innovative choreography that was performed by the massed primary schools choir made an impressive visual impact - a sea of school uniforms from all the represented schools, moving in harmony, in every sense of the word!

Paul Fensom, Head of Brent Music Service was the presenter for the evening and he effectively guided the audience through the concert with fascinating facts, informative asides and wit, enabling the performing groups to relax and do their best on stage. In addition, the stage production was extremely professional, with full use of the resources available at this magnificent venue including big screen video enabling close up shots of 'spotlight' performers. Post show coverage is available at www.BrentMakesMusic.com, including downloadable photographs, video and keepsake publicity materials.

Each individual performer obviously deserves congratulations for their part in making this such an exciting evening to remember. The enjoyment and fun that was clearly evident (audience and performers alike) is also a tribute to those who

worked in the production of the event which helped to highlight the strong musical potential the borough has to offer.

Brent Music Service provide musical tuition to over 6,000 children a week through Brent schools and its own evening music centres, with approximately 71,000 children having been taught in the last 14 years. Brent Makes Music 2008 provided an ideal platform to showcase a selection of these schools, soloists and ensembles, to make music and to make memories which will live with the performers forever. It was an inspirational insight to the musical talent of Brent and the way in which Brent Music Service is embracing this potential, ensuring that it is *'making music today and protecting it for the future'*.

Graphics:





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Brent Music Service

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