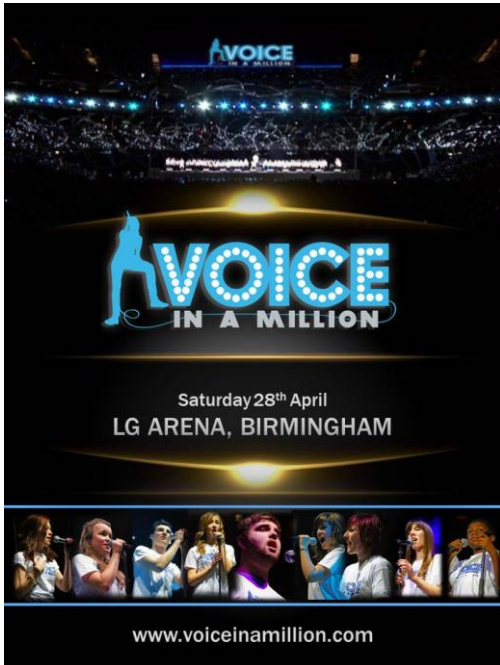




Saturday 28th April
Birmingham LG Arena
Participants & Parents Guide

www.voiceinamillion.com
VIAM OFFICE - 01784 438 700

Congratulations on becoming one of the cast of 'Voice in a Million.'



This Guide contains all the information you will need either as a participant or as a parent of one of the choir members

By taking part you will not only have a fantastic time and a 'once in a lifetime experience' you will also be helping to make the world aware of the millions of orphaned or abandoned children that need a loving and secure family for life.

A number of celebrities and personalities have showed their support for the VIAM project and YOU the cast. These include; Sir Elton John, Sinitta, Rick Wakeman, Dionne Warwick, Run DMC, James O'Brien - LBC, Greg Lake- ELP - King Crimson, Nicky Campbell , Vernon Coaker MP , Philip Hammond MP - Piers Morgan – Clair Grogan, Kev Orkian and Bernie Nolan.

How do I become an Official Member of the Choir ?

You will already have been registered by your school or academy as a participant; and will have started to rehearse the songs with your choir leader at school or with your group.

We now recommend reading the following pages. Not only to enhance your Voice in a Million experience as a choir member, but also to enable parents to keep up to date with details and information about the event.

Log into our website at www.voiceinamillion.com to find detailed information on every aspect of Voice in a million. Who we are, what we do, what others have said about the experience, videos of past shows, news updates and much more. The website is our primary source of sending our choir information; and we also send a newsletter once a week by email to everyone registered on the site. (Registration is a simple 'one click' process.)



Voice in a Million

VIAM

Now you can connect and share with all your friends on VIAM from your PC or your mobile.



[Join our Members Directory](#) on the website and share your Voice in a Million experience with all the other members. This is open to choir members and parents.

Once registered, you will be able to post a picture and a profile of yourself, join groups, add friends, and message each other, from either your mobile or your pc.

We also use this directory to post notices and to look out for future soloists and featured members to appear on the main stage at our shows and events.

How do I rehearse for Birmingham Show ?

If you are participating as a member of a school, group or choir, your teacher will have been sent the lyrics and backing/rehearsal tracks along with the sheet music to teach the melody line. The backing tracks and lyrics highlight the choir parts in each song.

If you have been selected as a soloist you will have been informed of the rehearsal dates and location. It is essential you attend these rehearsals.

We also suggest that you view [the videos](#) on the website, of the 7,500 choir taking part in the 2011 02 Arena, to see how the mass choir interacts with the soloist performances. On the website you can also download and print your own copies of each song lyric and music..



Yes. You will arrive at the Arena for registration between 1.30pm and 2.30pm on the day of the event. Your school or group leader will be notified of your selected arrival time as we stagger the registration times of the choir. Every child is registered. Upon arrival following registration, you will be escorted to your seats. A complete run-through rehearsal of the entire show will begin at 3pm, under the guidance of our musical and creative directors and conductor. The Choir will be seated on the main stage, and the Choir gallery..

What Do We Wear ?

All participants will be required to wear their Wembley- Voice In A Million T-Shirt which they will be given on arrival at the venue on the day of the show. If you haven't already given your T Shirt size to your teacher or choir leader, please do so as soon as possible. We suggest a light coloured vest or singlet is worn under the T Shirt – Please also wear a pair of black trousers or leggings and if possible black shoes or trainers.



We also recommend that each child has the mobile telephone number of their teacher or chaperone, as well as a contact number for a parent on their person. We stock a range of VIAM accessories on our website but these are not essential.



Programme for the Day

1.30pm - 2.30pm pm Arrive and Registration:

Upon arrival all participants along with their chaperones will be escorted into the arena to their stage and gallery seats.

Prior to the rehearsal there will be a designated area within the choir area of the auditorium where participants can purchase VIAM' merchandise, programmes, etc.

3:00pm Rehearsals:

Our Musical Director Neil Shrimpton, Creative Director Jo Garofalo and Assistant Creative Director Julie Sampson, will rehearse the choir through the entire show. There will be a 20 minute break between rehearsing the two one- hour parts.

5.20pm Refreshment break:

This is a one hour break and children will need to bring a packed tea. Children stay in the theatre during this period. We also suggest each participant brings a refillable water bottle. Please ensure you have sufficient food and drink for the entire day.

6:30pm Doors open to the public:

Participants are requested, following refreshments to be back in their seats by 6.30pm. There will be a warm up with the choir and they will be given opportunity to make their seated positions known to the audience arriving. This finishes at 7.20pm, when the choir and stage goes dark; we request that children remain silent from this point until the show starts.

7.30pm Show starts: Audience are seated and the show begins!

8.30pm – 9pm 30 minute interval

10.00pm Show ends:

All participants must remain in their seats until the audience has dispersed. All children arriving in coaches will leave with their teachers/chaperones and return to the coach in the coach park. Any child being collected by their parents will need to arrange a meeting point with their child's group leader and must be supervised by a teacher or chaperone from their group until collected by their parent/guardian. Children will not be allowed to roam without supervision from a teacher or chaperone. Should for any reason, any child become separated from their group or chaperone, they should go directly to one of the VIAM, or a chaperone clearly indicated with a 'C' on their identity pass.



How Do Parents Get Involved

There are a number of ways in which we actively encourage parents and family to get involved and support their child in this and all of the Voice in a Million events.

- Encourage them to rehearse at home. We don't expect every child to be note-perfect but we do want them to be enjoying the experience. Happy and confident smiling faces are more important to us than perfect singing voices.
- If you think your child is talented and may be suitable for a solo or featured part, they can register to audition to be a soloist for future events online by emailing team@voiceinamillion.com

- Singing with Voice in a Million for most children, will be a once in a lifetime experience. Knowing their friends and family are in the audience will be a tremendous support and boost for their confidence. We have tickets available for participants, friends and family. **Our Shows always sell out**, so we do advise to book your seats early. You will find details of the Box Office Below.
- We advise parents to register on the website, to receive our weekly updates, including any notifications about the event
- Parents must also complete and return the VIAM Permission slip sent with this guide.
- If you wish to get involved with Voice in a Million and enjoy the day's experience, we are actively encouraging parents to become licenced chaperones. This involves just a few hours of your time attending one of your local council courses and is free of charge. We will be happy to assist in enrolling you on a course.
- You will also find on our website, details of our Health & Safety Policy & Child Protection Policy. If you have any questions regarding the show, you can either call us on 01784 438700, or email team@voiceinamillion.com.

Memories of the event

There will be a programme and merchandise on sale on the evening of the performance, these can also be ordered online. During the performance a team of Voice in a Million photographers, cameramen and sound engineers will be capturing the entire show and everyone taking part. A CD album of the entire show; a DVD and CD Photo Album containing every participant and group taking part will be available and can be pre-ordered calling 01784 438700 or by placing your order online at www.voiceinamillion.com



Choir Shine a Light at Birmingham



As part of the overall audience experience at the concert, we would like every participant to have a VIAM Glow Stick. They are, safe to use, easy and effective. You can see the effect of these glow sticks, by visiting the website and viewing the O2 Videos online. Each Choir member receives a glowstick as part of their participation fee which also includes the T Shirt. These are given to each choir member along with their T Shirt on the day of the event.. Additional glowsticks are available on the day for £2.00



Order Your Tickets to all VIAM Events





Contact Voice in a Million.

T: 01784 438700. E: team@voiceinamillion.com

www.voiceinamillion.com.