

Ella Sofiya

'Change is Gonna Come - A Concert For Ukraine'

The Aldridge Theatre, Frensham Heights School
Date: 21st January 2023



Ella started singing at the age of 11 and showed a real love of Soul and Jazz music early on. She particularly loved performing classics by Nina Simone, Etta James and Sam Cooke. She found that these artists had a strong message which resonated with her and yet still felt relevant in today's world.

Ella regularly performed at school and in local pubs and music venues, whilst completing her singing exams to grade 8 and writing her own songs. She is currently at Sixth Form College studying English, Spanish and Russian A-levels.

Ella has always had a natural curiosity and love of languages and started learning Ukrainian at aged 12. She then decided to teach herself how to read, write and speak Russian. When news broke about the war in Ukraine, it felt like the only thing to do was to welcome a Ukrainian family into their home. Ella was able to help with translating as the family spoke very little English. This ranged from everyday conversation to visas and documents for schools and doctors.

As the war continues in Ukraine and war fatigue has begun to creep into England, Ella felt that she wanted to set up a charity concert to raise money for the Disasters Emergency Committee who are helping on the ground in Ukraine. She believed that a concert would raise money, boost morale and continue to raise awareness of all those who were suffering.

The concert is to be held at The Aldridge Theatre at Ella's old school, Frensham Heights. Ella has chosen singers, dancers and bands to perform and a special invitation has been extended to the Ukrainian community living in Farnham. One of the performers is Veronika, 9, who lived with Ella's family when they came to the UK for refuge.



Ella with her sister Poppy and the Ukrainian family, mother Ksenia and daughter Veronika, who came to live with them,

Venue: The Aldridge Theatre, Frensham Heights School. Rowledge, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4EA-
+44 (0)1252 792561

Insta: @frensham_heights

Twitter: @FrenshamHeights

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/frensham>

For information please contact:

Geri Perry on +44 (0)7535 344264 or gbmusicteam@aol.com/www.geriperrypr.co.uk