



The Sage Gateshead

# MUSIC-MAKING AND LEARNING

FOR ADULTS 2012-13





At The Sage Gateshead, we run music groups, workshops and classes in many types of music for all ages and levels of skill

## MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO:

Learn a new skill, develop an existing one or get back into something you haven't done for a while

Meet new people with similar interests or complementary skills

Have some fun and an escape from everyday life

Whatever your reason, music-making at The Sage Gateshead will help you achieve your full potential in a relaxed and friendly environment, with experienced tutors, talented musicians and great music.

As you look through this brochure, you will see that we have listed all of our opportunities by day, genre and experience level to help you find something that is exactly right for you. In order to help you find the best activity to join, we have grouped them together based on the level of experience you will need to get the most from the session, and the complexity of the music you will be working on. Do keep in mind that this is just a guide and regardless of your experience, music-making is first and foremost fun.

### FIRST STEPS

You are an absolute beginner, you are returning to music after a while or you believe that you can't sing or play a note. These groups are designed to conquer your fears as well as developing basic skills and technique so that you can quickly enjoy taking your music-making to the next level. There are no auditions and no prior skills or experience needed.

### NEXT STEPS

You've been making music for a while or you are confident in your own ability but have not sung in a choir or played in an ensemble before. Maybe you'd like to try a new genre or something a little more challenging. This is a place for you to develop and improve your skills with others who enjoy the same music as you. No auditions, some experience of singing and loads of enthusiasm required.

### UP FOR A CHALLENGE

You're a confident musician looking to perfect your skills and use your knowledge and experience to their full potential. Sessions are likely to be genre-specific with performance as a key element of the group's aims. You may be required to audition. An open mind, commitment and a willingness to enjoy is essential.

You can contact us at  
[adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org](mailto:adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org)  
or 0191 443 4666

## FIRST STEPS

### FIND YOUR VOICE

Discover the voice you never knew you had. This is a group singing lesson which focuses on developing good technique from the start, singing simple harmonies and explaining sheet music in an informal, supportive and fun way.

### STEP INTO SINGING

This is group singing from scratch. In this group you will develop good technique, tips for vocal health and develop listening skills in an enjoyable atmosphere. You will sing simple rounds and harmonies at a relaxed pace, the emphasis being on the group's enjoyment.

### SOUNDS GOOD TO ME

A group of adults with learning disabilities who have a love of singing. A chance to sing for fun in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Carers and support workers welcome at no extra cost. There are also occasional performances and recording opportunities.

## SINGING STELLAS

Working together in a friendly and enjoyable atmosphere, singing a wide variety of musical styles, this choir offers the opportunity to develop vocal skills and harmony singing. All singing is in a group setting. This is a women only singing group.

## MEN ALLOWED

A singing group for men of all ages, which explores broad and interesting repertoire from popular classics to folk and blues. Men allowed have performed at various locations both in and out of The Sage Gateshead.

## NEXT STEPS

### PHILHARMONIC VOICES

Gain an understanding of classical choral singing, develop your harmony singing, improve technique and sight reading skills. This friendly and welcoming group also offers performance opportunities. This choir is not auditioned although we do have to limit numbers of singers within voice types to ensure that the choir is balanced.

## VOICEBEAT

An adventurous non-auditioned choir for anyone who enjoys being part of fun, unique and varied vocal arrangements. The group explores different musical genres, including gospel, reggae, pop and folk traditions from around the world. Repertoire is learnt by ear and newcomers are always welcome, as long as you're up for a vocal challenge and a good laugh along the way.



## FOLWORKS TUESDAY BAND WITH SONG

See Folkworks Tuesday Instrumental (page 8).

## FEMME CHORALE

For women with a love for classical choral singing, this choir will work from a wide range of classical repertoire. Meanwhile you will develop your harmony singing, improve technique and sight reading skills. This choir is for female singers of all abilities.

**NEW**

## THE SAGE GATESHEAD OPERA CHORUS

Building on the success of our recent 'Introduction to Opera Singing' workshop, we're now launching The Sage Gateshead Opera Chorus. We will be working towards performances of operatic highlights and developing a repertoire of music from Grand Opera to Operetta including Britten, Handel and Verdi. No previous operatic experience is necessary.

## IN THE GROOVE

In this animated choir you will learn fun and funky arrangements of well known pop, rock and chart classics. With performance opportunities and no prior experience needed, this choir is sure to put a smile on your face.

## UP FOR A CHALLENGE

### BLUE JAZZ VOICES

Working specifically with jazz and blues repertoire, this is an exceptional ensemble. Developing a practical approach to solo singing and performance, the group works on improvisation, repertoire, vocal technique and performance.

### FOLKWORKS TUESDAY ADVANCED VOCAL SKILLS

Focus on your vocal technique and how this aids and affects your harmony singing. Study breath control, intonation, posture, range and ornamentation set within traditional folk songs and challenging arrangements for groups.

## THE SAGE GATESHEAD CHAMBER CHOIR

This forty-strong choir rehearses and performs a broad and exciting repertoire, in the building and around the region. It is an active, lively choir and spontaneous singing opportunities are a regular feature. You will need to be able to read music and hold a line in harmony. All applicants are invited for an informal voice evaluation - membership is subject to a successful outcome.

Look out for our **SING TOGETHER** choirs in our events diaries and on our website. These are large scale singing opportunities for absolutely anyone. There are no auditions, no prior singing experience is needed and you don't need to be able to read music. You just have to love singing and want to give it a go! All Sing Together choirs are created to work towards a particular performance with a specific theme, so you can choose to sing in all of them or just one. Whatever you choose, you will never forget it. The next block of rehearsals begin on Monday 1st October 2012.

## FIRST STEPS

### ABSOLUTE BEGINNER UKULELE

Everyone has to start somewhere and for those wanting to play ukulele, this is it. In no time at all, you will learn the basic chords and techniques enabling you to play the ukulele with pride. Within just one session the group will be able to impress friends and family with at least one song. Sessions are relaxed, fun and supportive.

### FOLKWORKS TUESDAY ABSOLUTE BEGINNER CLASSES

Northumbrian pipes/fiddle/melodeon/tin whistle/accordion/clog dancing.

NEW

The perfect platform to start from scratch. When we say no experience needed, we mean it. These classes nurture your budding instrumental abilities, beginning your journey on your choice of instruments and traditional dance.

### FOLKWORKS TUESDAY BASIC BAND

This group is perfect for people who have little or no experience of playing in a group with other musicians. You'll play new repertoire as well as learning how bands work and learn together. This band is suitable for people in the absolute beginner classes.

### BEGINNER GUITAR

A lot of us have a guitar in the house that we don't know how to play. This is your opportunity to change that. In this group, you will learn basic chords and strumming techniques using well-known repertoire.

### BEGINNER STEEL PANS

Bring the sunshine to Gateshead. A chance to learn to play steel pans as part of an ensemble in a fun environment. A wide range of repertoire is covered and the sessions are relaxed and friendly. There is the opportunity to progress into the Adult Steel Pan Band after completing this beginner course.

### ABSOLUTE BEGINNER SAXOPHONE

NEW

Aimed at people who have little or no experience of playing the saxophone, this fantastic introductory course will teach you how to play sax from scratch. All learning is in a group setting with experienced tutors. Alto and tenor saxophones are welcome. All players must have their own instrument.

## NEXT STEPS

### BEGINNER UKULELE

This group is perfect for people who've attended our Absolute Beginner Ukulele course and want to take their ukulele-playing to the next level. You will learn new repertoire, develop your technique and grow in confidence, setting you on your way to our Intermediate Ukulele group.

### INTERMEDIATE UKULELE

For players who have covered the basics of ukulele-playing and want to develop their skills further. Be introduced to exciting and challenging new repertoire alongside developing new techniques.

**NEW** **BEGINNER SAXOPHONE**

For people who understand the basics, this group is perfect for people who've attended our Absolute Beginner Saxophone course. Develop the skills you've learnt so far and take them to the next level in this friendly and supportive group.

**NEW** **SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLE**

This exciting new ensemble provides a fantastic opportunity to play sax with others. You will be introduced to a wide variety of repertoire and hone your skills with an experienced tutor. The Saxophone Ensemble is aimed at players of grade 3-5 standard.

**FOLKWORKS TUESDAY  
NEXT STEP CLASSES**

Northumbrian pipes/  
fiddle/melodeon/fretted  
strings/flute & whistle/  
accordion/clog dancing.

Folkworks Tuesday instrumental classes are a great place to improve instrumental technique through repertoire picked specifically to maximise enjoyment and progression.

**NEW**



## FOLKWORKS TUESDAY INTERMEDIATE BAND

For people who feel reasonably confident on their instrument and are ready for a step up into a performing band situation. The intermediate bands produce more complex arrangements and study more challenging repertoire than the Basic Band while still being accessible and inclusive.

## FOLKWORKS TUESDAY BAND WITH SONG

Whether you're new to your instrument, new to folk, or just fancy a change, this is the band for you. Folk is a huge genre and sometimes you want to dip a toe in and see what happens. Over the year we will look at repertoire from acts such as Bellowhead, The Unthanks, Show of Hands and Lindisfarne; as well as other material, and provide you with the skills needed to perform some party pieces.

## INTERMEDIATE GUITAR

For guitar players who can play a few chords and are comfortable with basic strumming and chord changes. This group will develop your skills, technique and musicianship whilst also increasing your repertoire.

## UP FOR A CHALLENGE

### GUITAR STARS **NEW**

For players who still want to learn but are looking for a challenge. This exciting group provides the opportunity to play with others and work on new repertoire, meanwhile developing existing skills.

## FOLKWORKS TUESDAY ADVANCED BAND

Fast tunes, emotive and evocative arrangements, and lots of fun. The Advanced Band strives to produce high quality sets. Some learning is done aurally and some with notation.

## UKE TROUPE

A fun and informal ukulele group which explores familiar favourites and less familiar contemporary repertoire. Prior experience of playing the ukulele is required; however, players will work on developing skills, technique and musicianship. There will be performance opportunities.

## DON'T PANIC: STEEL PAN BAND

Playing a wide variety of repertoire, this energetic and exciting ensemble brings the sounds of the Caribbean to the North East. Sessions are fun and rewarding, furthering skills and musicianship whilst learning music to performance standard. Prior experience of steel pan playing is required.





# OTHER GROUPS THAT MEET AT THE SAGE GATESHEAD

## ADVANCED NORTHUMBRIAN PIPES

Tuesday, 7-9pm: Led by Anthony Robb, the group meets at The Sage Gateshead and is open to pipers of all abilities. Over the two hour session, the class study technique through repertoire which is graded from accessible to more demanding. Pipers can attend the whole session and experience the full spectrum or come for the hour which best suits their standard. For more information and to sign up, please contact [Anthony@robbpipes.com](mailto:Anthony@robbpipes.com)

## STREETWISE CHOIR

Tuesday, 10am-12pm: Streetwise Choir is the UK's first choir involving people who've experienced homelessness, together with their friends. Singing everything from pop to jazz, folk and classical music, Streetwise Choir is run by the charity Streetwise Opera in artistic partnership with The Sage Gateshead. Just come along or for more information call 020 7730 9551 or visit [streetwiseopera.org](http://streetwiseopera.org)

## CAEDMON CHOIR

Tuesday, 8-9.30pm: An independent community choir whose repertoire includes traditional and contemporary songs both local and from other parts of Britain. The group also sings songs from other countries and cultures, in a wide range of styles. For more information and to inquire about vacancies please visit [caedmonchoir.org.uk](http://caedmonchoir.org.uk)

## COBWEB ORCHESTRA

Wednesday, 1-3pm: A friendly and welcoming group which is open to players of all standards. It does not matter if you have been playing for years, or haven't, you will find something of interest in the varied repertoire. For more information call 01937 831 163, email [admin@cobweborchestra.org.uk](mailto:admin@cobweborchestra.org.uk) or visit [cobweborchestra.org.uk](http://cobweborchestra.org.uk).

## MUSICAL MUMS

Fridays, 1.30-2.30pm: Singing sessions for mums with new babies (six months and under). Learn songs, basic vocal technique and relax with other mothers and babies in these singing sessions. Included will be songs suitable to sing to and with your child as they grow. Led by an experienced vocal leader and early years music specialist. For more information please visit [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org)

## BEDE WIND

Friday, 7.30-9pm: A community wind band that plays a wide range of music and gives about ten concerts every year in the North East with occasional concert tours abroad. New players are welcome at about grade 5 standard. For more information please visit a rehearsal or contact Elaine Middleton on 0191 483 8031.

## MUSICAL BUMPS

Thursday, 6-8pm (six week course): Classes for pregnant women to enjoy gentle exercise, singing and informal chat. With an 'active birth' focus, in these classes you will have the opportunity to sing to your bump and learn songs which will soothe your baby when it arrives. For full details visit [thesagegateshead.org](http://thesagegateshead.org).

# ONE-OFF OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to our weekly groups and classes, we also have one-off activities which are either related to our performances in some way, or are an opportunity for you to try something entirely new. We also have special events which run for longer than just one day, but will specialise in a particular music genre or theme. Keep an eye on our website for the most current details of these exciting opportunities. In the meantime, here are a few events which are already planned for 2012-13.

SATURDAY 21ST  
JULY 2012, THE SAGE  
GATESHEAD, 11-1PM AND  
2-4PM

## **ABSOLUTE BEGINNER GUITAR**

If you have a guitar hiding in the house that you would like to learn how to play then come and give it an airing this Summer. Learn some basic chords and strumming techniques and you'll have a party piece by the end of the session.  
Tickets: £5

SUNDAY 22ND JULY 2012,  
THE SAGE GATESHEAD,  
11-1PM & 2-4PM

## **ABSOLUTE BEGINNER UKULELE**

Discover the joy of playing the ukulele. You don't need to have played before, or be able to read music in this workshop led by professional musicians. We can even provide the uke for you. Join the ukulele revolution.  
Tickets: £5

6TH-11TH AUGUST 2012,  
DURHAM CITY

## **FOLKWORKS SUMMER SCHOOL**

Singing, dancing, playing and performing are all major elements of our Summer Schools. Throughout the week there are workshops, informal sessions, concerts and gatherings, ceilidhs and more. Performing, meeting other musicians and sharing tunes are all part of what will make your week so enjoyable, along with the warmth of the welcome and the friendly, lively community spirit. The Summer Schools cater for a wide range of ability and experiences, although a basic musical knowledge is required. For more information please contact [jack.healy@thesagegateshead.org](mailto:jack.healy@thesagegateshead.org).

SUNDAY 29TH JULY 2012,  
THE SAGE GATESHEAD,  
11-1PM & 2-4PM

## **ABSOLUTE BEGINNER STEEL PANS**

Bring the sunshine to Gateshead. Discover the sounds of the Caribbean in this steel pans taster session. No prior experience required, just enthusiasm and a will to give it a go.  
Tickets: £5



SATURDAY 8TH  
SEPTEMBER 2012,  
THE SAGE GATESHEAD,  
10AM-4.30PM

### **FOLKWORKS ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS DAY**

When we say absolute beginner, we mean it. This taster day will give you the chance to have a go on the instrument of your choice in a friendly class full of other beginners.

By the end of the day you will feel a massive sense of achievement. This day is also a great intro to the Folkworks Tuesday First Steps classes.

Instruments: fiddle, tin whistle, accordion, melodeon, Northumbrian pipes, clog dancing.

Please note that anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied for the whole day by an adult. Tickets: £35, concessions available

SATURDAY 19TH  
JANUARY 2013, THE SAGE  
GATESHEAD, 10AM-  
4.30PM

### **FOLKWORKS WINTER WORKOUT DAY**

We think there is no better way to beat the post-Christmas blues than spending a day blowing the cobwebs off your playing and learning some new repertoire. Keep an eye out in our events diary for tutors and classes.

Tickets: tbc

SATURDAY 8TH  
SEPTEMBER 2012,  
THE SAGE GATESHEAD

### **JOIN IN AND SING**

WITH GARY GRIFFITHS

This is the first of our Join In and Sing days, held throughout the year and led by highly experienced choir leaders who will guide you through an array of choral repertoire.

You don't need to have any prior experience or be able to read music. Each Join In and Sing will have a different theme and all will culminate in a sharing performance for family and friends in Hall One.

For more information, join our mailing list or visit our website [thesagegateshead.org](http://thesagegateshead.org).

### **IN THE REGION**

You can get involved and make music across the region through a series of one-off taster activities and new choirs or instrumental groups. Keep an eye out in our diary and on our website for further details.

If you have a particular request, please do feel free to contact us at [adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org](mailto:adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org) with details of what you would be interested in doing and where, and we will be happy to consider this.

### **MUSIC FOR ANY OCCASION**

Make your stag or hen do go with a bang! Hold a birthday party where you sing more than Happy Birthday or host an away day that builds lasting bonds and releases the creativity within your team without getting too outward bound!

If you enjoy our classes and workshops, or have always fancied giving something a go, why not book a **MUSIC MOMENT**.

We can offer a variety of instrumental and vocal sessions, suitable for absolute beginners and great fun for everyone.

Sessions can be held at The Sage Gateshead or at a suitable venue of your choice.

Examples of workshops include U Can Ukulele, Percussion Explosion, Steel Pan Pandemonium or SongStars. We can also provide specially designed team building workshops for corporate events.

To find out more contact us at [adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org](mailto:adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org)

ACTIVITY	LEVEL	GENRE	TIME
<b>MONDAY</b>			
Men Allowed	First Steps	Mixed	6-7.30pm
Chamber Choir	Challenge	Classical	7-9pm
Blue Jazz Voices	Challenge	Jazz	7-9pm
Beginner Guitar	First Steps	Mixed	6.30-7.30pm
Intermediate Guitar	Next Steps	Mixed	7.30-9pm

<b>TUESDAY</b>			
Fiddle	First Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Flute and Whistle	First Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Accordion	First Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Melodeon	First Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Northumbrian Pipes	First Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Clog Dancing	First Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Basic Band	First Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Intermediate Band 1	Next Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Intermediate Band 2	Next Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Advanced Band	Challenge	Folk	7-8.10pm
Advanced Vocal Skills 1	Challenge	Folk	7-8.10pm
Advanced Vocal Skills 2	Challenge	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Northumbrian Pipes	Next Steps	Folk	7-8.10pm
Fiddle	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Flute and Whistle	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Accordion	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Melodeon	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Clog Dancing	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Fretted Strings	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Band with Song	Next Steps	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Flute and Whistle	Challenge	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Fiddle	Challenge	Folk	8.15-9.30pm
Femme Chorale	Next Steps	Classical	6-8pm
In the Groove	Next Steps	Popular & Contemporary	7-9pm

ACTIVITY	LEVEL	GENRE	TIME
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			
Cobweb Orchestra	First Steps	Classical	1-3pm
Sounds Good to Me	First Steps	Mixed	3.30-5pm
Absolute Beginner Ukulele	First Steps	Mixed	6.30-7.30pm
Intermediate Ukulele	Next Steps	Mixed	6.30-7.30pm
Beginner Ukulele	Next Steps	Mixed	7.30-8.30pm
Uke Troupe	Challenge	Mixed	7.30-9pm
Voicebeat	Next Steps	Mixed	7-9pm
Find Your Voice	First Steps	Mixed	7-8.30pm
TSG Opera Chorus	Next Steps	Opera	7-9pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>			
Beginner Steel Pans	First Steps	World/mixed	6.30-8pm
Don't Panic: Steel Pan Band	Challenge	World/mixed	8-9.30pm
Step into Singing	First Steps	Mixed	6.30-8pm
Philharmonic Voices	Next Steps	Classical	7.30-9.30pm
Absolute Beginner Saxophone	First Steps	Mixed	6.30-7.30pm
Beginner Saxophone	Next Steps	Mixed	7.45-9pm
Saxophone Ensemble	Next Steps	Mixed	7.45-9pm
Intermediate Guitar	Next Steps	Mixed	6.30-8pm
Guitar Stars	Challenge	Mixed	8-9.30pm
<b>FRIDAY</b>			
Bede Wind	Challenge	Mixed	7.30-9pm
<b>SATURDAY</b>			
Singing Stellas	First Steps	Mixed	11am-1pm

# TERM DATES

All terms are 11 weeks long and include a half term break

**AUTUMN** Monday 24th September – Sunday 16th December 2012  
**Half term:** Monday 29th October – Sunday 4th November 2012

**SPRING** Monday 7th January – Sunday 31st March 2013  
**Half term:** Monday 18th February – Sunday 24th February 2013

**SUMMER** Monday 15th April – Sunday 7th July 2013  
*Monday classes will finish on 8th July due to bank holiday*  
**Half term:** Tuesday 4th June – Sunday 9th June 2013  
*Monday classes will have half term on 27th May due to bank holiday*

## COURSE PRICES

### Book for the term

Full price per term	£66
Concession price per term	£39

### Book for the year (x3 terms) and save

Full price per year	£177
Concession price per year	£99

### Double Up Deal

Enrol onto one class and get any other class at the concessionary rate (offer applies to termly classes only).

Concessions are available for people over 60, members of the Silver Programme, students and people in receipt of benefits.

If you enrol for one of our activities and decide that it isn't right for you, we will offer you a full refund as long as you let us know within your first three weeks of attending.

Once you've enrolled, we will send you a ticket which you will need to retain and bring along to your first session.

# THE BRASSERIE

## THE SOPRANO

A 'LATE BIRD' MENU GIVING YOU AN EXCLUSIVE DEAL  
AT PEAK EVENING TIMES.

THE SOPRANO IS AVAILABLE FROM 7PM-10PM, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK,  
OFFERING TWO COURSES FOR £12 OR THREE COURSES FOR £15.  
A SAMPLE MENU IS AVAILABLE ON THE SAGE GATESHEAD WEBSITE.

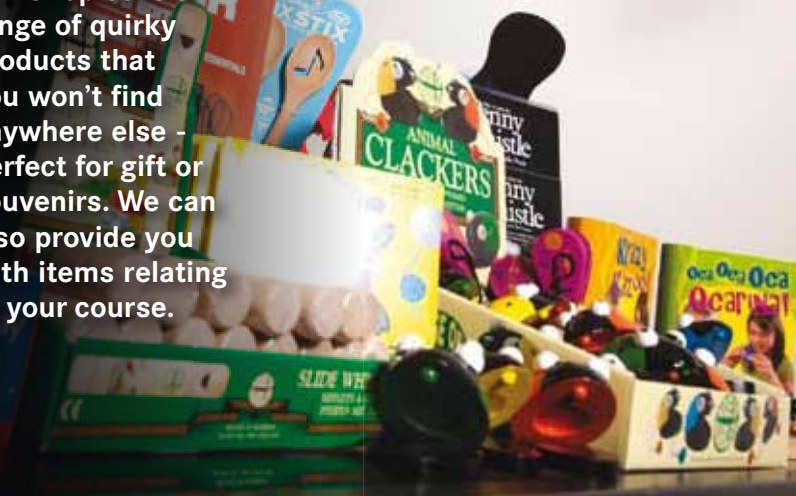
TO BOOK YOUR TABLE PLEASE CALL 0191 443 4670 OR  
EMAIL [BRASSERIE@THESAGEGATESHEAD.ORG](mailto:BRASSERIE@THESAGEGATESHEAD.ORG)

THE SOPRANO MENU IS NOT AVAILABLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OR SPECIAL OFFER.

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Adult Programme  
courses receive a  
10% discount from  
our Shop.

Our Shop sells a  
range of quirky  
products that  
you won't find  
anywhere else -  
perfect for gift or  
souvenirs. We can  
also provide you  
with items relating  
to your course.

# Shop





**The Sage** Gateshead

## MUSIC-MAKING AND LEARNING

FOR ADULTS 2012/13

All information in this brochure is correct at the time of going to print, however, we reserve the right to withdraw or change activities and class dates.

Please visit [www.thesagegateshead.org](http://www.thesagegateshead.org) to see our most up to date information.

Alternatively, call us on 0191 443 4666, or email us at [adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org](mailto:adultprogramme@thesagegateshead.org)

We reserve the right to refuse or terminate enrolment and/ or to eject a person from a class or our building. We strive to ensure the correct placement of participants within musical levels and have the right to make adjustments where necessary.

The Sage Gateshead Founding Patrons: The Sage Group plc, The Barbour Trust, Northern Rock Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation, Joan and Margaret Halbert.

Photography: David Tiernan, Sally Baitch, Gemma Rutherford

