JOIN THE CÈILIDH TRAIL

Tha samhradh gu math trang fainear dha seachd Cèilidhean air Chuairt a bhios a-muigh air an rathad a’ taisbeanadh an cuid sgilean ann an ceol is òrain traidiseanta air feadh Alba tron Iuchar is tron Lùnastal.

Tron sgeama Cèilidh air Chuairt aig Féisean nan Gàidheal gheibh compàirtichean òga nam féisean a tha eadar 16 is 25 bliadhna a dh’aois taic agus trèanadh gus ceòl traidiseanta ullachadh agus libhrigeadh air cuairt phroifeiseanta air feadh nan sgìrean ionadail aca.

Seven Cèilidh Trail groups will hit the road this Summer for a feast of live traditional music performances across Scotland.

The Cèilidh Trail groups are supported through a Féisean nan Gàidheal scheme which supports young Féis participants aged 16 to 25 to prepare and perform a professional music tour each Summer. This year the Cèilidh Trail groups representing eight Féisean will deliver traditional music events - concerts, cèilidhs and dances - from Sutherland to Stirling:

Fèis Chataibh (Sutherland and Caithness)
Ceilear – this year comprising of participants from Fèis an Earraich and Féisean nan Eilean Siar (Skye, Lochalsh & the Western Isles)
Fèis Fhoirt (Stirling, Falkirk & Loch Lomond)
Fèis Inbhir Narainn (Caledonian Canal and Nairnshire)
Fèis Latharna (Argyll)
Fèis Lochabair (Lochaber)
Fèis Spè (Cairngorms National Park)

Full tour details for all the Cèilidh Trail groups can be found at www.feisean.org/ceilidh.

Fèis Rois will also be running a packed Cèilidh Trail programme – please see www.feisrois.org for more information.

Keep an eye and an ear out for a cèilidh near you!

TRADITIONAL ARTS SMALL GRANTS FUND

For the third year, Féisean nan Gàidheal is pleased to be operating the Tasgadh Traditional Arts Small Grants scheme on behalf of, and with funding from, Creative Scotland.

Details are available on Féisean nan Gàidheal’s website www.feisean.org/en/tasgadh where you can download the Scheme Guidelines and application form.

The scheme complements Creative Scotland’s own Open Project Funding and supports traditional artists and related organisations to create, tour and present work, as well as professional development projects. Each applicant can apply for an award of between £250 and £1000.

A panel of advisers make decisions on the applications and details of all successful projects are published on our website, as well as some case studies.

There are three deadlines for applications for 2017/18: 14 July 2017, 27 October 2017 and 2 February 2018.
NEW EVENT AT FÉIS PHÁISLIG

Tha Fèis Phàisligh a’ déanamh sogn tachar às a thabhairt ann an cois priomh fhéis ann a’ t-samhraidh bho 18 – 21 den luchar 2017. Bheir an Fèis Adhartach chothrom dha luchd-ciùil is seinnadair eòga a’ cùid sgoilean a thoirt air a’ chàirdean à bheur airson airson airson a’ chàirdean à bhith airson airson a’ chàirdean, le ceòl beòthail bho sgioba-oideachaidh thàlantach.

Fèis Phàisligh is delighted to offer a new event as part of the annual Summer Fèis in Paisley from 18 – 21st July 2017. The Advanced Fèis is designed for S1-6 pupils who are already proficient in an instrument or voice who wish to work on their traditional music skills at a more advanced level. Breabach members will tutor this four-day event, offering expert guidance in group arrangement, composition and stagecraft.

You can find out more about both the Advanced Fèis and Main Fèis at www.feisphaslig.com or contact Fèis Phàisligh chairperson Grant McFarlane on grant@feisphaslig.com.

FÉIS AT THE FLING

Às déidh cuireadh bho chomataidh HIMDF, chuir Fèis Latharna “Fèis at the Fling” air dòigh. B’e seo latha de bhuthan-obrach ciùil a chaidh a chumail air an latha mu dheireadh den fhèis. Thug seo chothrom do dhun eadh bho chomataidh sam bith ionnsramaidean traidiseanta fhèuchainn, le oideachadh bhò shàr luchd-ciùil a’ ghsìre.

A special event was held on the 30th of April in Oban as part of a fringe programme for the local Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival.

Fèis Latharna held “Fèis at the Fling” on the final day of the festival – a day of music workshops for members of the public who were able to come and try their hand at various traditional instruments, with tuition available from renowned trad musicians from the local area.

More than thirty participants aged between seven and fifty years old participated in the course throughout the course of the day.

FÈIS GHÀIDHLIG GHLASCHU GA RUITH A-RITHIST

Chuir Fèis Ghàidhlig Ghaschu tachar às doigh sa Chèitean airson a’ chaidh turais ann an tri bliadhna.

Às déidh EGM soirbheachail, air 20 Giblean 2017 chaoidh comataidh ur a steidheadachadh. Rinn an comataidh tòrr ullachadh air thoiseach air a’ chaidh féis a chaidh a cumail eadar 26 agus 28 An Cèitean aig Bun-Sgoil Ghleann Dail. Bha an Fhèis fosgaite do sgoilearan le Ghàidhlig - a’ toirt còthrom sònraichte do dh’ògiridh Ghaschu an cùid sgoilsean cáinain ciùil a leasachadh le prògram:Fàsachadh a rhùthair air na tri làithean.

Le còrr is seachadadh sgoilear a’ gabhail pàirt anns na tachartasain, b’ i féidir air leòr soirbheachail a dh’inte. Bha fèill mhòr cùideachaidh air clasaichean seinn dha inbhich le oideachadh bhò shàr–seinneadair eòga: Kathleen NicAonghais, Màiri NicAonghais agus Anna Latharna Nicillíosa. Bha càdfaidh Ghàidhligh ann cillicheadh. Chaidh “Café Strùpag” a ruith do Comann nam Pàrant, agus thug seò còthrom don mhòr-shluagh a bhith air an t-xeòrtha na dhìth a bh’ ann do dhrìgh ìle airson a chumail ann an Tairbeirt air an 10mgh leòr. ’S e tachartas math a bh’ ann le clann agus deugairean bhon bhàn air an latha ann.

A bharrachd air an Fhèis fhèin, chaidh ceilidh teaghlaich a chumail air loidheach Shathairne, le ceòl beòthail bho sgioba-oideachaidh thàlantach.

After a three-year hiatus, Fèis Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu has returned with a successful three-day Fèis event held in May.

Following an EGM in April, at which a new committee was established, the new Fèis Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu committee members worked hard and held a Fèis on 26th-28th May in Glendale Primary School. This Fèis event provided young people in the Glasgow area with the chance to strengthen and develop both their musical and Gaelic language skills in a fun and informal environment.

With more than seventy participants in attendance, the event was a great success. As well as the main Fèis, aimed at Gaelic-speaking pupils, Gaelic song masterclasses for adults were also held.

A special event was held on the 30th of April in Oban as part of a fringe programme for the local Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival.

MEANBH-FHÈISEAN EARRA-GHÀIDHEAL

Sna beagan miosan a dh’halbh, tha dà fhèis ann an Eara-Ghàidheal, Fèis Ògiridh Ile is Dhiùra agus Fèis an Tarabhit air a bhith ag obair gu cruidhead air ullachadh gu sinn meanbh-fhèisean a lìbrigheadh le le caite-àiridh bho Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival agus Foundation Scotland.

Chaidh a’ chaidh mheanbh-fhèis a cumail air Dìùra air an 22 An Giblean le oideachadh bhò luchd-ciùil Ionadail agus cèilidh teaghlaich air an oidheach.

B’e cothrom air leth a bh’ ann dha ògiridh a’ chaidh air a thugann eile a tha nas eòlaiche air a bhith a’ siubhal gu tachartasan den t-seòrsa ud. Chaidh an dàrna meanbh-fhèis a lìbrigheadh le Fèis an Tarabhit air an 26 An Giblean ann an Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain a’ leantainn air a latha-fèise a chaidh a chumail ann an Tairbeirt air a bhith a’ seòrdaigh a bheur airson airson a’ chumail ann an 10mgh leòr.

For more information, email feisghaidhligghlaschu@gmail.org or check out their Facebook page.
Tha Fèis Eilean na Hearadh airson taing a thoir dhathan h-ùile dhuine a thug taic dhaibh le bhith togail airgid an dèidh dhaibh ìomhranais agus udheamachd a chall ann an teine factaraideach Scalpaigh sa Ghìbhland. A bharrachd air duilleag GoFundMe air-loidhne a thog £4 955, chuidich g文明hachasan ionadail a’ bhuidhean le bhith a’ toighean air chuirtearan anns an Taigh-staile agus le taisbeanadh dannsaidh bho dhan’s na Hearadh air cìde an Tairbeirt.

Am measg nan daoine a thug taic dhaibh bha Lorraine Kelly, a thug dhaibh £400 an dèidh dhì na dannsairean fhaicinn ’s i anns na Hearadh air lìthean-saora. Thuirt rùnaire Fèis Eilean na Hearadh, Dòmhnall Iain MacIllinnein: “Tha sinn air le thaoi amhail airson gach taic a tha sinn airdhinn agus tha e a’ toirt toileachd dhuinn a bhith a’ fàcinn cho colbheal’s a tha daoine. A bharrachd air airead, tha daoine cuideachd air a bhith a’ tabhainn ìomhranaisdean. Tha Colaiste Piobaireachd na h-Alba air sia feadan a thoir dhùinn agus tha Comann Còimhearsnachd Charlabhaigh a’ ghìotar a thoir dhùinn. Tha muilean Charlabhaigh agus Shiaboist air piasan clo a thoir dhùinn cuideachd. Leis gu bheil sinn a’ comharrachadh 25 bliadhna den Fhèis, a bha Lorraine Kelly, a thug dhaibh £400 an dèidh dhaibh. A bha iad a’ toilicht leannann turfachadh dhaibh a’ cùillreachadh ’s a tha daoine.”

Fèis Eilean na Hearadh a’ fhiconnachadh cabhail agus imòrail air dòigh airson àiteachan bàna a dhàin a thog £4,955, chuidich gnìomhasan Bernstein agus laigh nam bhaile airson ainnslaighdaird a bhith a’ leigeil dhiubh. Dàmhair, bidh sinn a’ cur taghadh an ùine àirde air a’ Bhòrd. Mar sin, uaireigin san Dàmhair, bidh sinn a’ cur taghadh air dòigh airson aiteachan bàna a lionadh agus bhiodh e feumail nam b’ urrainn do na Fèisean a bhith a’ meòrachadh air có a chuireas iad air a’ dhiadh.

Seach a bhith a’ feitheamh airson am bhàghadh san Dàmhair, thug sinn cuireadh do dhaoinn le uidsinn air an obair a’ Bhòrd-thiginn Chun na coinnghinn againn sa Chìtean. Ghabh triúr ris a’ chuireadh sin a’ bhith a’ bhòrd fhèinteach anns a’ choinneachd airson an obair. Macbhàn Càilean, Fèis Eilean na Hearadh secretary DI Maclennan commented: “The response has been absolutely fantastic. It’s been so encouraging. The College of Piping has given us chanters and the Carloway and Shawbost mills are giving us offcuts of roll of tweed for waulking classes, while the Carloway and Shawbost mills are giving us offcuts for our craft classes. This is the 25th anniversary of the Fèis, so cancelling it due to the fire would have been a great shame. We lost an awful lot of items, but we are very thankful to the people who have rallied round to help us.”

The committee is now busy replacing the lost items ahead of Fèis week, which will be the 3rd to the 7th of July.

**TAING BHO FÈIS EILEAN NA HEARADH**

**BLASAD BÒRÐ FÈISEAN NAN GÀIDHEAL**

Bhid b’earann air Bòrd-stùiridh Fèisean nan Gàidheal am-blàthdha agus buill gu bhith a’ leigeil dhuibh an dreuchd an dèidh dhaibh an ùine a tha a’ cheadachta a chur seachad air a’ Bhòrd. Mar sin, uaireigin san Dàmhair, bidh sinn a’ cur taghadh air dòigh airson aitéachan bàna a lionadh agus bhioidh e feumail nam b’ urrainn do na Fèisean a bhith a’ meòrachadh air có a chuireas iad air a’ dhiadh.

Seach a bhith a’ feitheamh airson am bhàghadh san Dàmhair, thug sinn cuireadh do dhaoinn le uidsinn air an obair a’ Bhòurd-thiginn Chun na coinneachd againn sa Chìtean. Ghabh triúr ris a’ chuireadh sin a’ bhith a’ bhòrd fhèinteach anns a’ choinneachd airson an obair. Macbhàn Càilean, Fèis Eilean na Hearadh secretary DI Maclennan commented: “The response has been absolutely fantastic. It’s been so encouraging. The College of Piping has given us chanters and the Carloway and Shawbost mills are giving us offcuts of roll of tweed for waulking classes, while the Carloway and Shawbost mills are giving us offcuts for our craft classes. This is the 25th anniversary of the Fèis, so cancelling it due to the fire would have been a great shame. We lost an awful lot of items, but we are very thankful to the people who have rallied round to help us.”

The committee is now busy replacing the lost items ahead of Fèis week, which will be the 3rd to the 7th of July.

**CLASAICHEAN ÚRA AIG FÈIS TÌR A’ MHRURAIN**

Tha Fèis Tìr a’ Mhrurain air clasaichean a thòiseachadh ann am an seinn agus feadan fo stiùir Chloe Steele, a tha a air a bhith a’ déanamh ceum aig Colaiste a’ Chaisteil ann am Beinn na Faoghla.

Bhid iad seo a’ dol air adhart aig Taigh-Tasgaidh Chill Donnain ann an Uibhist a Deas gach Diardaidh bho 5.30f - 6.30f (seinn) agus 6.30f – 7.30f (feadan). Tha na clasaichean fosgailte do dhuine sam bhitheig aig air le comain airm air clasaich 1-7.

Fèis Tìr a’ Mhrurain has launched new singing and chanter classes which will be lead by music student Chloe Steele. They take place at Kildonan Museum, South Uist, every Thursday between 5.30pm – 6.30pm (singing) and 6.30pm – 7.30pm (chanter).

Anyone in P1-7 at any level of ability is welcome to attend.

For more information, or to secure a place in any of the classes, please get in touch with Chloe Steele at classfeis@gmail.com.
GUTH NAN GAEL 2017

Tha sinne aig Fèisean nan Gàidhileal air doigh gun tèid Guth nan Gàidhleal an phròiseact ionlaind cultarail leis an Ionaid Oighiriala ann an Dùn Dealgan, Èirinn, air adhart am-bliadhna.

'S e cleachdadh agus togail na Gàidhlig agus na Gaeilge priomh amas a' phróiseict seo is e a' tabhann cothrom do dh'òighridh pàirt a ghabhail ann am measgachadh teathartas ciùil agus seinn, leithid bhùthann-obraich, chaurlaintean cultarail agus cothroman taisteanais.

Am-bliadhna, 's ann eadar Didòmhnaich 30 An t-luchair agus Dìhaidhine 4 Chàilean Lùnastal 2017 anns a' Ghearastan a thèid an tachartas a chumail – an dearbh sheachdain a bhios Fèis Lochabair a' comharrachadh ceann-bliadhna sònraichte agus program lèin teathartas san amharc dhaibh.

A bheil thu:
• Aois 12-18?
• Fileanta sa Ghàidhlig?
• Aig ìre mheadhanach neo adhartach air ionsramaid ciùil neo seinn?
• 'S e cothrom air leth a tha seo tachairt ri daoine eile mun aon aois riu a taobh thall.

Thèid siubhal, àite-fuirich agus biasd a chur an t-airde do na compàirtichean air fad.

Thoiribh sùil air duilleag Facebook na buidhne @guthgael ach am faigh sibh blas den phróiseact thuigse seo. Gheibhearr foirm-iarrtais aig http://www.feisean.org/en/events/guth-nan-gael/

Taing agus buidheachas do Cholm Cille, Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus Foras na Gaeilge airson taic leantainnseach a chumail ris a' phróiseact seo.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal is delighted to announce that the cultural exchange with partners in Ireland will go ahead again this year. Guth nan Gàidhleal will bring together young Scottish Gaelic speakers along with young Irish speakers from the Oriel Centre in Dundalk, Ireland for a week-long exchange, looking at the shared cultural traditions of Scotland and Ireland.

The project focuses on language usage and acquisition while giving participants the opportunity to participate in music and song workshops, cultural visits and performances to showcase and develop the links between the two countries.

This year’s project will take place from Sunday 30th July – Friday 4th August in Fort William to coincide with Fèis Lochabair’s main Fèis week. This year, the Fèis is celebrating its 25th anniversary and planning is well underway for a busy week of events to celebrate the milestone.

Are you:
• 12-18 years old?
• A fluent Gaelic speaker?
• At intermediate or advanced level in an instrument or singing?

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet other people, the same age from across the Irish Sea.

Accommodation, travel and food will all be covered as part of the project.

For a taste of last year's project, visit the Guth nan Gàidhleal facebook page, @guthgael and visit the Fèisean nan Gàidheal website for an application form - http://www.feisean.org/en/events/guth-nan-gael/

Thanks to Colmcille, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Foras na Gaeilge for their continued support of the project.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

Bha sgeulachdand gu leòr a’ dol taobh a-staigh ballachan Chaisteal Dhùn Èidinn an chinn ghoidir is Fèisgoil, an cuide ri Arainneachd Eachdraidheil na h-Alba, a’ litirghidadh da phróiseact sònraichte air an lèarach shònraichte seo. Còmhlaidh ri Allean Og Domhnullach chaidh dhean anns a’ Pàirce sa chathair-bhaile dhan Chaisteal airson stòiridhean a chrhuinneachadh is dealbhann a thogail.

Air làithin car fluch, gaothach, fuar chruinnich scoileanar a’iomadh scoil air feadh na dòuthcha airson turas intinnneach a ghabhail air feadh a’ Chaisteal leis an t-sàr neach-ciùil is rannsachaidh, Eòghann MacEnraig. Airson sia latha bha Eòghann a’ dol a’ gabhail cuairt air feadh a’ Chaisteal a’ bruidhinn ri clann a diefar scoileanair mu chuspaireach Innitinnneach Coire Ceall Forti ri eachdraidh an togalach fhèin, armachd saighdeir bhò an nuair a bha an caisteal na thagh-thomnaidh don Arm is na dhaoinne a bha fuireach anns a’ Chaisteal o chinn fhada. A bharradh air sin, bha cothrom aca a bhith ag eisteachd ri Eòghann a’ gabhail òrain don dha mu dhìleab eachdraidheil a’ Chaisteil.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal recently worked with Historic Environment Scotland on two projects for schools. The first involved children in P5 at Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce in Edinburgh, author, illustrator and digital story-maker, Emily Dodd and Gaelic facilitator Allan Macdonald. The children, accompanied by Allan visited Edinburgh Castle where they were introduced to specific artefacts and listened to stories about people and objects within the Castle walls. They then took these tales, along with some photographs, back to the classroom and, with support from Allan, Emily and their class teacher, Sneag MacIaintyre, created their own digital retelling of the stories. The 6 pieces were premiered in front of a large audience in April where the children walked the red carpet before introducing their films.

Cleas aig’ Chaisteil, our other HES partnership project, invited schools where the children are learning Gaelic as an additional language to visit Edinburgh Castle and enjoy an informed tour followed by a workshop by our tutor, musician Ewen Henderson. The same project ran again during Gaelic Week in Edinburgh, this time for children in Gaelic-medium education. In both situations, Ewen introduced the young folk to Gaelic terminology pertaining to the Castle and appropriate to their level of fluency and broadened their cultural experience by singing songs related to objects within the Castle confines.
5 LATHA SOIRBHEACHAIL

The sixth 5 Latha was held between 10-15 April at the Gearrannan Blackhouses on the Isle of Lewis. This year 18 participants took part in a packed programme of activities and, though the weather wasn’t as favourable as in previous years, a good time was had by all.

Among the activities were crofting, weaving, arts and crafts, cultural tours and baking as well as learning music and song with Norrie MacIver and Robbie Greig. This year the participants visited the Harris Tweed Hebridies mill in Shawbost and the Carloway where they learned about every stage of the process from raw materials to the catwalk. They also visited local weavers who showed them how they produced the cloth on both Hattersley (single-width) and Griffiths (double-width) looms.

A family cèilidh was held on the Thursday evening in the Carloway Community Hall with around 80 people in attendance to hear traditional music and Gaelic song performed by participants, 5 Latha tutors, supervisors and local artists.

The annual trip with Seatrek was altered due to weather conditions, but the group thoroughly enjoyed bouncing along the waves out of Uig!

Another fantastic week with great support and kindness shown to the group from the local community. 5 Latha 2018 will be held between 2-7 Gibealan.

‘SEINN’ & MÒD ACADEMY

With local Mòd season well and truly underway Fèisgoil has been working with Eilidh Macleod Mackenzie in Skye schools on our ‘Seinn’ project, funded by The Highland Council, offering support to prepare children intending to compete in the local Mòd and Royal National Mòd.

In collaboration with The Highland Council and the local Mòd committee, Fèisgoil has also paired up four Gaelic music tutors with 14 schools in the Lochaber area. Joy Dunlop, Sileas Sinclair, Mary Ann Kennedy and Janet Campbell have been touring these schools this term preparing children in solo, folk-group, action song and choir work. We wish all competitors the very best and look forward in particular to hearing these Gaelic song performed by young people at this year’s Royal National Mòd.

Ronald Cameron, chairperson of the Lochaber National Mòd Local Organising Committee said. “This is very exciting and will create a momentum for cultural and linguistic enrichment that will continue for years to come.”

GAELIC CLASSES IN SCHOOLS

Tha Blasad Gàidhlig direach aig ire tòisichd a’ Ghàidhdealtachd le 15 sgoiltean air fad ann. Tha na seiseanan, a bhios a’ ruith airson sia seachdainean, lân de dh’òrain, spòrs is geamannan. Tha sianar luchd-teagaisg a’ tadhail air na sgoiltean far a bhèil a’ chlan ag ionsachadhadh Gàidhlig mar phaird dhen Churraicealam airson Sàr Mhathais. Thàinig sgìoba úr còmhla ri chèile anns a’ Chaol airson letha trànaidh anns a’ Ghiblean is thòisich iad air Blasad Gàidhlig sna sgoiltean às dèidh làithean-saora na Càisge. uile gu léir, tha seo a’ ciallachadh gun lìbhìg Fèisgoil 174 seisean do sgoiltean air a’ Ghàidhealtachd le barrachd e còig ceud sgoiltean air sàs.

Scotland has adopted the 1+2 approach to language learning. This means that from 2020 every child in Scotland is entitled to learn a first additional language from primary one and a second by primary five. This entitlement continues until the end of S3.

In Highland, as in many other authorities throughout the country, some schools have chosen Gaelic as the first of these additional learned languages, meaning that all school children from P1-P7 will be learning Gaelic as part of their school curriculum in 15 schools within the region.

Contracted by The Highland Council to deliver additional support to these 15 schools, Fèisgoil nan Gàidheal has a new team of six Blasad Gàidhlig tutors working in primary schools in Highland region. These tutors came together for a training session in Kyle in April and began working in the designated schools after the Easter holidays. By the end of the six-week block, Blasad Gàdhlig will have been delivered to over 500 children in Highland through 174 sessions.

The model used is based on our progressive Blasad Gàidhlig sessions, linking language to the wider culture through song and game and which is already happening in other local authority areas throughout the country.

For more information on Fèisgoil Blasad Gàdheall please contact eilidh@feisean.org
FÈIS DHRÀMA EARRA-GHÀIDHEAL 2017

In May, a tour of the Western Isles with Gaelic language play Hùb Hùb: Cumaidhean Ceòlmhor (Hùb Hùb: Musical Shapes) took place with 17 performances for primary schools and nurseries in Barra, Uist, Harris and Lewis.

The play is accessible to pupils learning Gaelic and the tour included performances for several mainstream P1-P3 school groups and nurseries.

The seven day tour which took place between the 15th and 25th of May was made possible thanks to funding from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar with support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig. For more information about Hùb Hùb or any of Fèisean nan Gàidheal’s other drama projects contact Angus Macleod on 01463 225 559 or angus@feisean.org

Gaelic Play for Young Children Tours Western Isles

Thirty-six Gaelic-speaking primary school pupils from Argyllshire gathered together on Tuesday the 30th of May for Fèis Dhràma Earra Ghàidheal, an afternoon of Gaelic drama which showcased plays from Rockfield Primary and Sandbank Primary in a public performance at Corran Halls, Oban.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal produce the festival and in the weeks leading up to performance day, actor and drama worker Debbie Mackay, well known for her role as Màiri in the Gaelic TV drama ‘Bannan’, was employed to support participating schools. This provided them with an excellent opportunity to learn new acting skills under her direction whilst developing their plays at the same time.

For more information about Gaelic Drama Fèisean for primary schools, contact Angus Macleod on 01463 225 559 or email angus@feisean.org.

BLAS FESTIVAL 2017 PROGRAMME TO BE LAUNCHED SOON

The programme for Blas 2017 will be available from early July at the festival website blas-festival.com. The festival will take place between 1 and 9 September and Fèisean nan Gàidheal has put together a wide range of events across the Highlands. Together with the usual concerts featuring some very well-known artists and young people from Fèisean and other youth initiatives, Blas will celebrate the work of some of Gaeldom’s foremost tradition bearers and personalities. In addition there will be a comprehensive schools and communities programme.

We are grateful to The Highland Council, Creative Scotland, HIE, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Argyll & Bute Council and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar for funding Blas 2017 and to the festival programming group members for their artistic and logistical input.