



Project Crossovers

Fabulous fun with Funky Llama!

Well it's been another busy month, what with our amazing 'Funky Llama' cabaret night, when around 300 people attended a fantastic night club event at TR2!

'Funky Llama' is a four-year joint project between Plymouth Music Zone, Theatre Royal and Attik Dance. It had everyone rocking out to live performances, DJ's, dancing, open mic sessions, party people and a chill out zone. All events developed by Funky Llama are created, managed and performed by adults with learning disabilities, and our talented Music Leader Anna Batson worked with them tirelessly to help them perform to perfection! Brilliant stuff, thanks Anna! Oh, and not forgetting the lovely Lacey, another of our Music Leaders – highly skilled in rapping and beat-boxing who helped to make sure the place was jumping!

Also thanks to Steve Becket for filming from the DJ box on the night! Want to see the film? Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9YKF52SEQU>

'Reverb' – got the blues?

We've started some great new music sessions on Tuesday mornings which came about after our PMZer Forum requested 'open access' sessions for people with disabilities ('open access' means that you don't have to come as part of an organisation, or group ... you just come along by yourself!)

We found that we had an amazingly diverse group of musicians amongst us! From Mary who plays trombone, Stu who's ace on decks, Mike on digital techno-sounds through to Chris B on percussion and Dave on piano. "What have we been doing?" I hear you shouting ... well, the group have not only written a laid-back, sleezy-rocking blues number called "Fire in the Sky" but they're very nearly ready to record it – wow, pretty good going, and absolutely brilliant fun! Get in touch with Jeany (01752 213690) if you think you're missing out!

Build a Band update

Then there's the beautiful sounds being made in sessions with Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support. Mark and Rohey were nominated as finalists in our recent Nick Thomas Awards – a fantastic achievement for both of them, so "well done guys – amazing!" The unique event recognizes not only musical talent, but also the way in which the winner embodies the spirit of being passionate about music and using it as a powerful force to inspire and help others. To read more, go to: <http://www.plymouthmusiczone.org.uk/58/news-and-opportunities>

Mark, Rohey, Blessing and the others are working on some wonderful songs that they've written - so I can't wait to listen to their finished creations on CD before too long!

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www.plymouthmusiczone.org.uk