Community-building to support and encourage women and girls in music technology

Digital Music Research Network · QMU London · 20 Dec 2016

Amy Beeston, Lucy Cheesman and Liz Dobson
Yorkshire Sound Women Network

Liz Dobson, Supriya Nagarajan, Abi Bliss, Katherine Axel, Amy Beeston, Lucy Cheesman

Introductions:
Regional committee and working group; local groups (e.g. Sheffield)
My background

University of Oxford
Physics

University of Edinburgh
Music Technology

Koncon, The Hague
Sonology

University of Sheffield
Computer Science
Why? … in industry

**Occupations by gender in the UK, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admin and secretarial</td>
<td>900,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and customer service</td>
<td>700,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and education</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science, research and engineering</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skilled trades (electrical, IT, construction)</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ONS
http://ichef-1.bbci.co.uk/news/624/media/images/72541000/gif/_72541803_professions_gender_624v2.gif

**Women in STEM occupations**

- **2012**: 4,415,631 (Men) 636,866 (Women)
- **2014**: 4,710,031 (Men) 689,207 (Women)

Women make up just 12.8% of the UK STEM workforce

- **6.7%** increase 2012-2014
- **8.2%** increase 2012-2014

**US Streaming Music Penetration, by Demographic, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>% of population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>% of population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-20</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-24</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

32%

Note: free and paid audio streaming activity, including on-demand streaming and non-interactive streaming


Amy Beeston · Lucy Cheesman · Elizabeth Dobson
YSWN · DMRN+11 · QMU London · 20 Dec 2016
Why? … in academia

Born & Devine (2016) – 90% male applicants
Freeman et al (2014) – music incr. engagement
... computer science in decline since 1984

[Graph showing trends from 1984 to 2016]

DMRN (2011:16) – 12.0% female-led papers
ISMIR: international – 14.1% (Hu et al, 2016)
Exhaustion...
Across Yorkshire…

lower risk
access
mentors
scaffolding
inspire change

July 2015

(Dobson et al, 2011; 2016)

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In Sheffield...

March 2016
Catalyst workshops 1–4
Peer learning maker-spaces
Community-building
Replenishment

https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/-UU2ZYE-w1RQ/VVJwGRg8G0I/AAAAAAAa0j0/Z_SghdqMRik/s1024/laggan%252520grahams%252520173.JPG

(Beeston et al, 2016)
Diversity is good

Disability
Culture
Race/Ethnicity
Age
Gender
Socio-economic Status
Religion
Sexual Orientation
References


