

CONFETTI STUDENT MAGAZINE

# wire

## DEGREE SHOW

AWARDS, WINNERS &  
AN INTERVIEW WITH  
GEMMA ROWE

**CONFETTI TO PINWOOD**  
EX-STUDENT LUKE GENTRY

**GRADUATION GUIDANCE**  
WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP

**5 TOP HITS**  
LEESHA-LEE'S SOUNDTRACK

**HOW TO SPEND YOUR SUMMER**  
NOTTINGHAM'S UPCOMING EVENTS



**confetti**

institute of creative technologies

SUM/2015



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As you're reading this, we're heading firmly into summer. Exams sat, coursework handed in and for many of you - it's time for some much-deserved chill-out time. From the how to grab a graduate job, to what's going down in Notts - the Wire's got it covered.

For us backstage, the hard work's just beginning. From big investments in technical infrastructure (sounds posh, actually means more really cool kit) to getting prepared for a jam-packed event-filled year ahead, the Confetti Team will be behind-the-scenes; booking guests, organising trips and getting ready to greet new faces, and welcome back more familiar ones.

If you're leaving us this year, make sure you stay in touch. We expect great things from our alumni so we'll want to know what you're up to. Join us on LinkedIn. It's a great way of making sure you hear about jobs in the creative industries and stay connected with people you've met through Confetti.

Have a brilliant summer, see you soon.  
The Confetti Team

-  @Confetti\_ict
-  Confetti Nottingham



# NEW FOR YOU

WE'VE MADE OVER £50,000 INVESTMENT IN TV & FILM COURSE RESOURCES, INCLUDING A BRAND NEW TV STUDIO - COMING SEPTEMBER 2015.

## TV STUDIO

As well as new classrooms, new kit and improved working spaces, from this September we're building a brand new shiny TV studio!

Head of Tech, Greg Marshall is excited about the project and the benefits for students. "We've spent over a year planning and designing the TV studio facilities we currently use for Notts TV. The new TV studio will be designed with these workflows in mind."

Students can expect to be working from the new TV studio from September 2015.



### SONY PXW-X70

The PXW-X70 is a 4K-ready fully-featured compact camcorder useful for a wide range of applications, from news gathering and documentary to events work. It features a 1.0 type Exmor™ R CMOS Sensor with a resolution of 20 megapixels. The sensor delivers high resolution and fantastic low light performance, as well as offering more depth of field control as demanded by today's diverse shooting requirements. In addition to this, it also features a NightShot mode that bypasses the camera's IR filter and includes a switchable infrared light, so you can shoot in total darkness.



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: NATHAN DALTON



“MAKE MUSIC THAT  
MAKES YOU HAPPY,  
AND IF OTHERS LIKE  
IT, IT’S A BONUS”

Cited by Eton Messy as ‘one to watch out for’, we had a chat with Nathan, 18, studying on Confetti’s Level 3 Urban & Electronics course...

#### How did you get started?

My dad kicked it all off for me. I’ve grown up listening to a range of UK garage, house and urban bass music, then when I was 14 he got me into producing. In the following year I managed to get my first DJ gig, after that I told my dad, “this is what I wanna do for the rest of my life,” to which he replied simply, “why wouldn’t you?”

Over the next three years I spent lots of time practicing in my ‘studio’ trying to perfect my skills, which apparently paid off as my edit of Dusky’s ‘Inta’ was given the seal of approval by the duo themselves and they even hit me up to ask for their own copy!

#### What’s your biggest achievement so far?

So many things have happened recently that I’m really proud of!

I’ve played at the Ministry of Sound nightclub in London twice, the first time when I was 17 – making me one of the three youngest artists to ever perform there. And then the second, I got to be alongside some of my favourite artists, like Carnao Beats and Martin Ikin. I’ve also remixed for some other amazing artists such as Disclosure, Roger Sanchez, J Cole and Fleur East.

Last year I had my first guest mix and interview on Rinse FM for Mark Radford – owner of Audio Rehab. I’ve also been included on one of the Pure Deep House compilation albums which is available all over the world. I used to save up my money and listen to those CDs when I was younger, it’s like a dream come true to be a part of one now.

#### What made you choose to come to Confetti?

I chose Confetti because I noticed they had a high success rate with other artists such as Philip George, ThePETEBOX and more. I was amazed by the amount of practical work and equipment supplied for students. The tutors also put so much effort into events and making lessons fun.

#### So what’s next?

I’ve recently just signed my latest single ‘Love Song’ to a drop-off label of Warner Brothers. Currently though I’m working on my follow-up single with vocalist, Rae. I’m also working on my next EP, as well as starting a project to launch my own label.

#### Any advice for others?

I think the best advice I could give is to make music that makes you happy - if others like it, it’s a bonus. There are too many artists sounding the same and not really creating their own sound and being original. I feel that in my own production I have many influences from different genres such as; garage, house and drum & bass, so it always helps to put what you love into your music and be real with it. Also be professional and keep a good profile.

Keep up to date with Nathan:

 [nathandaltonuk](https://soundcloud.com/nathandaltonuk)

 [NathanDaltonUK](https://www.facebook.com/NathanDaltonUK)

 [@NathanDaltonUK](https://twitter.com/NathanDaltonUK)

[www.mbartists.co.uk](http://www.mbartists.co.uk)

 **confetti**

# DEGREE SHOW

## 2015

Thursday 11 June saw our hugely talented degree level students' show off their work at their degree show. On one of the hottest days of the year, visitors, friends, family and industry piled into our HE Centre to see first-hand what months of hard work and preparation looks, sounds and feels like!

Gaming students took over the HE Lounge, encouraging guests to play their best work on giant screens. Courier Up! Rise of Kelvashian, Wheelgrinder and Inspace were just a few of the games being demo'd. Games artwork and concepts were also on display including 3D environments and character models.

FdSc Music and BSc Audio and Recording students showcased their original music productions including remixes and mastering portfolios. Over in Electric Mayhem students engineered exclusive live performances from Nottingham musicians Shelter Point.

In the Metal Room, visitors voted for Best Music Production with Jake Mochnacz, Matthew Hunt and Chris Sadler winning.

After all the interaction it was time to chill out in Confetti's film lounge and view the work of the TV and Film Production students. Crooked clowns, zombies, femme fatales and vacuum thieves were just some of the colourful characters keeping audiences entertained. The popcorn went down a treat too.

The Degree Show was capped off in style with an Awards Ceremony hosted by TV presenter Richard Spurr. Confetti tutors presented a series of awards rewarding achievements across all disciplines within games, music, TV and film. There were a total of 17 award winners on the night with four students scooping the top honours and winning paid internships with the Confetti Media Group.



The winners of the Confetti internships were:  
 Rhianne Murphy - FdSc Games Tech  
 Jake Sharpe - FdSc Music Tech  
 Rory Wallace - BSc Audio & Recording Tech  
 Gemma Rowe - FdSc TV and Film Tech

Gemma was also named Confetti Student of the Year. As well as a paid internship, she won a £1,000 cash prize.

Confetti Media Group boss Craig Chettle made the presentation to a delighted Gemma. "All the nominees have been exemplary students - it was such a hard call but Gemma really excelled throughout the year and had undertaken so many extra-curricular duties that we all felt she was deserving of the overall award".



# STUDENT OF THE YEAR

# GEMMA ROWE



We caught up with Student of the Year 2015, Gemma Rowe, to find out what it was like to be awarded with a paid internship and £1,000 after her time at Confetti.

**How did it feel to win Student of the Year?**

Having already won the TV and Film Student of the Year award I was so happy and didn't for one second expect to be named overall winner. I was speechless! Listening to my tutor Jamie Cash and then Confetti founder Craig Chettle say all those kind words brought me close to tears, but I managed to hold it together.

It was an overwhelming feeling, I remember standing up to receive the award and all I could do was laugh because this type of thing never ever happens to me. So many people that night said how much I deserved it, which was really nice to hear as I often doubt myself.

My dad and aunty cried watching the video on the Confetti Facebook page and my mum was so proud. It showed how much it meant to them that I achieved something so meaningful to me. I was so happy that all of the effort I had put in everyday had paid off and was also noticed by so many people.

For years I've always liked the idea of having my own Macbook to edit videos at home. So being given a prize of £1,000 has allowed me to buy one outright which is just an overwhelming feeling. That night will never leave me and is definitely the proudest moment of my life so far.

**What do you hope to gain from your internship over the next year?**

It's given me a foot in the door and allowed me to move on to the next level from being a student. I feel so lucky to have this chance to work in the industry in Nottingham, as I love it here. I feel Nottingham has developed a great film and TV industry and now I can say that I'm

a part of it. Ideally, I hope the internship will help further develop my knowledge and skills for use in my future career. I would also like the opportunity to think of some ideas for new Notts TV shows!

**How do you feel about your time at Confetti?**

As a mature student with a house to run, it has been tough financially, but I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Confetti. If I could go back in time I would do it all over again, maybe I'd manage my time better when working on assignments though.

I have gained massive respect for all the tutors that have played a great part in what I have achieved. Each tutor has pushed me to do better throughout the years and comparing my work from when I started the course to now, shows how I have progressed so much. I couldn't even use a computer when I first started! I've been so lucky for all of the opportunities I've had offered to me. I don't feel ready to leave Confetti as a student after four years, I feel "institutionalised" haha!

**Finally, what was your biggest highlight?**

My best moment would be my last short film for Confetti, as I've never previously been particularly proud of anything I've directed. I even uploaded it to the internet, which is something I never usually do. Reading the news with Prince Harry back in 2013 is another one of my best moments.

Confetti has changed me for the better as a person, and I always recommend Confetti to anyone who wants to make films because I can vouch that the film course has been a fantastic experience, and I will treasure those memories.



# 10 SECOND PLUG

# JODIE SMITH



**Age:** 17

**Course:** Level 2 Music Performance & Songwriting

**I picked Confetti because...**

I was at Chesterfield College studying Performing Arts, saw Confetti on Facebook and decided to go for an Open Day. I fell in love with every aspect of it! I loved the tutors and everyone was just so down-to-earth and sociable. The course was exactly what I wanted and like I say, I just fell in love with it!

**When I'm not studying I'm...**

writing songs, singing, playing computer games and reading. I do a bit of volunteering when I can and I also like writing stories and poems.

**I'm happiest when...**

I'm writing songs and I can really get my emotions through the music. It really helps me express how I'm feeling and there's nothing better than being able to see your feelings turn into a piece of art. That said, I'm also happy when I'm out walking and I can just let my mind wander. I usually get good song ideas then.

You can hear more from Jodie on: [f JodieRosemarieSmith](#) [Jodie-Rosemarie-Smith](#)

**Something to shout about?**

Whether it's a gig you want to plug, a site you want hit or a game you want to Kickstart - you've got 10 seconds to say why. GO! [marketing@confettimedialogroup.com](mailto:marketing@confettimedialogroup.com)

# CELEBRATE

It hasn't just been our degree-show students showing what they're made of this summer. Thursday July 9 saw our BTEC students put together an event to showcase the very best work from the year.

Featuring work from Games, Music, Digital Design and TV & Film students, Celebrate brought together parents, tutors and industry-guests in a day-long exhibition of exciting and innovative work.

Head of FE, Darren Bourne couldn't be more proud of this year's FE cohort.

"Our students are some of the brightest and most talented in the UK", he said. "It's exciting to see what they've been working on and to chat to students about what's important to them and what they're planning next. It was great to see the very high quality of the work and exciting that so many of our FE students are choosing to continue their journey, moving onto degree-level courses with Confetti."

CONFETTI CATCH-UP:

# LUKE GENTRY



“WORKING IN PINEWOOD’S SOUND DEPARTMENT WAS A DREAM COME TRUE.”

Since graduating from Confetti with an **FdSc in Music Technology** back in 2008, **Luke Gentry** has been working hard. Read about his journey from Confetti student to becoming a **Sound Designer** for **Pinewood Studios**.

Towards the end of my degree at Confetti, I took on a few one-to-one DJ tuition classes and it was at that point that I realised I wanted to work in film sound and sound effects editing. Luckily for me, Spool (based next door in Antenna), were kind enough to let me snoop around and help out whenever I could.

Then I heard about a new apprenticeship scheme, offering a year-long placement for six candidates across six different roles in the industry – including positions for a Sound Editor and Sound Recording Engineer. This was the opportunity of a lifetime, so I applied and managed to secure the Sound Editor Apprenticeship, beating over 600 other applicants to bag the job.

Moving to London and working in Pinewood’s sound department was a dream come true. I was thrown right into the heart of film sound at its highest level and just by being there I absorbed and learned so much in such a short space of time. I was able to observe the inner-workings of a studio responsible for the huge films across most, if not all, film sound disciplines. These include; foley recording and editing, ADR, FX editing & mixing. Throughout the year I realised that sound editing and more specifically FX editing was where I wanted to be.

My time with Pinewood was split across both London and Shepperton Studios. Shepperton is home to one of the busiest and most well-respected foley stages in the UK, and so I practically lived in there, helping out on as many big titles as I could. This in turn enabled me to interact on a daily basis with all the Supervising Sound Editors and Sound Designers coming through the doors. The relationships that I formed here proved to be invaluable.

Whilst at Shepperton I also helped edit in their Foreign Versioning department. This is where most of Disney, Sony and Paramount films are dubbed into multiple languages and was a great place for me to cut my teeth as an Editor. Upon completion of the Apprenticeship I started as a freelance Sound Editor.

I spent two years at Shepperton whilst also doing my own things on the side. I met a composer who I started to collaborate with on short films, advert pitches and in-store sonic branding and idents. At the same time I’d spend hours emailing and meeting up with contacts I’d met at Pinewood in order to try and secure a job on any up-and-coming film. With each ad, pitch or short film I completed, I’d send off or go and play to these contacts, hoping someone would take me on.

Eventually it worked, a Sound Designer by the name of Jimmy Boyle gave me a shot doing some sound design for the ‘Need For Speed: Most Wanted game’. This then led to Jimmy

offering me a runners job on ‘World War Z’ which I took. ‘World War Z’ led to ‘Edge of Tomorrow’, which led to ‘The Man From U.N.C.L.E.’, which then led to ‘Legend’ and with each film I did, I’d learn and ultimately contribute more to the final soundtrack.

I’m currently working on a Pinewood film as a Sound Designer and look forward to two other projects I’ve got lined up this year. I’ve also just worked on a live illusion with Dynamo, as well as a projection mapping installation for a Primark store in Berlin.

**‘The Man from U.N.C.L.E.’ can be seen in cinema’s across the country from 14 August. Let us know what you think by tweeting @Confetti\_ICT!**

# WHAT'S IN YOUR BAG? KATE WEBB

We caught up with second year Urban & Electronic student Kate Webb as she emptied the contents of her bag to show us what kit she rolls with...



- |                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 01. Sennheiser headphones | 08. Suede voucher     |
| 02. Calculator            | 09. Gig flyer         |
| 03. Bus pass              | 10. Library text book |
| 04. iPhone                | 11. Cable jack        |
| 05. Exercise book         | 12. USB stick         |
| 06. Mac book              | 13. Purse             |
| 07. Bottle of water       |                       |

Want to be featured in the next 'What's in your bag'? Email [marketing@confettimedialogroup.com](mailto:marketing@confettimedialogroup.com) and we'll get in touch!

THURSDAY  
13TH  
AUGUST

# RESULTS DAY 2015

Whether you achieve the results you want or you don't quite make it, Results Day can be a rollercoaster ride of feelings. Here's the best way to deal with what's going on...

On the day you'll need to be prepared for all possibilities and have a plan ready in case you don't get the results you want. Make a shortlist of all the courses you would be prepared to consider when going through Clearing.

Clearing is done through UCAS - it matches students without university places with courses which have spaces available. It can be an intense time, and although it opens on Results Day and ends on Wednesday 30 September, places are usually filled on the day itself, or at least within a week afterwards. This means it's really important to be prepared and have an idea of where else you might like to go. Otherwise you could miss out on a place on your dream course.

### Top tips for preparing for Clearing:

- Make a list of 5-10 uni options, starting with the one you're most interested in
- Gather phone numbers and email addresses for the university admissions team
- Know why you're interested in each university on your list
- Write a list of questions you could ask to show you're interested

It's vital to get everything together before you pick up the phone to admissions. They'll be really busy so don't waste time scrabbling around looking for important things.

### What you'll need:

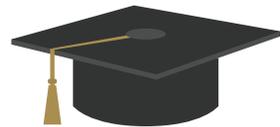
- UCAS Clearing number
- UCAS personal ID
- A Level results
- personal statement
- a pen and paper
- a good reason to go to each university

Be confident and positive when it comes to calling admissions and make sure you're the one to make the call - even though you might not want to talk about it, universities won't be impressed if your parents phone for you. Don't be shy, you need to make that university want you.

You'll need to sound interested in the subject you want to study - even if you don't have a particular course in mind, the admissions team will be able to find something which suits you.

It's also a good idea to note down the names and contact details for anyone you talk to. If you can't get through on the phone, send an email and call the next uni on your list before trying again later.

For free advice if your results weren't as good as you hoped, call the UCAS Exam Results Helpline on 0808 100 8000 or visit [www.ucas.com/clearing](http://www.ucas.com/clearing)



# LIFE AFTER CONFETTI

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**Woohoo! School's out for summer. Well, not just for summer. Potentially forever. Just think, you'll never sit another exam or write a dissertation again.**

You've done it. You've reached the end of that long road marked 'student'. Armed with a qualification in your specialist subject and more knowledge than you could shake a stick at you, now have the summer ahead to party, travel, stay in bed and hopefully find a job!

Here are our top tips to help you make the transition from student to graduate...

- 1 Write a good CV**  
Include a written testimonial from your tutor and details of special projects or mentions. Don't overdo it - avoid using fancy headers or graphics/icons.
- 2 Clean up your social media presence**  
Make sure Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter etc are clean and professional when applying for jobs. Employers may well check you out. It's a good idea to get a sensible email address too!
- 3 Make sure you have your address book up to date**  
This includes the contacts for your fellow students - who knows where they will be in 5 years' time!
- 4 Stay busy**  
The novelty of having nothing to do will soon wear off. Have a break, power up and treat finding work as a job in itself. Try and establish some new routines that will help you to stay focused and positive.
- 5 Get some experience**  
Volunteer! Now is the perfect time to build on skills or try new experiences.

Not had enough studying? Why not look into postgrad courses.

Do an Apprenticeship - still a worthwhile option if you have decided you want to re-train.

Take up an internship. Lots of companies are now offering these as a way in.
- 6 Get financially clued up**  
There are a few simple things you can do to take control of your finances, which means you may not have to rely on the bank of mum and dad anymore.

There is no stigma to receiving job seekers allowance. It can be useful while you are actively seeking a job. If you are over 18, able to work and currently job hunting, not in receipt of other benefits and without savings of over £16,000, then you can claim. Apply at: [direct.gov.uk/jsaonline](https://www.direct.gov.uk/jsaonline)

Get yourself a graduate bank account. Banks may be fighting for your business, so pick a bank offering the best rates such as 0% interest on overdraft.
- 7 Remember the three "Rs"**  
Relax! Take some time to think about what you want to do next. It can take people years to discover what it is that makes them happy. Don't panic. You are still young! Don't lose sight of what you enjoy and are good at.

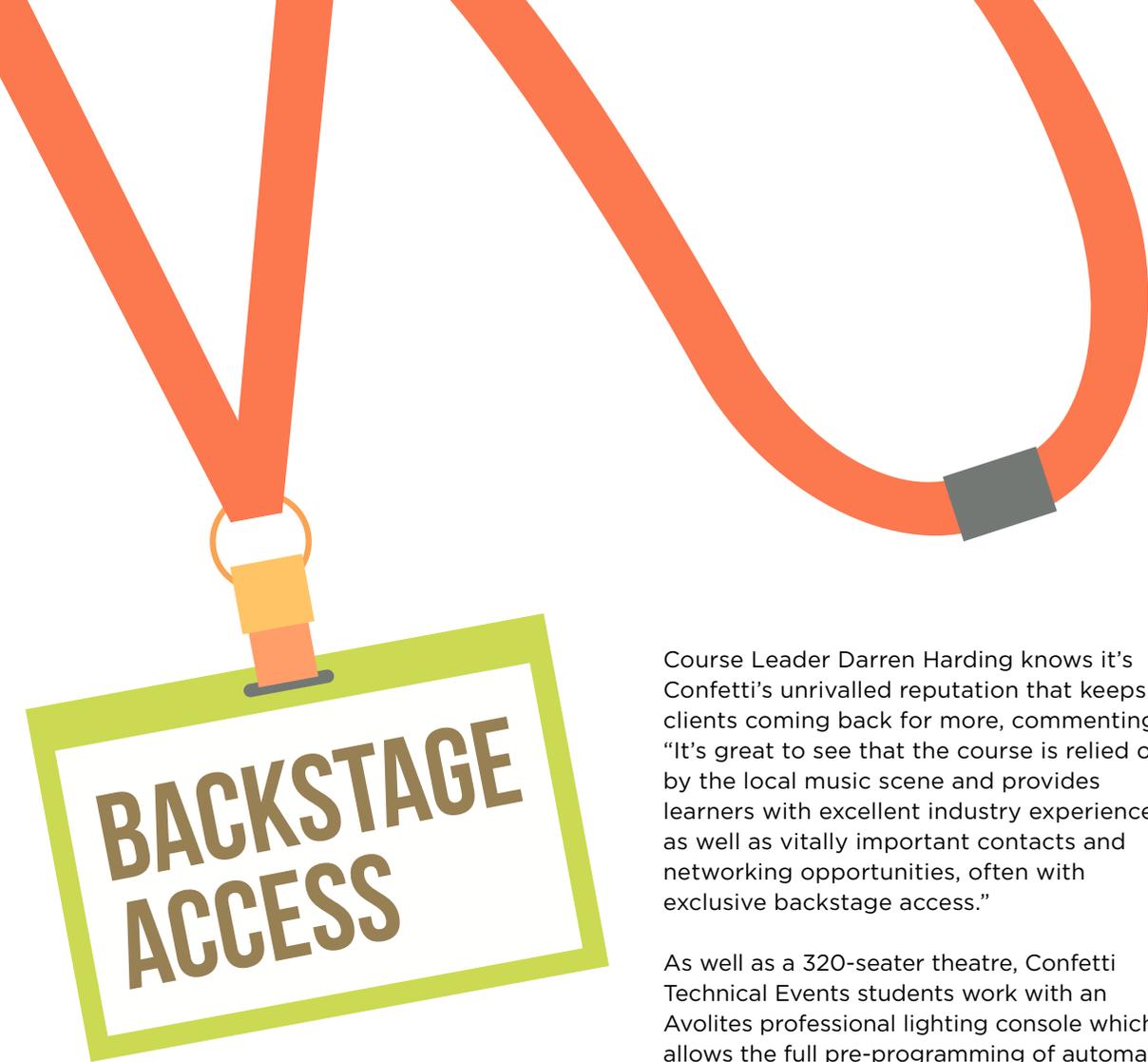
Research! Do your homework. Find out who is who in the company of your choice. Learn about them. Don't send letters and emails addressed 'To whom it may concern'. Find out who is in charge of the area you want to work in and tell them what you admire about their company/work/projects, why you want to learn from them and what you can offer them.

Be realistic! Don't expect your degree to propel you to the top, you need to put the effort in and work your way up. Be flexible, but stay focused on what you have studied for.

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**Gone is not forgotten.**

We'd love to stay in touch, join our Confetti Alumni page on LinkedIn and keep us up to date. Who knows, you may even be invited back as a future Industry Week guest!



**Over the last year, our BTEC Level 3 Technical Events students have been working on some pretty exciting stuff...**

Sought out by a number of promoters and festival organisers, our second year students are regularly requested by particular promoters for their specialist skills in live sound, stage management and event organisation.

From festivals like Dot to Dot and Detonate, to celebrity filled charity gigs, they have been working non-stop - supplying lighting, sound engineering and liaising with the performing artists. And they're currently gearing up for more events over the summer months - including Splendour where the Confetti Stage will be home to acts like Keto, The Swiines and 80's group, Bananarama.

Course Leader Darren Harding knows it's Confetti's unrivalled reputation that keeps clients coming back for more, commenting: "It's great to see that the course is relied on by the local music scene and provides learners with excellent industry experience, as well as vitally important contacts and networking opportunities, often with exclusive backstage access."

As well as a 320-seater theatre, Confetti Technical Events students work with an Avolites professional lighting console which allows the full pre-programming of automated lighting. It's the same kind of equipment used in massive venues such as the Capital FM Ice Arena and other major live sound venues.

Other amazing technical kit includes a Behringer x32 live sound console. This is a digital desk that enables the technician to fully programme sound from just one console.

**Sound good?**

As well as a BTEC Level 3 in Technical Events, we'll be running a brand NEW course at degree-level from September 2015. Our FdSc in Technical Events Production is for anyone with the passion and drive needed to pursue a career in the competitive events industry.

For more info and to apply, visit [confetti.uk.com](http://confetti.uk.com)



# MAKE THE GIG

**The first ever Level 2 Music Performance Night took place at The Nottingham Arts Theatre on Thursday 26 March 2015. The packed event was enjoyed by family and friends of the FS14-3 performance group - along with many past and present students. For many of the performers, this was their first live gig, so nerves were high!**

The four bands: AHOY!, Hello Houston, FS Fusion and Summa, Molly and Kayshan performed a faultless show, bringing tons of excitement to the onlookers, including 'wowed' family and friends. The audience were thoroughly entertained and very proud of their sons and daughters. They were shocked to learn that they'd only been rehearsing for 10 weeks under the guidance of front man Ashley Reynolds and course leader, Curtis Hodelin.

The performance group was supported by the first year Live Tech Events students: Nathanael Semple, Grace Cole and Stuart Coupe, who were headed by Course Leader, Darren Harding. These students worked all day to set up the venue with our own in-house live PA system and lighting rigs to showcase our young performers at their best.

**The performers on the night were...**

**AHOY!** - Adam Poyzer, Alex Burton, Constance Jackson, Denis Horak

**Hello Houston** - Liam Rouse, Shannon Cowell, Rayanne Cowell

**FS Fusion** - Rafe Harstad, Christopher Dehinsilu, Jodie Smith, Aaron Evens-Mark

**Summa, Molly & Kayshan** - Summa Morgan, Molly Hindley, Kayshan Henstock

Keep an eye open, these guys are looking forward to their next live gig for Confetti!

# 24 HOURS WITH... ABBI COLLINS

Having worked on TV shows & films such as Misfits, Harry Potter, Shaun of the Dead and The Wrong Man's, we caught up with #IW15 guest, Abbi Collins to see what happens in the day-to-day life of a stunt co-ordinator...



**18:00** I wrap on a job and get ready to travel from my home in Surrey to Cardiff. I check into a hotel in Cardiff, where I'm working on Casualty tomorrow.

**21:00** I start writing risk assessments for a job I'm working on later in the week. It's laborious, but a necessary part of the job.

**01:30** Finally I get to bed, try to switch off and get some much-needed rest.

**07:15** I'm up and it's time for cup of Earl Grey tea. I quickly get ready, pack my case and check out.

**08:00** I have some breakfast and carry on with my paperwork, finishing off the risk assessments I was working on the night before.

**09:00** My taxi arrives. I'm off to Roath Lock, where the BBC studios are based.

**09:30** I have a meeting with lovely director Graeme Harper to talk through the action in the next block of Casualty he's directing.

**13:00** Stop for lunch in the BBC canteen.

**14:30** Head upstairs to the production office to go through contracts. I give the team photos and contact details for the stunt doubles I'll be using on the next block of filming.

**18:00** I have a hire car delivered to me at the studios. I have a long drive ahead!

**21:00** Wrap in Cardiff. I drive five hrs (in thick fog for the first 2 hrs!) to Glasgow to work the next day on a TV drama called Stonemouth.

**01:00** Finally bedtime. I have a 7am pick-up tomorrow so it's time to get some sleep!

[www.abbicollins.com](http://www.abbicollins.com)



Since it opened in March, the National Videogame Arcade on Carlton Street in Hockley has received fantastic visitor feedback and attracted worldwide renown as the first permanent cultural space dedicated to games. We've had thousands of visitors to our Galleries, Cafe and Bar; we've hosted game-making workshops, game jams and tournaments; played ridiculous team games, and schooled Dara O'Briain in the art of Track and Field.

We're thrilled to support Confetti students with special events and exclusive benefits, including our long-standing 2-for-1 offer on gallery and event tickets - just turn up with your Confetti Student ID card!

As summer approaches, the NVA's private outdoor Toast Garden remains one of the most delightful spaces in the city to enjoy a drink or an ice-cream in the sun.

For details of our upcoming events and shows follow us on:

-  @gamecity
-  @nva\_nottingham
-  /nva\_nottingham

or check out [gamecity.org](http://gamecity.org) for more information!

We're open from 10am every day except Monday - and don't forget that we turn into a fully-licensed bar with late-night opening every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Come and join us for drinks and a wide selection of the most enjoyable board games, card games and multiplayer videogames - from Bomberman to Gangbeasts; Micro Machines to Smash Bros.

From Friday 24 July, onwards through the summer holidays, the NVA Galleries will be open every day (except Mondays), and we'll be running loads of special summertime activities.





# MEET JONATHAN FRANCIS

FE Games tutor, Jonathan Francis, tells us how it feels knowing thousands have played a game you've made and gives us his best advice...

#### What's the best thing about teaching here?

I would say teaching the future major games developers. Though the subject matter is also pretty up there. There's always a conversation going on about games - you can jump in or leave whenever you want.

#### How did you get into creating games?

Creating games was always something I enjoyed, but when I was growing up there were limited options and even fewer courses. One of my first games was 'Existence: Invaders'. I originally planned to create the game with people I'd met online, but it was hard to keep the levels of commitment high. Eventually it just ended up being a close friends' project. My very first game though was 'Piggy Parachute' - we wanted a more simple game to learn the tools of the trade and Piggy let us do that.

#### How does it feel knowing people are playing on something you've created?

It is a weird feeling, slightly akin to the first time you do Karaoke! It's scary and you suspect everyone is judging you very personally, it does get easier though. One of my games, Mini Mayhem, has been downloaded over 50,000 times. It's fantastic to think that 50,000 people around the world have played my game. It's a great feeling. I wish I could personally thank every one of them.

#### Are you working on anything at the minute?

I've recently released a game with a fellow tutor, so I need to nurture that game a little. I am also working on releasing more of my games on iOS, as well as creating a sequel to Mini Mayhem.

#### What does the future bring for you?

I'm hugely interested in the advancements in technology, especially within the gaming world. My next project is likely to be a Virtual Reality game.

#### What's your best piece of advice?

I am a firm believer in '110%'. Even though you might be tired from a full day of college or work, sometimes you have to find that little bit of extra energy and enthusiasm to keep working. Actions speak louder than words, if you want to do something, just do it.

Oh, and don't player hate, participate.

Check out some of Jonathan's games, now available on Android and iOS devices.

 @8fifty2

 Search 8fifty2

 8fifty2@gmail.com



## THE NATIONAL VIDEOGAME ARCADE

# 2-for-1 ENTRY

Exclusive offer for Confetti and NTU students.



2-for-1 entry to the NVA on Fridays during term time.

2-for-1 student tickets for monthly GameCityNights.

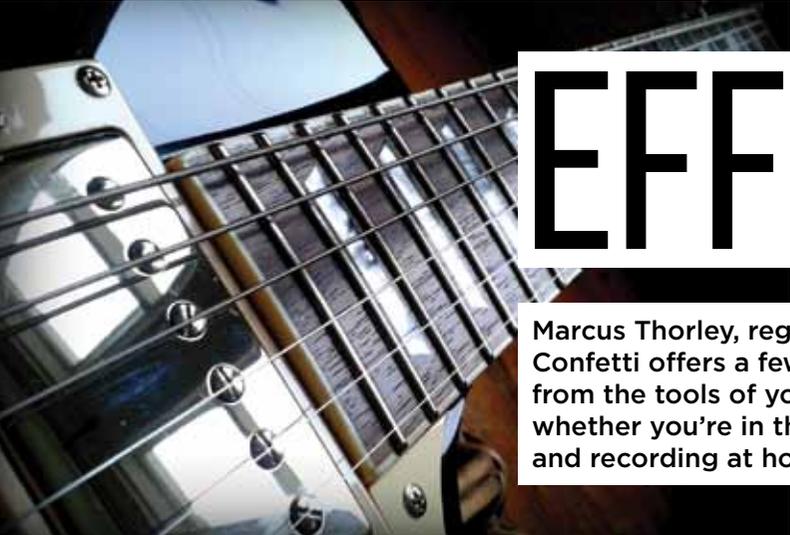
Show your valid NTU or Confetti student card at the ticket desk.

[www.gamecity.org](http://www.gamecity.org)  
24-32 Carlton Street  
Hockley  
Nottingham City Centre.

 Free Wi-Fi in the Toast Cafébar

# New ways to play together





# EFFECTED

Marcus Thorley, regular Guitar & Bass session tutor at Confetti offers a few suggestions to help get the most from the tools of your trade and improve your sound, whether you're in the studio, playing live or writing and recording at home.

## Guitar

A properly set up instrument makes life a whole lot easier and can save time, effort and money. If you don't do your own maintenance, get your guitar set up by a luthier – it will save many hassles when playing live. When in the studio 'fixing it in the mix' just isn't a possibility if the intonation/tuning is out on your instrument. New strings stretched on a correctly maintained guitar is a no brainer and because you sound better, you should naturally play better.

## Leads & Cables

Guitar to Pedal/Amp lead is the first path your signal takes, so it is the main signal flow from your instrument. Good quality leads are important. The connecting leads between pedals are often overlooked. Cheap moulded connecting leads are often responsible for cutting top end frequencies and reducing the quality of your sound. Brands, such as George L's – Lava, Providence and Evidence etc. are a serious upgrade and significantly improve clarity and tone. They are more expensive yes, but it's definitely worth it.

## Final note...

Try looking at each part of your rig: instrument, cable/leads, pedals and amp and improve the weakest areas and continue improving and developing as you go. Remember it's not just your gear being improved - it's an investment in yourself.

Learn more from Marcus through Facebook and YouTube: [f marcus.thorley.3](#) [YouTube MtheBass](#)

## Pedals

A couple of pedals will quite happily run off batteries so this can be a logical way to go. More pedals will merit a power supply. These vary a lot in price and quality since using mains power can bring various issues to contend with.

All inputs and outputs can be cleaned with a cotton bud that's been dipped in some denatured alcohol, (nail varnish remover also does the trick) and can result in a surprisingly clearer signal. Servisol (switch cleaning lube) keeps your instruments, pedals and amps running smooth and noise free.

## Bass

Bass can be viewed along similar lines and should of course be set up and maintained. As for strings, much depends on the style of music you're playing and the sound you're after. For some players, new strings give a particular open, bright tone (think John Entwistle of 'The Who'). Some prefer a more rootsy, muted tone and an older (broken in) set of strings (think James Jamerson – Motown legend).

# MY 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR AT CONFETTI

Emilie Musson talks about her first year studying TV and Film here at Confetti, including meeting the likes of TV presenter Stacey Dooley at our annual Industry Week in March.

I started my TV and Film course at Confetti back in September 2014 knowing very little about the TV and Film industry and knowing nobody on the course. But now, halfway through, I feel like I have learnt so much about what goes into making films and the media industry and I have made some friends for life.

So far I've learnt how to shoot and direct short films, create animated idents, record professional sound effects and so much more. In a way, being at Confetti changed me as a person and brought me close to my classmates. I now feel so inspired and I know that working in the media industry is definitely what I want to do as a career. Many people in my class feel the same.

During Confetti's Industry Week I felt so inspired to learn from the people I watched during lectures. In particular TV presenter Stacey Dooley was my favourite talk. She is so incredible and humble and such a lovely woman to talk to. I felt so empowered by what she was saying and I aspire to have a career like hers.

I have no regrets at all about enrolling on this course because it has changed my mindset about the media industry and pop culture. Our tutors have taught us so much and pushed us to do the best we can in our assignments. My class feels more like a family and we all try to help and support each other, I'll always cherish the memories I have made.



# STRATAGEN MANAGEMENT

From starting a record label to scoring a meeting at Sony records; with their award winning artists, it's clear that success is on the horizon for the guys of Stratagen Management.

Starting at Confetti in 2013, Brodan, Alex and Finn knew that it was the business side of the music industry that was calling out to them. In the first year of their Urban & Electronics and Visual Effects courses, they started up their own record label and that's where their success story begins.

Alongside studying and running their label, they also worked part-time for a local music studio. At one of the live events there, Alex was introduced to the fourth member of Stratagen, Raphael.

"We began talking and he told me he was a songwriter and a musician. He had also worked at Sony Music and had experience in the music business. We kept in contact and worked on some projects together and we eventually decided that a record label wasn't our long term plan. We realised an artist management company would suit our long term goals better and MOZE (Brodan) was the first act we signed."

Each member of Stratagen brings their own skillset, making for a great dynamic within the team. Alex's main job is giving the overall

management to the artists, networking with labels, booking agents and making sure that the campaigns and music production all run smoothly. Finn is in charge of content creation and making everything from logos to music videos. Raphael oversees all of the business affairs and puts in place the strategy and campaigns for each artist. And Brodan, as well as being a DJ (and winner of this year's music Young Creative Award), works with Finn on branding and production.

Stratagen artists are doing extremely well. With airplay on Radio 1Extra and support from some big names in the industry things are looking good for the future of the company. MOZE has even had over 1 million plays on Soundcloud for his track 'Pulse'.

"It's really great to see our artists gaining recognition from some well known household names," says Alex. "Our main four acts; LiTek, Albzzy, Forbid and MOZE are doing amazingly well. LiTek recently worked on an official remix for Connor Maynard and is currently doing a remix for Black Butter Records - who are Rudimental's label. Albzzy has had a lot of support from Dutch music producer, Oliver



Heldens. MOZE recently had big success with a release of Whitney Houston's "I wanna dance with somebody" for the anniversary of her death and also won the 2015 Young Creative Award in the 16-18 Music category. And as a company, we're in talks with a few big labels about some potential single releases this year!"

During this years Industry Week, the guys spoke to Spencer Wells, who works in Confetti's sister company Denizen, who put them in touch with music professional, Rak Sanghvi. They also managed to get introduced to Sean Denny from Sony Records who invited them down to London for a chat.

"Confetti has been really great with supporting us in what we want to do. Our tutors have been supportive in introducing us to people at the Industry Week closing party and also just helping us getting our names out there, it has been really appreciated. They're also really helpful in offering advice and setting you up very well for going into the music industry."

Now approaching the end of their courses, the guys of Stratagen are gearing up to run the company full-time and sign up some new acts.

**"IT'S GREAT TO SEE OUR ARTISTS GAINING RECOGNITION FROM SOME WELL KNOWN HOUSEHOLD NAMES"**

Tutor Lee Gillyon says, "We all wish the guys huge success. They've worked really hard on their business and you can see the passion and dedication that they are putting into making it in the industry".

Listen to Stratagen's current signed artists via Soundcloud



If you want to get in touch with Stratagen and see what they're up to next, contact them on:



LEESHA-LEE'S

## TOP TRACKS

"Since the era of modern music, our musicians have really taken a turn for the better, moving into all different types of genres from Jazz (like our Bill Evans with Waltz for Debby) to Soul/RNB (like The Queen B we know today as Beyonce). The scene is set - music to come will hit the streets in a storm of melody and rhythms, from the underground streets of the UK to US talent. I wonder what our young Blue and North West have to offer in the coming future."

Leesha-Lee, award-winning radio presenter and producer at urban radio station Kemet FM, is a born and bred Nottingham girl who began her career aspirations in radio at the age of 16, when she started a BTEC level 3 Urban & Electronic course at Confetti. Continuing to chase her dream of international fame across the airwaves, Leesha plans to go on to study Radio Broadcast.

The 18 year old popped by to give us a count down of her top five favourite tracks of all time.

- 
- 5 Juicy - Notorious B.I.G**  
Hitting the streets back in 1994, Biggie switched up his flava, taking a hip-hop steer from his childhood - making this particular track more relatable and inspiring. The late Biggie Smalls (also known as The Notorious B.I.G), started to do great things back in the early 90s (especially with 'Mo'Money Mo'Problems' peaking No1 for two weeks straight). 'Juicy' is still making massive movements in nightclubs today.
  - 4 Don't - Ed Sheeran**  
Ed Sheeran is enjoying his time in the spotlight. His second studio album, X, dropped in the summer of 2014 where it topped the Official Charts for 15 weeks straight. 'Don't' has catchy, funky lyrics and features Sheeran's unique flow and guitar skills. Ace!
  - 3 If I Ruled the World - Nas ft. Lauryn Hill**  
Hitting the Top 20 in the Billboard Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles and Tracks Charts back in 1996, 'If I Ruled the World' was featured on Nas' all-time classic album, 'It Was Written' - a follow up from his 1994 album, 'Illmatic'. Both albums were massive, for production quality and the message behind the lyrical content, it's also why they are still recognised as great political radicalisation albums, 20 years on.
  - 2 Breakfast - Kelis**  
This track wasn't released as a single, but featured on Kelis' 2014 studio album, Food which was a great blend of Neo Soul, Afro-Beats and R&B and charted at number 20 in the UK Album Charts - Kelis knew this diverse flava would be different but she worked it well and it paid off.
  - 1 Bag Lady - Erykah Badu**  
Bag Lady is a definite favourite. Badu's unique jazz-like voice creates magic on this track. Featured on her 'Mama Guns' album, the track did brilliantly, topping the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Song Charts for seven weeks running.

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Got a top list you'd like to share in the next issue?

Email [marketing@confettimedialogroup.com](mailto:marketing@confettimedialogroup.com)



## PROMOTIONS



Matt Atherton at one of  
TG Promotions events

Confetti students are a talented lot. From movie-makers to musicians, game developers to animators, our current and alumni students are some of the most dedicated and passionate creatives in the UK. But what about running a successful business alongside studying? We quizzed Level 3 TV & Film student Matt Atherton on his success so far and what he believes is the secret to striking the studying/work/social life balance.

**Matt, so you're a promoter, student and all-round promotions aficionado, tell us a bit about how you got started...**

I've always been passionate about music! It's the thing that keeps me sane when I get stressed. I love going to gigs, they make me feel happy and relaxed so I just want to create that vibe for other people (cheesy, I know!) My first opportunity to work on a gig was with a band called The Ratells which sold out! It was such a surreal experience for me and I learnt so many invaluable things, I instantly knew that I wanted to work on more gigs, and that inspired TG Promotions. September 2013 marked TG Promotions' first event with the extremely talented headliner, Daniel Dobbs. It was interesting to see how so much organisation goes into making an excellent gig. Overall, I really wanted to bring together different communities, from YouTubers to local musicians, under one roof to create something really unique and enjoyable.

**It sounds exciting, but hard work! What's your main role then?**

I actually founded TG Promotions. One of my main jobs is to support promotions; running the social media accounts, putting posters up wherever I can and just spreading the word. I've built a team of trustworthy, hardworking people and without them, TG Promotions would never have been as strong as it is! I've recently been working closely with Ben Tennett who studies on the Technical Events course at Confetti, discussing an upcoming show (The Summer Big One) which is very exciting. Details about that will hopefully be coming soon, so be sure to follow us on our social media platforms!

**"PROMOTING IS SUCH A FUN BUSINESS TO GET INVOLVED WITH BUT YOU NEED TO HAVE YOUR HEART IN IT TO REALLY DO WELL."**

**Tell us about your annual event, 'That Nottingham Christmas'. It's got a great rep...**

'That Nottingham Christmas' is our annual end-of-year show and is always really exciting. We started in December 2013 and the event has only got better, even though it's taken a lot more hard work and effort as time has progressed. Getting acts as amazing as Matt Humphries or Adam Zareba isn't easy, but when they heard about the good causes the money would be going to, they were as excited to take part as us.

**You've clearly achieved a lot, what's been your proudest moment so far?**

There have been two moments that really stuck out for me. Selling out The Ratells gig on my first event was a completely unforgettable experience, but it was possibly topped after the second 'That Nottingham Christmas' by all the people telling us how amazing it was, and how they had enjoyed listening to performers they'd never heard before. Some people asked if they could be involved in our future events, which was surreal! Only a year before, that person was me, asking if there was any way I could take part and get involved. It felt weird, but was such an amazing accomplishment and showed me how much I've grown as a promoter.

**So what's next? Give us a bit of a preview of what's coming up...**

There are a lot of secret projects in the works at the moment, but what I can say for sure is that TG Promotions will be running 'The Summer Big One' hopefully in two locations this year, and we'll be helping out with the brilliant 'Macmillan Fest' run by our friends at IKE Productions. For myself personally, I'm planning to focus on creating music videos for talented musicians such as Matt Humphries, who will soon be releasing his first EP with the help of TG Promotions.



The TG Promotions team at  
'That Nottingham Christmas' 2014

**Any advice on starting up and managing that all important work/college/social life balance?**

Make sure you know how much time you have available. You don't want to become too stressed out with college deadlines and other projects piling up. I'd recommend spending at least an hour a day just relaxing, whether that's watching Netflix, Skyping friends or anything else. If college work does get too much then talk to your tutor, that is what they are there for. I wouldn't be in the position today if I didn't have people like Chris Hallam to speak to! I've found it important to remind myself that this is my hobby and if I start to view it as work, it will just make me feel stressed and panicked over something I once loved. Going to gigs isn't only a way of enjoying yourself, but it will help you with promoting as well. Getting involved with small, local artists is so much more gratifying because they'll appreciate your time and effort so much more. They'll also know that in the future, when they're mega-famous, they can rely on you.

**Local musician or want to get into promoting? Contact us for potential future shows.**

@TG\_Gigs

TNottinghamG

TheTGPromotions

TGgigsandevents@gmail.com

# #DOWHATIDO

We find out what three of the 'Student of the Year 2014' winners have been up to in the last 12 months...



**Abbey Plumb**

Post and Production Assistant  
FdSc Digital Video Broadcast  
Production, 2012-2014

"Before my degree I studied Music Technology - Rock and Live. As part of this course I had to do a Music Video and Sound for Moving Image project, which was where I was first inspired to get involved with TV and Film.

When I finished the FdSc, I won TV & Film student of the year and was offered an internship at Spool Films working as a Post/Production Assistant which has been an incredible experience and brilliant opportunity to gain valuable work experience whilst finishing off my Degree.

The advice I would give is to make the most of the opportunities and facilities that are available and to always appreciate how useful each opportunity is. Get out there! Make some incredible memories and have fun!"



**Jurgis Masilionis**

Technical Production Assistant  
BSc Audio Recording  
Technology, 2010-2014

"When I joined Confetti in 2010, I was starting from square one. It was all new to me, but also very exciting. Soon after I was looking for artists around town, offering them free recordings. At the end of my course I won 'Best Confetti Audio Student of the Year' and was offered a job at Notts TV.

I really enjoyed my time at Confetti. The great equipment and inspiring teachers allowed me to go from knowing barely anything about recording music to releasing several commercially available albums.

My advice is to not expect to walk out of the classroom knowing how to do everything. While theory is important, you won't get anywhere without getting your hands dirty - do as many recordings as you can, experiment and find your sound."



**Matthew Burrows**

Sound Designer  
FdSc Music Technology,  
2012-2014

"After winning, I had no idea what to expect - I'd come from the music side of things and film was never something I'd considered. But since starting with Spool I've learnt so much and had so many opportunities.

I've already got two feature film credits as a Sound Designer and as the year has progressed I've had the chance to compose music as well.

I've recently completed my first film score for the National Civil War Centre and a few tracks I produced have been used on adverts. Confetti presented me with this opportunity and my course equipped me to take full advantage of it and now I've been taken on full time as a Composer/Sound Designer/Engineer with Spool!"



# OPEN DAYS

GAMES | MUSIC | TV & FILM | PERFORMANCE | DIGITAL MEDIA

Come see us at one of our upcoming open days; you'll get a tour of our facilities, have a chat with our tutors and we'll work together to find the right course for you.

## 2015 COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSE OPEN DAYS

Wednesday 12 August  
Thursday 27 August  
Wednesday 9 September

## 2015 DEGREE-LEVEL COURSE OPEN DAYS

Saturday 19 September  
Saturday 17 October

Just text **CONFETTI** to 80011, call us on **0115 993 2321** or visit **confetti.uk.com** to book your place.

# WHAT'S ON NOTTS?



**SPLENDOUR  
FESTIVAL**  
Wollaton Hall

Splendour is set to be one of the biggest summer days out across the Midlands.

Featuring singer of the moment Jess Glynne, (best known for featuring on Clean Bandit's 'Rather Be') and Lawson, who will also be performing fresh material to excite the crowd, alongside their hit singles, 'Juliet' and 'When She Was Mine'.



**THE BEACH**  
Old Market Square

Nottinghamshire may be the most land-locked county in England, but this summer the city centre will once again be transformed.

With 250 tonnes of golden sands, the themed beach bar, giant paddling pool, fun family rides and games, there is something for everyone at The Beach.

This year's event promises to be even better than before. So bring the family down, pull up a deckchair and enjoy the fun!

We are introducing some new acts into the mix, along with popular acts from the past to give our entertainment line up a fresh feel.



Described as 'the voice of urban Britain' by The Times, MOBO award winner, vocalist and rapper Roots Manuva, best known for the hit single 'Witness The Fitness', will be bringing his UK hip hop style to Wollaton's lush fields.

For the latest details and to buy tickets head to: [splendourfestival.com](http://splendourfestival.com)



**FANTASTIC FOUR**  
Cinemas nationwide

A contemporary re-imagining of Marvel's original and longest-running superhero team, Fantastic Four centres on four young outsiders who teleport to an alternate and dangerous universe, which alters their physical form in shocking ways.

Their lives irrevocably upended, the team must learn to harness their daunting new abilities and work together to save Earth from a former friend turned enemy.



**WATERFRONT  
FESTIVAL**  
Canal House

Nottingham's biggest, best live band benefit festival, is back to celebrate its fifth birthday!

So far, The Waterfront Festival has raised over £13,000 for Nottingham charities and this year they'd like everyone to make an effort. Dress up, dress fancy, dress like it's a five year old's birthday party! There are no rules and of course this isn't obligatory but who wants to be boring Barry? Not us and no offence Barry, everyone says you're lovely when they get to know you!

Big prizes will be available for the most outrageous costume!

Buy tickets now and see who's performing at: [waterfrontnotts.com](http://waterfrontnotts.com)



**OPEN MIC  
COMPETITION**  
Britannia Hotel

Open Mic UK is the exciting national singing competition for bands and solo artists in the UK. The competition attracts over 9,000 acts every year as it travels across the country in search of the UK's best singers, singer/songwriters, rappers and vocalists. Acts can perform either covers or original material and it's open to all genres, so whether you're into pop, RnB, acoustic or classical, Open Mic UK has it all.

If you're successful you'll be given a place in the Regional Final Showcases and the opportunity to perform at some of the best venues in the country.

To book your audition place and find out more visit: [openmicuk.co.uk](http://openmicuk.co.uk)



**SUMMER NIGHTS  
- DARK KNIGHT RISES**  
Wollaton Hall

Christopher Nolan returns to his Gotham City stomping ground for a final go-around with Christian Bale's Batman, adding Anne Hathaway as Selina Kyle (aka Catwoman) and the wonderful Tom Hardy as the brutal Bat breaking Bane to the mix. The movie was shot in the grounds of Wollaton Hall itself.

Summer Nights is a festival of outdoor film screenings in beautiful heritage locations throughout August. Other showings at this venue include Dirty Dancing and Alan Partridge: Alpha Papa.

For tickets & more information visit: [summernightsfilm.co.uk](http://summernightsfilm.co.uk)



**ROBIN HOOD  
MARATHON**  
Victoria Embankment

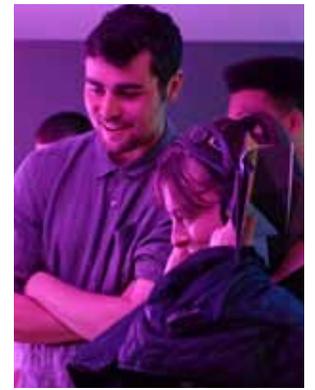
Entries for this years mini, half and full Marathon are now open! Sign up and join the attempt to set a new record for the number of people running as Robin Hood.

A new route for both the Marathon and Half Marathon will be announced soon. Keeping the parts we all love, including the Race Village, start and finish area next to the River Trent on Victoria Embankment, the new route will see you run right past iconic landmarks that the City has to offer as well as some of the most picturesque and stunning parkland.

Register online now at: [robinhoodhalfmarathon.co.uk](http://robinhoodhalfmarathon.co.uk)

# THE GALLERY

Bringing together the work of the next generation of creative professionals, our Degree Showcase was an amazing opportunity to experience the work of some of the most talented creative graduates in the UK. Well done class of 2015!



DHP PRESENTS

# SPLENDOUR

IN NOTTINGHAM

SATURDAY 18TH JULY 2015 WOLLATON PARK

MAIN STAGE

# THE SPECIALS.

WITH VERY SPECIAL GUESTS

# james

JESS GLYNNE LAWSON ROOTS MANUVA  
AMBER RUN TO KILL A KING  COMPETITION WINNER

CONFETTI STAGE

# BANANARAMA

THE TWANG // FEROCIOUS DOG // IRIS GOLD  
KETO // THE SWINES // GEORGIE

COMEDY STAGE

ANDY ROBINSON (COMPÈRE) // JOLLYBOAT  
IAN D. MONTFORT // ELLIE TAYLOR  
CHRISTIAN REILLY // JOHN ROBERTSON

ACOUSTIC ROOMS STAGE

HHYMM // JOY MUMFORD // EYRE LLEW  
PIERCE BROTHERS // JAMIE LAWSON  
MARTIN LUKE BROWN // DAUDI MATSIKO  
MOLLY AND JACK // RJMARKS // CEDRIC PETERS

\* STALLS \*

\* FUNFAIR \*

\* BARS \*

\* KID'S AREA \*

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