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November 2009

Dear Colleague,

**London String Quartet Foundation and Chetham's School of Music –
National Young String Quartet Weekend 12th – 14th February 2010**

In February 2009, the London String Quartet Foundation and Chetham's School of Music jointly ran a second weekend in Manchester for Young String Quartets. This proved to be an excellent, well attended and inspiring event, with **groups aged from 12 to 18 coming from around the UK**. Both our organisations want to build on the success of this event and we are now planning the 2010 Weekend.

LSQF and Chets both believe passionately in **developing the art, skill and joy of string quartet playing in existing young ensembles**. This is an art which can sometimes be difficult to maintain within a busy School or Music Service timetable, often isolated from like minded young groups. This event provides the opportunity to spend a long weekend together, working with highly distinguished chamber musicians who have also developed the art of String Quartet Pedagogy, together with one of the UK's leading young Quartets.

The faculty will be:

Pavel Fischer - founding 1st violin of the Skampa Quartet

Mark Messenger – violin, Bochmann Quartet, Head of Strings, Royal College of Music

Christoph Richter – cellist of the Heine Quartet, Professor of cello Essen Hochschule and European Chamber Music Academy Faculty Member.

Raphael Todes - 2nd violin of the Allegri Quartet

Graham Oppenheimer - founder and former violist of the Schidlof Quartet, Senior Chamber Music Tutor and Viola teacher Chetham's School of Music.

Nicholas Jones - former cellist of the Bochmann Quartet, Head of Strings Chetham's School of Music and cello faculty member RNCM.

Carducci String Quartet - recognized as one of Europe's top young string quartets, prizewinners at no less than 6 International Competitions, most recently winning the prestigious Young Concert Artists Guild in New York. **"The Carducci String Quartet were stunning..." The Times**

The weekend will take place from **12pm on Friday 12th February to 5pm on Sunday 14th February at Chetham's School of Music, Manchester** and we will be able to invite **16 String Quartets of school-age** to the weekend. Each quartet will experience individual coaching, workshops, faculty recitals, performing opportunities and social activities. We aim for Quartets and teachers to leave the Weekend not only with inspiring musical ideas, but also with new ideas on Quartet technique. They will also receive advice on effective rehearsal methods.

There is a registration fee of **only £120 per quartet** (refundable if a place is not allocated) with tuition and shared hotel room at the Premier Travel Inn near Chetham's free of charge. Quartets must pay for their meals at £36 per head for the entire weekend. These are provided in the Chetham's cafeteria and include breakfast, lunch, dinner and juice etc for breaks. Quartets need to bring a teacher (or adult supervisor) to provide pastoral care for the entire weekend. Hotel rooms for teachers/supervisors are available at the Premier Travel Inn for £62 per night, plus the £36 weekend meals charge. Quartets pay for their own travel.

We are also able to offer a **free visit in advance of the Weekend** from a faculty member. This is recommended as an important element, as it was found to be particularly helpful as a focus to development and advice, and on matching repertoire to current ability.

If you would like a quartet from your institution to be considered for this exciting opportunity, **please complete the application form and return it together with your cheque a.s.a.p. We urge early application.**

If you would like to discuss your application, please do not hesitate to contact us at lsqfandchets@chethams.com or by phone to Ruth Wheal, LSQF General Manager on 01708 761423.

With best wishes,



Nicholas Jones & Graham Oppenheimer
Joint Artistic Directors
London String Quartet Foundation & Chetham's School of Music Weekend 2010

Cost summary

£120 Registration fee per quartet (includes all tuition and accommodation).

£36 Meals per person for entire Weekend.

£62 Hotel per person per night for adult supervisor(s).

**Ruth Wheal, General Manager, LSQF, 8 Woodlands Road, Romford RM1 4HD.
Tel: 01708 761423; lsqfandchets@chethams.com**

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department for
children, schools and families

APPLICATION FORM
National Young String Quartet Weekend
Friday 12th – Sunday 14th February 2010

Please type or complete in CAPITALS

Name of institution: _____

Name of Quartet and approx date when formed: _____

Individual names, ages and Grade (or equivalent):

1st violin _____

2nd violin _____

Viola _____

Cello _____

Name and term-time address for correspondence: _____

Tel _____ mobile _____ email _____

Name and address for correspondence during holidays (if different): _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of main teacher: _____

Please supply comments **on a separate sheet** about the quartet's level of experience, repertoire, regularity of coaching and rehearsals, performances and any other information you feel appropriate.

We would like a free faculty visit in advance of the Weekend YES/NO (please delete)

Number/details of accompanying adults that wish to attend (this will be re-confirmed with you before the weekend): _____

Signed (on behalf of the institution) _____ Date _____

Please return a.s.a.p. with your cheque for £120 Quartet registration to:
Ruth Wheal, General Manager, LSQF, 8 Woodlands Road, Romford RM1 4HD

Cheques payable to London String Quartet Foundation