

## **STAR-POST (Music)**

Dear Colleagues,

Hope that you all have had a good start to the new year! At this time when our lessons begin to gain momentum, we ask ourselves a fundamental question:

*What are some key pedagogical considerations that would enhance the learning of our children and generate a successful, productive musical experience for them?*

When we observe how children perceive and participate in musical activities, we can better nurture their growth as musicians. A very important key is to know our children and their cognitive and physical developmental levels. We can create a physical environment that stimulates and increases their involvement and enhances their learning.

Tap on their prior knowledge, and involve them in discovering new knowledge through learning experiences. Empower the child to learn by inviting their input as it gives ownership to the learning experience as well as feedback to the teacher on the child's understanding of music skills and concepts.

Use a wide range of involvement strategies that cater to diverse learning styles -- visual, auditory, kinaesthetic (movement), tactile (use of puppets and other manipulative), analytical, creative, and descriptive. Children who are involved visually, aurally, and kinaesthetically in the music-making process often have a higher perception of musical events, stronger comprehension of music concepts, and are better able to communicate their understanding of music than those who are less involved.

Check for the child's understanding of a concept or skill. Restate, clarify and elaborate to enhance their understanding. Use recall questions, comprehension questions, games, and your own aural and visual assessment of the child as he or she participates in various music activities.

Best Wishes

**STAR (Music) Team**

To subscribe to **STAR-POST (Music)**, please contact:

Mrs Li Yen See, Programme Manager **Chan\_Yen\_See@moe.gov.sg, Tel: 6664 1499**

Mdm Suriati Bte Suradi, Programme Manager **Suriati\_Suradi@moe.gov.sg, Tel: 6664 1498**

Mdm Ho Hui Ping, Programme Manager **Ho\_Hui\_Ping@moe.gov.sg, Tel: 6664 1493**

Dr Wong Joon Hwang, Programme Manager **Wong\_Joon\_Hwang@moe.gov.sg, Tel: 6664 1494**

## *Introducing Our STAR Music Teacher-Leaders!*



Teacher-leaders play key and defining roles in our fraternity. Every teacher, with their own unique strengths, can contribute in various ways to the growth and development of our community – from being mentors, resource providers, stimulating the professional growth of colleagues, to being an advocate for teachers' work, and even change catalysts! And we at STAR are pleased to be involved in the growing and development of our Music Teacher-Leaders.

Our STAR Champions and STAR Associates will explore new pedagogies and mentor new teachers. We look forward to their sharing with the rest of our fraternity.

### **STAR Champions**

In 2012 STAR focuses on enhancing the competencies of Art and Music primary school teachers in delivering Learner-centred lessons. The main role of STAR Champions is to propagate learner-centred Art/Music lessons. These Champions will work closely with STAR in the following:

- Workshop sessions at STAR
- Trialling learner-centred lessons in their schools
- Cascading learner-centred lessons to the cluster schools through cluster workshops
- Guiding cluster teachers to trial learner-centred lessons
- Selecting learner-centred sample lessons for sharing

### **STAR Associates**

STAR Associates help build positive relationships among teachers within the fraternity and show initiative in designing learning experiences for all to strengthen each other's professional practice. The main role of STAR Associates is to be the path-finders for learner-centred pedagogies that nurture 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies through Art and Music. The Associates will be involved in either:

- Coaching Beginning teachers; or
- Leading in Pedagogy

References:

<http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/sept07/vol65/num01/Ten-Roles-for-Teacher-Leaders.aspx>

[http://www.uk.sagepub.com/upm-data/9649\\_022715Ch7.pdf](http://www.uk.sagepub.com/upm-data/9649_022715Ch7.pdf)

Source of picture; <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-XfEKUBP4t3A/TaaxPxQ5uSI/AAAAAAAAAByo/LKytZYagJSU/s1600/leader.jpg>



## Programmes at a Glance (TRAISI):

### Milestone Programmes

S/N	Title of Programmes	Details	Updates
1	<u><a href="#">Orff Method in Music Education (Secondary Sch)</a></u> <b>Open to all CS1 or CS2 Secondary Music teachers</b>	20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 February 8.30am to 5.30pm @ STAR (About 40 hours)	<b>Registration Closed</b>
2	<u><a href="#">Orff Method in Music Education (Primary Sch)</a></u> <b>Open to all CS1 or CS2 Primary Music teachers</b>	25, 26, 27, 30 April and 2 May 8.30am to 5.30pm @ STAR (About 40 hours)	<b>More details through your email in mid-March 2012</b>
3	<u><a href="#">Music Teacher Practitioner Programme – 2<sup>nd</sup> Intake</a></u>	September 2011– March 2012 (About 100 hours)	<b>FULL and on going</b>
4	<u><a href="#">Music Teacher Practitioner Programme – 3<sup>rd</sup> Intake</a></u>	September 2012 – March 2013 (About 100 hours)	<b>Registration opens in mid-April. More details via your email.</b>
5	<b>Advanced Diploma in Music Education for Primary Schools – 3<sup>rd</sup> Intake</b>	<b>Tentative date</b> August - November 2012 (4 months full-time in-service course)	<b>Nomination in March. Audition in April. More details via your email.</b>

### Supporting Programmes

#### **Balinese Gamelan Workshop**

**Session 1: Fri 24 Feb (3-5pm)**

**Session 2: Fri 2 Mar 2012 (3-5pm)**

**Session 3: Tue 6 Mar (4-6pm)**

**Session 4: Fri 9 Mar 2012 (4-6pm)**

Sessions 1-3 are at Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Workshop Room

Session 4 is at Singapore Teachers' Academy for the aRts, Blk K (Level 3)

Have you wanted to perform in a Gamelan? Want to learn more about its unique sounds and systems, and enjoy the experience of Gamelan group music making?



Here's your chance! This series of four workshops are **open to ALL Primary and Secondary Music teachers!** Click here for [more details!](#)

Sign up quick – there are only 16 places available! **Invitations to apply are also coming to you via email soon! Stay tuned!**

## Supporting Programmes

### **MOE-NAC Master Artist Series – An Afternoon with Dick Lee**

23 Mar 2012, 3pm, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory Concert Hall

[More details are found here!](#) To reserve your seat, [click here for the Reply Slip](#).

Application closes on 29 Feb 2012!

#### **Primary School Teachers**

S/N	Title of Workshops	Details	Course Code	Status
1	<a href="#">Guitar Playing Stage 2 (Beginners)*</a>	10, 17 and 24 Feb, 2 Mar 3pm to 5.30pm	21186	<b>Ready for take off!</b>
3	<a href="#">Song writing in Pop music style</a>	TBC	21184	<b>Postponed to Semester 2</b>

\* Course open to all teachers who are able to play chords C, F, E and G7 and read guitar tablature

#### **Secondary and JC Teachers**

S/N	Title of Workshops	Details	Course Code	Status
1	<a href="#">Guitar Playing Stage 2 (Beginners)*</a>	10, 17 and 24 Feb, 2 Mar; 3 – 5.30pm	21186	<b>Application already opened!</b>
2	<a href="#">Basic Music Writing Skills II</a>	13 Jan – 13 Apr (every Fri); 2 – 3:30pm	20634	<b>On-going</b>
3	<a href="#">Introduction to Music Analysis II</a>	13 Jan – 13 Apr (every Fri); 3:30 – 5:30pm	20635	<b>On-going</b>
4	<a href="#">Prescribed Work for 'O' level music teachers</a>	28 Feb, 2.30-5.30pm 6 Mar, 2 – 5pm	21196	<b>Application closing 3 Feb</b>
5	<a href="#">Prescribed Work for 'O' level MEP teachers</a>	7 February, 9am to 1pm	NA	<b>Ready for take off!</b>

\* Course open to all teachers who are able to play chords C, F, E and G7 and read guitar tablature



## **Communities of Practice (CoP) for Everyone!**

Meeting Point: STAR @ Malan Road

S/N	Name of CoP	Date	Updates
1	<b>Pop Band</b> (Playing in a pop band to get in touch with music practice; participants should be able to play an instrument)	To continue in 2012	<b>1<sup>st</sup> meeting: 2 Feb 3pm @ Malan Rd</b>
2	<b>Orff CoP</b>	1 March 2012 3pm to 5pm	<b>Looking forward!</b>

**Call us or drop us an email if you would like to lead or start a CoP!**

### **STAR now has its own iPhone App!**

Receive our website updates conveniently on your phone! [Download the App here!](#)

### **Planning for your Professional Development courses for 2012?**

Check out our online [STAR calendar](http://www.star.moe.edu.sg/):  
<http://www.star.moe.edu.sg/>  
And click 'Calendar'!

### **Like STAR on [STAR Facebook Page!](#)**

Receive newsfeed on arts education, pedagogical strategies and professional development matters!

Join the conversations and buzz on our [Facebook Group Musicators!](#) We are now a 200-member strong group of music teachers! Come join us where you could lounge, glean professional teaching insights from colleagues, share issues, empathize, and seek advice and professional support from group members.



## ***What's on the Arts Scene***



- **SINGAPORE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT**  
Sunday 19 February 2012, 5.00 pm, SOTA Concert Hall  
[http://gatecrash.com.sg/?page=event\\_detail&actionForm=detail&eventID=877](http://gatecrash.com.sg/?page=event_detail&actionForm=detail&eventID=877)
- **Mosaic Music Festival**  
Music-makers in old-world tango, straight-ahead jazz, fusion-funk, math-rock, R&B, folk-pop, gypsy jazz, pop-rock, electronica and other genres.  
9 to 18 March 2012, the Esplanade  
<http://www.mosaicmusicfestival.com/2012/microsite/>
- **30<sup>th</sup> International Society for Music Education (ISME) World Conference 2012**  
15 to 20 July 2012. **Participant registration is open.**  
[http://www.isme.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=43&Itemid=26](http://www.isme.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=43&Itemid=26)
- **宿 Sù – Abode by the Teng Ensemble**  
4 March 2012, 7.30pm, the Recital Studio, Esplanade  
[http://www.esplanade.com/whats\\_on/programme\\_info/spectrum\\_abode/index.jsp](http://www.esplanade.com/whats_on/programme_info/spectrum_abode/index.jsp)
- **Singapore Symphony Orchestra**  
The Sibelius Symphonies: Nos. 4 & 5  
24 February 2012, Esplanade Concert Hall  
[http://www.sso.org.sg/index.php?option=com\\_fwecalendar&task=showdetails&id=3884&catid=18](http://www.sso.org.sg/index.php?option=com_fwecalendar&task=showdetails&id=3884&catid=18)