**Combined Project – Lavant Valley, Chichester and City of Chichester Arts Societies**

The Young Arts Representatives from TAS Lavant Valley, Chichester and City of Chichester have successfully worked together on joint projects in the Chichester area. This initiative is now in its fourth year and means the three societies are able to commit a combined annual budget of £1000.

The initial project was centred at the Cass Foundation Sculpture Park, Goodwood. Our funding enabled 100 pupils and students each year to visit CASS and have access to the archive. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to see the maquettes that are stored there and as well as other materials relating to the sculptures in the park. This project ran for two years.

We are now in the second year of a project sponsoring West Sussex Music activities at the Chichester Music Centre. Last July, the Societies jointly sponsored Chichester Music Centre’s summer concerts: 138 students aged from 5 to 19 years took part in string orchestra, concert band, choir and rock and pop band performances. It was a joy to witness these committed young musicians perform so well together and pleasing to know that our support permitted a large performance venue for this special end of term concert.

So successful was this venture that we are doing it again this year! Our funding will also be used to support a more formal solo performance opportunity for students at the end of the summer term. It is gratifying to know that together, more costly projects can benefit from our sponsorship. This year Sussex Area has given half of the £1000 budget for the project. There are lots of positives to be gained from working together and would recommend it to other societies.

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