

STAR-POST (MUSIC)



Have you enjoyed good conversations about your work with like-minded members of the music teaching fraternity? Have you had anxieties about your music teaching which you needed to talk about?

Platforms such as Communities of Practice provide us with the opportunities to find allies who feel the same as we do. Our conversations could be about 'human issues' we encounter in our work. As we talk, we begin to discover that we have similar experiences, and we belong to the same community. And as we talk, we enhance our professional practice and ourselves.

How can we have good collegial conversations? We learn to respect each other's vulnerability, and not to impose our opinion on others. We learn not to assume that others are seeking solutions from us. Our colleagues, like us, may only want to be seen and heard, and can find their own solutions at their own time. This 'seeing

with new eyes' and 'hearing with new ears' (Adams, 2004) is the essence of collegial conversations.

Sometimes we are so busy in our day-to-day routines that we hardly find the opportunity to have these collegial conversations. Thus, it is valuable that some of us initiate these conversations and create these platforms. Let's try to set aside professional sharing time, workshops or even informal coffee get-togethers to create the much-needed time and space for these important conversations to take place. By doing this, we are reminding ourselves that the 'work we share and the passion behind that work' is what makes the Heart of a Teacher!

REFERENCE

Palmer, Parker J. (2007) *The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher's Life*. United States of America, John Wiley & Sons. Chapter VI.

Adams, Marilee G. (2004) *Change Your Questions Change Your Life*. San Francisco, Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc.

The STAR Music Champions programme is one of the platforms on which we endeavour to grow collegial conversations amongst our fraternity. It develops teacher-leadership by enhancing music teaching competencies and promoting a teacher-led and collaborative culture within the Arts fraternity. Music STAR Champions were appointed for primary schools in 2012. In 2013, the Music STAR Champions programme will be extended to the secondary level, with a focus on increasing the engagement of students through creative music pedagogies. Primary and Secondary STAR Champions will also envision and define the guiding principles for student-centred arts learning that can foster 21st century competencies and student outcomes. Cluster Superintendents had been invited to nominate the respective cluster STAR Champions, who will attend customised programmes to develop their leadership and music education perspectives.

WHAT'S ON AT STAR



Music teachers who went on the Bali learning journey got together to 'sharpen their saw', performing and learning about Sundanese Gamelan.

WHAT'S ON AT STAR



Our primary music teachers engaged in a variety of activities in the Music Teachers' Practitioner Programme (MTPP). Whether singing, dancing, improvising on the recorder or planning student-centric music lessons, they approached all activities with enthusiasm.

WHAT'S ON AT STAR



Dr Eric Favaro, STAR's Visiting Fellow for Music, returned to our primary music classrooms to conduct lesson demonstrations for the sequel of 'The Art of Music Teaching'. Watch this space for information on this new DVD production.

P R O G R A M M E S

MILESTONE PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMMES	DETAILS	PARTICIPANTS
Orff Workshop	11 to 15 Mar 2013	CS1, 2 and 3 Music Primary teachers
STAR Senior Teacher Milestone Programme (Module 1)	14 to 15 Mar 2013	Only for nominated participants
Dalcroze Workshop * Registration details will be sent out	1 to 5 Apr 2013	CS1, 2 and 3 Music Primary teachers
Kodaly Workshop * Registration details will be sent out	June (to be confirmed)	CS1, 2 and 3 Music Primary teachers

UPSKILLING PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMMES	DETAILS	PARTICIPANTS
Music Teachers' Practitioner Programme (MTPP) – 4th Intake	Ongoing.	Primary teachers (by school nomination)
Audition for Music Teachers' Practitioner Programme (MTPP) – 5th Intake	March (to be confirmed)	Primary teachers (by school nomination)

PEDAGOGY IMPLEMENTATION

TITLE OF PROGRAMMES	DETAILS	PARTICIPANTS
STAR Champions (Secondary) Workshop	19 Feb 2013 to 1 Mar 2013	STAR Champions (Sec)
STAR Champions (Primary) Workshop	25 to 26 Feb 2013 (North clusters & South clusters) 4 to 5 Mar 2013 (East clusters & West cluster)	STAR Champions (Pri)

SUPPORTING PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMMES	DETAILS	PARTICIPANTS
The "What, Why and How" of Setting Exam Questions for Prescribed Work (Beethoven)	4 Mar 2013 (Mon) at STAR Blk K Level 1	For O Level Music and MEP teachers
The "What, Why and How" of Setting Exam Questions for Prescribed Source Material (Chinese Sizhu)	12 Mar 2013 (Tue) at STAR Blk K Level 1	For O Level Music and MEP teachers
Topics in Twentieth-Century Music Analysis: Motivic Analysis and Form Analysis in Stravinskyan Scholarship	Mar to Apr 2013 at St Joseph's Institution (Independent)	For O Level and A Level Music and MEP teachers

COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (COP)

NAME OF COP	DETAILS	CONTACT
Teachers' Choir	Every Tuesday, 4:00 to 6:00pm, Blk K Level 3 Recital Room	Please contact Ms Tan for details: Tan_Bee_Ngoh@moe.gov.sg
Dalcroze CoP	6 February 2013 for Primary and Secondary teachers who had attended the 2012 Dalcroze workshops	Please contact Mdm Suriati for details: Suriati_Suradi@moe.gov.sg
Orff CoP	27 February 2013 for Primary and Secondary teachers who had attended the 2012 Orff workshops	Please contact Ms Adeline Chen, Greenridge Secondary, for details: chen_weiling_adeline@moe.edu.sg
Javanese Gamelan	Starting in February 2013; Only 15 places available	Please contact Ms Tan for details: Tan_Bee_Ngoh@moe.gov.sg

WHAT'S ON AT THE ARTS SCENE?

HUAYI – CHINESE FESTIVAL OF ARTS

Huayi showcases various genres of works by Chinese artists and is held in tandem with Singapore's Chinese New Year celebrations. A plethora of events in theatre, dance, music and the visual arts are available.

**15 Feb 2013 to 24 Feb 2013,
Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay**

See Principal Guest Conductor Okko Kamu in action as the SSO presents familiar favourites.

**Friday 22 Feb 2013 and Saturday 23 Feb 2013, 7.30pm,
School of the Arts Concert Hall**

For information regarding special ticketing prices for school students, see link [Swire-SSO partnership](#) for details. A specially-designed music appreciation talk can also be arranged with a minimum booking of 20 tickets.

SINGAPORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:

Music of the Night

SINGAPORE CHINESE ORCHESTRA:

Rainbow Verses –
An Evening of Poetry
and Music

A special collaboration between the Singapore Chinese Orchestra and the National Theatre of China - this special programme is part of Huayi.

**Saturday 23 Feb 2013, 7.30pm,
Esplanade Concert Hall**

A celebration of music from around the world, Mosaic Music Festival 2013 includes Singapore debuts as well as all-time favourites from previous festivals.

**8 Mar 2013 to 17 Mar 2013,
Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay**

MOSAIC MUSIC FESTIVAL

GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS

The Singapore Repertory Theatre's The Little Company presents Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Music and lyrics have been specially written by the award-winning West-End musical theatre song writing duo of George Stiles and Anthony Drewe.

**8 Mar 2013 to 21 Apr 2013,
DBS Arts Centre – Home of SRT**

SPECIAL PROJECTS

The theme for **AEC-APSMER** is **Arts Education and the Community**. Conference presentations are on 17 to 18 Jul 2013, and learning journeys on 19 Jul 2013.

You can look forward to a general keynote address by Singapore Cultural Medallion Winner Dick Lee

and a music keynote address by Professor Lucy Green from the Institute of Education, University of London in the United Kingdom.

Look out for registration details or leave your contact details at www.arts2013.sg to be informed of further updates.

STAR WISHES OUR COLLEAGUES IN EDUCATION A VERY HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR



The Chinese character 福 means 'prosperity', and is usually used by the Chinese to symbolise ushering prosperity and good fortune into the new year. This auspicious design has an additional significance. It is a timely reminder for the New Year that we be contented with life's blessings (知足是福) and not be blinded by a hankering for the materialistic, the fads and fashion, carelessly discarding the old for the new.

Creative design: Lim Kok Boon
Singapore Teachers' Academy for the aRts, 2013



TO SUBSCRIBE TO STAR-POST (MUSIC), PLEASE CONTACT STAR (MUSIC) TEAM:

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