



**Southampton  
SOLENT  
University**

## Hampshire music students compete for stadium gig

Eleven college bands from across Hampshire will be competing for the chance to play at a major sporting event this summer, courtesy of Southampton Solent University's annual music competition.

A stadium support slot during a T20 cricket match at the Ageas Bowl is the top prize at the University-run 'Solent Sound' music competition being held on Thursday 24 and Friday 25 April.

A level and BTEC music students from across the region will perform in Southampton Solent University's state-of-the-art television studio. The event will be filmed in front of a live audience and judged by a panel of industry experts including: A&R manager Giles Stanley; writer & music producer Paul Statham; and Professor Paul Rutter, Programme Group Leader for Popular Music at the University.

Throughout the year the college bands taking part in 'Solent Sound' have had mentoring and guidance from students on the BA (Hons) Popular Music Performance and BA (Hons) Popular Music production degree courses, to prepare them for the two-day competition.

The eleven colleges taking part are Andover College, Basingstoke College of Technology, Bournemouth & Poole College, City College Brighton & Hove, Fareham College, Itchen Sixth Form College, Portsmouth College, Queen Mary's College, Richard Taunton Sixth Form College, St Vincent College and Wiltshire College.

Chris Jackson, organiser of 'Solent Sound' says, "We're passionate about nurturing talent at Solent University. This is just one example of the innovative partnership projects we run with local schools and colleges. We've enjoyed working with the bands and look forward to seeing them take to the stage this week."

As well the stadium support slot, other prizes up for grabs include the opportunity to play a support slot at The Joiners, and a day in the University's industry-standard recording studios.

Solent Sound music competition is taking place this Thursday 24 and Friday 25 April, in Southampton Solent University's Studio Solent at East Park Terrace, Southampton SO14 0LN. It is free to attend and open to the public, doors open at 4.45pm, with live performances from 5.00-9.30pm.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE MEDIA OFFICE ON 023 8031 9079 or [press.office@solent.ac.uk](mailto:press.office@solent.ac.uk)**

### About Southampton Solent University

Southampton Solent University offers more than 23,000 students over 200 qualifications ranging from HND to PhD, in subjects such as maritime education and training, fashion and design, media and television, music, health, sport and leisure, business, IT and technology. The university was awarded the 2013 Quality Assurance kitemark for quality and standards of teaching and learning. Solent was voted one of the most creative universities in the UK in a Which? University 2013 poll of students. It has been awarded 'Gold approval' by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).