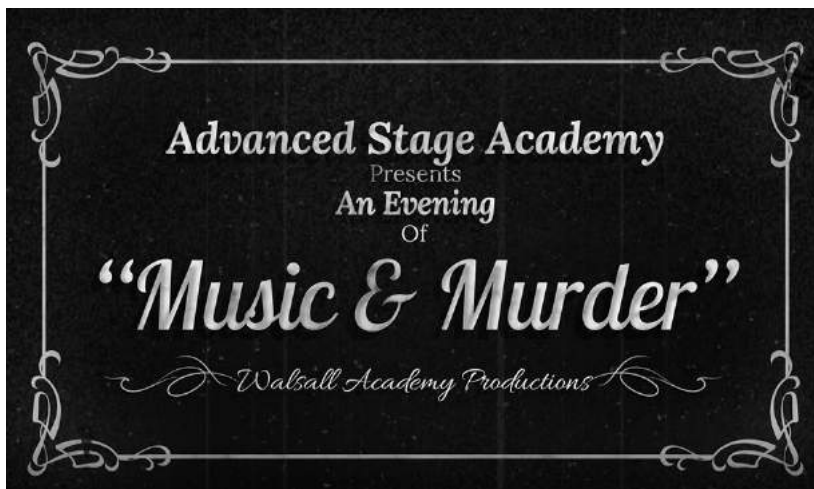




# *An Evening of Music and Murder*

Walsall Academy's first ever evening mixing a murder mystery with songs in 1920s swing style! An amazing evening was had by all trying to solve the crime of a recently deceased nightclub owner, presided over by a performance from Mr Pratt as the Compere. Stand out performances came from all students who created an amazing interactive performance. Ellymai aka 'The Mistress' turned out to be the murderer in a tense evening of lies and deception!



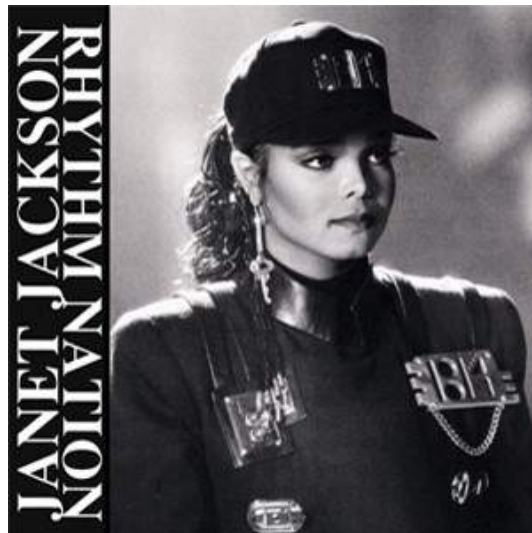
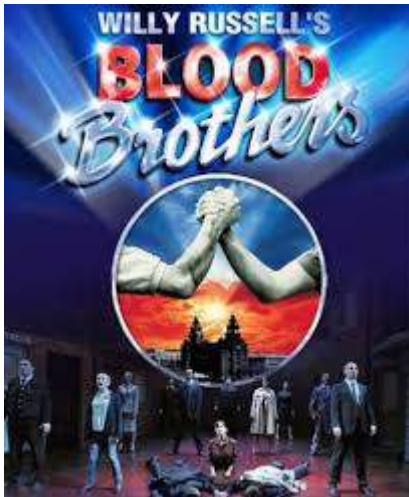
## *Year 10 Component 2 Showcase*

On Wednesday 11 December, Year 10 Dance students performed their Component 2 performance pieces for a live audience of Year 9 students. This showcase forms part of their internal coursework and students were required to replicate pieces of professional repertoire exactly from a video resource. As a class the students were taught 'Rhythm Nation' by Janet Jackson and within smaller groups some stand out performances were from 'Run the World', 'No Excuses' and 'Imagine'. The whole class performed excellently and are beginning to considerably develop both their choreography and performance skills throughout the course.

## *Year 11 Dance and Drama Component 2 Showcase*

On Friday 13 December, Year 11 Dance and Drama students came together to share their performance work for their internal coursework unit of Component 2. The afternoon was incredibly successful as the Dance students performed a class piece of 'Rhythm Nation', alongside professional choreographies in a mixture of dance styles.

The current Year 11 Acting class performed a range of excerpts from Willy Russell's hit play 'Blood Brothers'. Stand out performances came from Maisie and Sophie as Edward and Mickey, as well as Chezney, Lilly, Loukia, Cameron and Ethan, all of whom performed with excellent imagination and professionalism.



## *Dance Showcase*

On Wednesday 5 February, the Dance Department hosted the first showcase of the year. The evening consisted of assessment performance pieces for the students following the BTEC route at KS4 and KS5, alongside individual choreographies and Session 3 pieces. The Academy also hosted Elmore Green Primary School with whom they have been working with across the term and Barr Beacon to help strengthen the links between schools. The evening was a huge success with stand-out performances from Sixth Form, Faye, Libby and Georgie. Well done to all involved.

## *Sixth Form Unit 4 Performance*

On Thursday 12 December, the Sixth Form Performing Arts students took to the stage to entertain selected Year 8, 9 and 11 students on their subject performance pieces for their Unit 4 coursework. The brief was set for students to select a community issue that they feel strongly about and interpret this into a performance piece lasting up to 20 minutes. The Dance students chose the issue of 'Body Image' and included video clips, props and visual aids into their performance. The Drama students selected a range of issues relating to teenagers such as peer pressure, stress and financial support. Again, they selected a range of technological aids to help them portray their performance piece which added to the impact their delivery had on the audience.



## *A Hollywood Christmas*

On Monday 16 December, students from across all year groups came together to showcase performances for the annual Celebration of Christmas. The students performed dance pieces, musical contributions and acting extracts to a full audience based upon the theme of 'A Hollywood Christmas'. The performances were all selected from Christmas movies and there were some excellent contributions from Ronald, Christina, Year 10 dancers and Xpression.



## *Music Academy Showcase*

On Thursday 13 February, students from our Music Academy performed in a showcase in the theatre to show the progress they have been making in their instrumental lessons. All students performed exceptionally well and have been showing good confidence and excellent musical potential for the future. Some standout performances included Aaron on the bass guitar, Elizabeth on the flute, and Harriet with a beautiful vocal piece.

## *Music Visitor*

On Thursday 5 December, BTEC Music students participated in music industry workshops led by Doug Rouxel, the leading lecturer in Music Business and Production courses at Staffordshire University. Students were able to learn about how a record label works, the process of creating a successful album and how to make money in the industry. It was an insightful and informative session with students gaining key knowledge for their upcoming exam.





# Performing Arts Star Students



## Key Stage 3

### Drama

Aaron has recently been outstanding in his Drama sessions, showing an excellent grasp and practical application of the theories and techniques of Stanislavski.

His contributions to discussion on the topic have been first rate! We look forward to developing Aaron's acting style over the next module of work. Well done Aaron.

### Dance

Katie is this term's Star Student in Dance for her ever improving technique and performance work. Katie is very versatile in all styles of Dance and will put 100% into each routine taught. She most recently performed an outstanding solo for an audition in the KS3 Musical. Katie has a natural ability for Dance and we look forward to seeing her progress. Well done Katie.

### Music

Joseph has been working incredibly hard in music. He is showing excellent musical skills in lessons and is showing a natural flair. In our most recent module we have been looking at keyboard skills where Joseph has been committed to individual practice and has performed some harder pieces well. Joseph is a multi-instrumentalist as he plays the trumpet and the piano.

## Key Stage 4/5

### Drama

Alex recently gave an outstanding scripted performance as Mr Briggs in Willy Russell's 'Our Day Out'. Now working on his Component 1, he is working hard to develop and extend his dramatic repertoire.

Alex is a dedicated member of the class and is working hard to develop his craft. Well done Alex.

### Dance

Mia is this term's Star Student in Dance for her consistent hard work and dedication to the subject and her passion for helping others. Mia supports KS3 students during her free time and also works one-on-one with a Year 10 student supporting him with his theory work. She has great compassion and patience and her love for the subject entices others. Well done Mia.

### Music

Lilly is showing a fantastic commitment to music. We are currently working on Unit 5 - Introducing Music Performance where Lilly is working very well independently to improve her skills on the guitar, piano and vocals. Lilly spends a lot of time doing extra practice at home which is evident in lessons, and is clearly keen to do well this year. Well done Lilly!

## Session 3 Programme

As always, the Performing Arts Department offer a wide range of Session 3 activities for you to come and enjoy. Whatever your ability, come along and sign up - you don't need to have any previous experience! Don't forget that if you are in Year 7 or 8 you can add up hours to achieve awards through the Children's University Scheme. You need to gain 30 hours for a Bronze Award, 65 hours for a Silver Award and 100 hours for a Gold Award. A great way to be recognised for all of the fantastic activities that you have been taking part in throughout the year.



Day	Subject	Activity	Time
Monday	Performing Arts	School Musical Rehearsals	3.30pm-5.00pm
Wednesday	Performing Arts	KS3 Musical Rehearsals	3.30pm-4.30pm
	Dance	Coursework Catch-up Session (KS4/5)	3.30pm-4.30pm
	Drama	Coursework Catch-up Session (KS4/5)	3.30pm-4.30pm
Thursday	Performing Arts	School Musical Rehearsals	3.30pm-5.00pm

### Upcoming Events

31 March—2nd April—Chicago School Musical Performances

