

ELIZABETH STAFFORD

was born and educated in Birmingham. She studied music at Durham University, following this with a PHD in Performance Studies at Sheffield University, a PGDip in Vocal Studies at Trinity College of Music and a PGCE in Primary Music at Birmingham City University.

She also holds an LTCL in Vocal Teaching from Trinity College London.

As a soloist, Elizabeth has won several awards and has appeared as a soloist with numerous ensembles in many prestigious venues across the world.

She has broadcast as a soloist on BBC Radio 4 and the BBC World Service.

In 2011 she was invited to perform for Princess Michael of Kent.

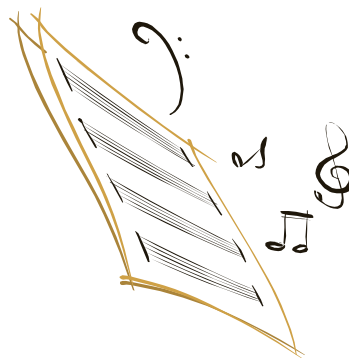
Elizabeth is an experienced choral conductor and in 2009 she was selected for a choral conducting Masterclass with the BBC Singers.

In 2010 she was invited to conduct a massed choir at the Music for Youth Family Prom.

She is director of Music Education Solutions Ltd., Programme Leader for the Level 4 Certificate for Music Educators at CPD Centre, West Midlands and the Senior Lecturer in Music Tuition at Leeds College of Music.

Elizabeth is an Adjudicator Member of the British and International Federation of Festivals.

We are very pleased to welcome Elizabeth back to our Festival



NORMA REDFEARN

trained at the Northern College and researched at Leicester University.

She has performed in weekly Rep and professional tours.

As an examiner for Trinity College, she examined students, lectured and performed on every continent and set and marked written examinations and received the Chairman's award for services to Trinity.

Until recently, Norma examined extensively for Lamda Examinations and was co-author of a Lamda publication on Public Speaking. In order to reduce her travelling time, she now examines for Vanguard Examinations.

She has recently completed a three year course in Theology and teachers voice production to the Lay Speakers in the Diocese of Peterborough.

Norma is proud to be an adjudicating member of the British and International Federation of Festivals and was delighted to be given a Fellowship in 2015.

Although many of her former students are pursuing successful acting careers in theatre and television, and others are qualified drama teachers, her greatest joy is equipping students with life skills and the ability to take their place in society confidently.

She believes the Festival Movement is a wonderful tool to help the confidence and development of all who enter and she looks forward to sharing once more with the students of Herefordshire in this celebration of their achievement.

It was a great pleasure to have Norma with us last year after a break of 20 years, so we are more than pleased that she has been able to return for the 2017 Festival.



KEITH ALLEN

was awarded a scholarship to the Royal College of Music, going on to take post-graduate studies at Birmingham, Kingston and Thames Valley Universities. He played clarinet and saxophone with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Royal Shakespeare Company and others.

His previous positions include:

Saxophone Tutor at Birmingham Conservatoire; Head of Birmingham Music Service; Musical Director: Sutton Coldfield Musical Theatre Company and Consultant Editor, Faber Music.

His present positions include:

Musical Director, Birmingham Symphonic Winds; Artistic Director, National Concert Band Festival; Conductor, Solihull Youth Wind Orchestra and clarinet tutor of European Youth Summer Music. In 2011, Keith directed University Wind Bands in Minnesota USA.

Keith is also an adjudicator for The British and International Federation of Festivals and we are pleased he is able to adjudicate for us in 2017.



NADIA HINSON

graduated from the Royal Academy of Music after having studied the violin with Manoug Parikian and the piano with Jean Harvey.

She began a career as a freelance violinist and accompanist and co- founded the Veloce ensemble (clarinet quintet) touring throughout Britain performing specially commissioned works and her own arrangements and compositions for that genre.

Nadia is currently the owner and Director of Hinson School of Music in Nottingham, and is an International examiner for the ABRSM, an adjudicator for the British and International Federation of Festivals, and a member of The Royal Society of Musicians.

She has recently been appointed a Senior Consultant for the Performing Arts to the LEAD Academy Trust in Nottingham

Nadia adjudicated at the Herefordshire Festival for the first time last year and we are extremely pleased she is able to return for the 2017 Festival.



ANDREW HANSFORD

A performing classical pianist, specialising in piano accompaniment, relatively early on whilst at school, he is also an organist, a harpsichordist (focusing mainly in accompaniment in both these instruments as well) and a choral singer (tenor).

Andrew is an active international ABRSM Examiner (classical/jazz grades/ARSM diploma), a CT ABRSM Mentor (piano) and an active international BIFF Music Adjudicator.

A committed and experienced piano/jazz piano tutor, Andrew is a permanent Visiting Piano/Jazz Piano Tutor with a part-time post at an Oxfordshire independent school, gives piano tuition privately on a consultative/occasional basis, and has been appointed to a part-time Visiting Music Tutor position (in various capacities) at a Music Academy in Oxfordshire.

Presently researching for a PhD (in Music) at St John's College, University of Durham, in preparation for a UK university music lecturing-post, Andrew, as part of his own ongoing professional development, continues to enjoy occasional (advanced) piano accompaniment studies at the Royal College of Music, London, (externally) with Gordon Fergus-Thompson, international concert pianist.

Andrew has always had a real affinity for both choral and vocal music, nurtured since beginning his musical upbringing as a Cathedral Choir School nine-year-old boy-chorister, and he continually takes special pleasure in particularly accompanying choirs, choral-ensembles and singers. He is also one of the resident organists at a local church in Oxford near to where he lives.

We are pleased to welcome Andrew for his first visit to our Festival.



GAIL GORMAN

trained with the late Madame Helena Lehmiski.

After gaining teaching qualifications with the I.S.T.D. and I.D.T.A., she danced professionally with Bluebell, Jose Montez and Briar, travelling the world and gaining invaluable performing skills.

Gail is a member of The Guild of Independent Stage Dance Adjudicators, through which she works in the South East. She also works extensively for various television companies in an acting capacity, as well as choreographing Graduate Fashion Shows.

This will be the second time that Gail has adjudicated at Hereford and we are delighted to welcome her back for the 2017 Festival.



RICHARD SMITH

A London University graduate, writer, trainer and piano teacher, Richard Smith works from his home in the Cotswolds. In recent years he has worked for ABRSM contributing to their publications and on their Professional Development training programmes for music teachers.

It follows a wide ranging musical career which saw him working in Germany managing the Tamla Motown label, writing, arranging and producing records with EMI; TV and radio work and countless personal appearances nationwide.

He has played piano with Stevie Wonder, interviewed Michael Jackson and met many artistes, such as Paul McCartney, Elton John and Ray Charles. He was at EMI House for the launch of 'Let It Be' and when The Beatles' break-up was announced.

As a Staff Producer with EMI Records working throughout Europe he was involved in recordings many of which are still on sale around the world.

He has written, arranged and directed the music for touring plays. TV appearances include the Channel 4 TV series 'Wakey Wakey Campers' in which he was the pianist and for which he wrote some of the music and songs.

A favourite of listeners to BBC local radio was his regular spot playing, singing and talking about popular music.

Richard is the composer of Crazy Crochets and Quirky Quavers and will be with us Thursday lunchtime to adjudicate the Fun Class using that publication.

