**Interim report re Hull Freedom Chorus participation in DEPART**

Progress so far is encouraging. 110 people expressed an interest in taking part in Depart, and as we anticipate some drop-out, we have been able to welcome all comers to the project – we hope to have no more than 100 for the actual performances.

Numbers currently stand at 97 women and 10 men – a ratio which is not too problematic given the scoring for this particular piece.

The choral leaders from London, who led community singers in the original LIFT production, have been very helpful, sending us scores, recordings and individual details with clarity and efficiency.

Our participants are very much enjoying being part of such a high-profile project, and being linked to a wider event too; they know the piece is being rehearsed in Blackpool and Brighton as well and are proud to be representing their city in such a key performance in the 2017 programme.

So far we have had the following sessions:

**31 Jan:** launch workshop for all singers

**7 Feb:** allocation of singers to different groups, as per the requirements of the piece. The very word ‘Audition’ caused some nerves for many participants, (who have never had to audition in the Freedom Chorus, which is an inclusive project,) and no one was turned away. Although a challenging session for all of us, we ended up with a large group of 67, a small group of 43, two trios, one soloist

**21 Feb:** Large group rehearsal

**25 Feb:** Small group rehearsal. 15 singers absent, email sent..

**28 Feb:** Small group rehearsal

The singers are enjoying learning the material, the learning CDs we made are proving invaluable, as is the presence of an accompanist. The songs aren’t difficult, but they need to be learnt well, and accurately, and the small group needs to be able to sing on the move in performance. At this stage I am pleased with our progress and look forward to receiving further details regarding the performance.

Em Whitfield Brooks 2.3.17

1. **PARTICIPANTS**

 **To date, how many people have participated in your activities?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **TOTAL TO DATE** | **% FROM HU1-HU9** |
| Number of participants\* (in-house) |  |  |
| Number of outreach participants | **110 at start, currently 107** | **48** |
| **TOTAL PARTICIPANTS** |  |  |

**\*The % from HU1-HU9 can be taken from the results of participant surveys or registration**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **% TO DATE** |  |  | **% TO DATE** |
| **AGE GROUPS - AUDIENCES** |  | **DISABILITY/LONG TERM ILLNESS - AUDIENCES** |
| 0-2 years |  |  | Yes  |  |
| 3-5 years |  |  | No |  |
| 6-10 years |  |  | **CONDITIONS - AUDIENCES** |
| 11-15 years |  |  | Learning disability |  |
| 16-17 years |  |  | Long-term illness/condition |  |
| 18-19 years |  |  | Sensory impairment |  |
| 20-24 years |  |  | Mental Health condition |  |
| 25-29 years |  |  | Physical impairment |  |
| 30-34 years |  |  | Cognitive impairment |  |
| 35-39 years |  |  | Other |  |
| 40-44 years |  | **Please enter the % of your participants in each of the equal opportunities categories shown in the tables on this and the following page. We recommend asking a sample of your audiences across the year the Equal Opportunities questions form the Participant Question Bank, provided in the Hull 2017 Toolkit.**  | **Please enter the % of your participants for the project in each of the equal opportunities categories shown in the tables on this and the following page. We recommend asking participants to complete the Equal Opportunities questions from the Participant Question Bank, provided in the Hull 2017 Reporting Toolkit. If participants need to register to take part, this could be part of the registration process.**  |  |
| 45-49 years |  |  |  |  |
| 50-54 years |  |  |  |  |
| 55-59 years |  |  |  |  |
| 60-64 years |  |  |  |  |
| 65-69 years |  |  |  |  |
| 70-74 years |  |  |  |  |
| 75+ years |  |  |  |  |
| Prefer not to say | 110 |  |  |  |
| **GENDER** |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 10 |  |  |  |
| Female | 97 |  |  |  |
| Transgender |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **% TO DATE** |
| **ETHNICITY** |  |
| Welsh/English/Scottish/Northern Irish/British |  |
| Irish |  |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller |  |
| White and Black Caribbean |  |
| White and Black African |  |
| White and Asian |  |
| Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background  |  |
| Indian |  |
| Pakistani |  |
| Bangladeshi |  |
| Chinese |  |
| Any other Asian background |  |
| African |  |
| Caribbean |  |
| Any other Black/African/Caribbean background  |  |
| Arab |  |
| Any other ethnic group |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

For this reporting period, what would you say have been the **main successes** in terms of participant engagement and feedback for your project? – **Please see the Participant Question Bank in the Hull 2017 Reporting Toolkit for the type of questions to ask**

­­Engagement of local singers via Hull Freedom Chorus

For this reporting period, what would you say have been the **main challenges** in terms of participant engagement and feedback for your project? - **Please see the Participant Question Bank in the Hull 2017 Reporting Toolkit for the type of questions to ask**

None encountered