



## We'll be back big & better next year

**"It was lovely to have everyone back for our 29th year. Everyone had a smile on their face – and not just the participants."**

"I was so pleased to see how the **FRIENDSHIP** theme was interpreted through music, movement and art.

"There were some phenomenal performances. **GIG NIGHT, UNPLUGGED & VARIETY** took place at the Kenton Theatre. I went to every show and enjoyed all 46 acts!

"A School Mural competition and **MUSIC MAKERS** were introduced for primary pupils, both of which had a focus on collaboration - making art or music together with friends.

"We received over 150 competition entries. The quality of the work was stunning. The Prize Giving ceremony at the River &

Rowing Museum was a real highlight and a fitting end to this year's festival.

"It really demonstrated the talent and all the hard work the young people of Henley put in to taking part in the festival.

"I'm so pleased that we were able to deliver our workshop programme – last September it was in doubt as many providers had not gone back to work and it was unclear when visitors would be allowed back into schools.

"We estimate over **1,000 young people** took part in HYF22, with **200 runners** tackling the notoriously steep hill in the **HYF RUN**.

"Lastly, I'd like to thank the wonderful HYF team who organise the festival. Given that it was my first time chairing the festival, you were all really helpful - you're so good at this, you made everything so much easier.

"Thank you to everyone involved."

**Laura Matthews, HYF Chair.**

## Friendship Flows Forever

**Art, Film, Writing & School Mural competitions; it was the first time work from all of HYF's competitions were on display together in one place.**

**Sarah Miller, Henley's Mayor**

"[I was]...blown away by the quality and vibrancy of the art."

**Charlene Brown, Art & Film Competition Organiser**

"The friendship theme with the rainbow logo set in motion a brightly coloured festival of art. The children shined, showing off their talent with various techniques and interpretations."

Winning competition entries embracing this year's theme included **'A Letter to My Friend'** penned by Millie Le Beigge, about a young girl and her guide dog; **'Man's Best Friend'** painted by Joshua Drummond; and a 3D **'Story Machine'** created by Anya McGinn. Sacred Heart Primary won the School Mural competition with **'Friendship Flows Forever'**



their 3m wide artwork representing friendship between Henley and its twin towns.

**Nicola Sutherland, School Mural Judge & Muralist**

"There is something very important about your mural... your design extends the hand of friendship out of Henley and around the world."

**William Swan, HYF Young Reporter**

"[It]...was very tricky for the judges because there were so many beautiful pieces, the room was overflowing with art."



**Joshua Drummond, HYF Art Competition Winner**

"...start with a basic layer, then slowly add detail."



# EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

HYF timetabled more than **800 workshop places & 42 hours** of educational art and drama workshops for **10 primary schools** in the Henley area.

## YOUNG SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (YSC)

**Dan Sadler, HYF Workshop Co-ordinator**

"The feedback from the YSC performances has been very positive. I dropped into two performances and the energy and enthusiasm of the actors was infectious."

**Young Shakespeare Company actors brought 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' to life for 300 Year 5&6 pupils. They spoke Shakespeare's words, explored characters' motives & enjoyed watching the market traders' hilarious rendition of 'Pyramus and Thisbe'.**

**Teacher, St. Mary's Preparatory School**

"The workshop/performance by the Young Shakespeare company was excellent, as always. A brilliant way to introduce Shakespeare to primary children in a clear and interactive way."

**Year 5 Teacher, Trinity CE Primary**

"It was hilarious and so lovely to see our children join their cast. It was so entertaining, fantastic music and we were so engaged."

**Pupils at Kidmore End CE Primary said:**

All of year five really enjoyed going to the young Shakespeare workshop at Badgemore Park School. The actors were amazing and the performance was really funny and engaging. Various members of the audience were allowed to come up and play small parts of A Midsummer Nights dream. Even audience members who weren't picked to act got to join in with sound effects, actions and lines so everyone was included in some form of acting we overall agree it was an amazing opportunity.

*Amelia*

"We as a class think that the children got to act with the actors and that everyone loved the mysterious and cheeky character Puck, which made all of us laugh!"

*Bobby, Oz and Oliver*



## CREATIVE ART

**Andrew Griffin, Head Teacher, Kidmore End CE Primary** said that the children loved both Young Shakespeare and Emily Cooling's CreatingART workshop and thanked HYF for organising all of the events.

**Sacred Heart, Trinity and Valley Road created upcycled sculptures with Doctor Brian Squabbles and his Red Van full of 'objects from a previous life'. Trinity's Year 5 pupils even built a 'FriendSHIP' entirely from scrap.**

**Jackie Park, Yr6 Teacher, Sacred Heart Primary**

"A super day. The children loved Brian Squabbles. Lots of co-operative, explorative imaginative learning and oral story telling. Plenty of resources and well led."

**Year 5 Teacher, Trinity CE Primary**

"The children spent the whole day with [Dr Brian Squabbles] ... imagining and building. It was lovely to see the children in a wonderland of discovery. They built the Thames, Henley and the Queen using scrap metal and discarded items."

**Children experimented with collage, water colours & portrait photography. Heart and star decorations were inspired by the words – 'share', 'play' & 'kind', and individual rainbow mandalas were collated to form a large 'Circle of Friendship' artwork.**

**Francesca, Pupil at Peppard CE Primary**

"I liked painting my heart because it showed that I loved my friends."

**Immy, Pupil at Peppard CE Primary**

"It made me think that the most important thing that you can have is friends."

**Holly Chaplin, Acting Deputy Head, Trinity CE Primary**

"Thank you so much for organising such wonderful workshops. The children thoroughly enjoyed it and we are very much looking forward to more of the children taking part next year."



More than 77 young performers from school years 1-13 took part in HYF's shows, many interpreting our 2022 FRIENDSHIP theme through lyrics or movement.

Four performances really embraced this, highlighting how friendship can take many forms.

The Maxwell Sisters - Alix & Holly—wowed the audience with their exceptionally strong vocals to 'Let Me Be Your Star' from Smash reflecting the friendship theme through lyrics.

**The MUSIC MAKERS 'Flash Mob' style performance was really emotive. The young musicians and the audience joined together to sing and play 'Ode to Joy' for the first time as one.**

Yasabella - Yasmin & Isabella - epitomised the 80s with 'Girls Just Wanna Have Fun' taking the audience from smiles to tears

**MUSIC MAKERS picture: Valley Road Choir**

**Maureen Idowu, Guest Musician**

"I really enjoyed it... Keep up the good work; we must have music in life. There's nothing better than singing and playing together or in front of an audience."

**Anna Del Nevo, HYF Music Makers Organiser**

"All the children that played were fantastic. I'm really impressed."



**Special HYF 'Ode to Joy' - lyrics by Anna Del Nevo**

"Music makers, sound creators, we are here to sing to you, Playing, strumming, singing, drumming, magic sounds we bring to you. Friends together, friends forever, beating hearts in unison, so Join us in our ode to joy and we will sing and play as one!"

**GIG NIGHT picture: Joe Ryder**

**Matt Richardson, HYF Gig Night Organiser**

"I've never organised anything like this before and it was an honour to be a part of it."

"I thought it went extremely well. The line-up was varied, which was great. All the parents responded very positively."



**Joe Ryder, Singer Song Writer**

"You might have noticed my songs have a bit of a theme. Anyone who hasn't met me might think I've been in a 50-year marriage, but that's not the case."

**Annabel Smith, HYF Young Reporter**

"Gig Night was a brilliant demonstration of talent and made for a highly enjoyable experience."

**UNPLUGGED picture: Hakan & Eda Atabek**

**Issac Urch, Singer Guitarist**

"I can tell we're going to be friends..."

**Eddie Pratt, Spanish Classical Guitarist**

"Good evening, I've played here many times before. Tonight, I'll be playing 'Romanza' - a classical piece but no one knows who the composer is. I hope you enjoy."



**Maya Kirbas, Violinist**

"I'll be playing a song based on 'Prelude in C Minor' which has already been played tonight, but I've adapted it."

**Laura Matthews, HYF Chair**

"Thank you to our performers—that was awesome. A big round of applause to all the performers and thank you to our support staff, the Mayor, and all our Sponsors in the audience tonight."

**VARIETY picture: Yasabella**

**Harrison Webb, HYF Young Reporter**

"The evening was a resounding success with the festival's theme of 'Friendship' shining through in both the acts and the support from family and friends in the audience."

**Elizabeth, Special Guest, Henley Manor Care Home**

"The children were all marvellous. Can I come again?"



**Milo McGinn, Singer & Electric Guitarist**

"It is a great opportunity to perform here and to be able to do what you love and enjoy it."

**Astrid Waite, HYF Performer**

"It is a great opportunity to do what you love and be who you are."

# PERFORMANCE EVENTS

**36 Musicians, 24 Dancers, 17 Singers**

as they took their bows with blue and yellow placards that read "We did it for them."

Amber & Ella performed 'Say Something' a modern dance about two friends, one of whom is struggling. Amber & Ella said: "It's about friends supporting one another and getting through it together."

**Louise Earl, HYF Performing Arts Co-ordinator**

"It was so wonderful to see performers return to the stage. The standard of performance was incredibly high and it's encouraging to see that young people are still playing and want to perform."



## 200 HYF RUNNERS

Every child received a medal and Valley Road scooped £250 for sporting equipment for the school fielding the most entrants.

**Charlie Dix, HYF Young Reporter**

"Children were waiting nervously at the start line, saving their energy for the tough, steep hills to come in the race."

**Luca Currie, Year 5&6 Winner**

"I didn't expect to win; It was quite tiring on the hills...muddy too but I've got studs. This is the last year I could do it so it feels good to be finishing on a high."

**Ambrose Paviour, Year 3&4 Winner.**

"I've been running for two years, I enjoy how fast I can go."

**Abigail Hillyard, Reception Winner**

"Running always feels really good."

**Eddie Johnson, HYF Runner**

"It was quite hard because it was slippery."

**Clint Botha, Physiologic, HYF RUN Organising Partner**

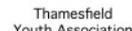
"It was great to be back. The rain shower did little to dampen spirits, everyone had a great time and were determined to finish their races and earn their medal."



**Michelle Thomas, Henley's Deputy Mayor**

"Children missed out on so much because of covid. It was so nice seeing them coming together and fully embracing the day."

## A Special 'Thank You' to all our Sponsors, Partners & Volunteers. The festival simply would not happen without you!



**Photographers** | Thank you to Cheryl George, Kathryn Fell, Homeyra Tahbaz, Ella Ormerod and Connor Botha, who all gave up their time to take such wonderful photos & videos for the festival this year.

**HYF Community** | Thank you to the HYF Trustees, the HYF Steering Committee, our Special Advisors, all the HYF Volunteer Teams: including production and back-stage teams, workshop and event organisers & many, many more.