



## Volunteer Musician

### Opportunity

We are looking for musicians proficient on any instrument who are looking to gain experience and/ or take their first steps in music education; have a desire to share the transformational gift of music with young lives; and support the work of a ground-breaking music charity. We are looking for up to 20 musicians who are new to the music education sector. They will be offered a range of opportunities across the Music Masters Flagship Schools programme and beyond. These opportunities could include, but are not limited to:

- Free training and workshop delivery experience of creative composition workshops.
- Free training on introducing improvisation to young people.
- Experience of a wide range of events created for young people, both within and outside of school environments (ie concerts, gigs, school-based festivals etc.)
- Performance opportunities in a variety of ensembles (ie small house jazz bands, chamber ensembles, orchestra etc.) across a range of venues, including our flagship primary schools.

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| <b>Dates, times and locations</b> | <p>Volunteer Musicians will be offered the chance to sign up to a range of activities throughout the 202-27 academic year which will take place on various dates, times, and in locations that will be arranged and advertised on a project-by-project basis.</p> <p><b>The first of these dates will be an ‘Introduction to Creative Composition’ Workshop held in the Music Masters office (10-11 Bishop’s Terrace, London, SE11 4UE) on <u>Friday 25th September</u>. Ideally all Volunteer Musicians would be able to attend this initial, free workshop.</b></p> |
| <b>Fee (for expenses)</b>         | <p>This is a volunteering opportunity and there is no fee available. A per diem of £20 per participant per day can be claimed to support expenses. This can be invoiced for after all activities have taken place.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## About the opportunity:

Music Masters is seeking expressions of interest for our Volunteer Musician programme. This is a programme for musicians new to the music education sector who are interested in volunteering opportunities for career enhancement, or those looking to take their first steps as music educators - a crucial and rewarding undertaking, against the backdrop of cuts to creative education funding. This programme will provide opportunities to access free, specialist training, along with participation in a range of different projects, events and activities, designed to expose those within it to a variety of different experiences. It will likely appeal to musicians looking to explore whether music education is for them. Consequently, we are eager to hear from musicians with limited to no previous experience of music education or work in schools. The programme will include activities that explore practical tools for music-making with children and the importance of both leadership and support roles in different settings and event types. There are 20 places available on this year's programme, and each Volunteer will have the opportunity to attend an initial training and induction session on Friday 25th September. Each Volunteer will then be offered the chance to sign-up to take part in a series of different activities and events, which may include creative composition workshops, jazz improvisation training, performance in house-bands and orchestras at a variety of concerts, and other opportunities that arise throughout the Music Masters flagship school programme and beyond.

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## Who Music Masters are:

Music Masters is an award-winning charity which aims to empower young people through music to realise their personal and creative potential, supported by pro-active teachers, diverse role models and a truly inclusive music sector.

Our work begins with state primary schools, because working at a school level is the clearest way to reach children of all backgrounds. Through our strong school partnerships and highly trained teaching team we learn and model what high quality, inclusive and inspiring music education can look like.

Our unique Musicians of Change (PGCEi) programme delivered in partnership with Birmingham City University develops gold-standard music educators to deliver inclusive group instrumental teaching in UK state schools. Our goal is to radically improve pathways into music for children from backgrounds underrepresented in classical music.

Committed to increasing diversity in the music education workforce, Music Masters is strategically invested in providing opportunities where they are needed most and addressing underrepresentation within the teaching workforce. We see this as essential in broadening the range of perspectives and lived experience amongst our existing teaching and office team, as well as ensuring our programme remains relevant and inclusive for all stakeholders we work with: schools, children and young people, parents, and families.

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## **Who you'll be:**

This programme is designed for musicians with limited to no experience in music education.

We are welcoming expressions of interest from individuals who are:

- A musician, proficient in any instrument/style/genre
- New to the music education sector
- Willing and able to participate in training sessions, workshops, performances and other opportunities that arise, dependent on your availability and interest in these activities.

In order to provide equitable access to this opportunity, priority will be given to individuals who meet both the above criteria **and** who self-identify as belonging to one or more of the below groups of people:

- A care leaver
  - Not in education, employment or training (sometimes referred to as “NEET”)
  - Global Majority or those who experience racism
  - Those who self-identify as deaf/disabled or neuro diverse
  - Those who self-identify as LGBTQI
  - Those from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds
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## **What you'll bring:**

- A high level of proficiency on any instrument
  - A high level of interest in music
  - A willingness to learn, proactively seek support and embrace personal development
  - An interest in supporting child-centred learning experiences
  - An awareness and appreciation of the educational value of a diverse range of musical genres and practices
  - Flexibility, professionalism and understanding around busy school environments
  - Ability to engage with a wide range of children and young people – musically, personally and socially
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## **What you'll develop:**

- Experience of music education and working in a school environments
  - Experience of learning, creating, performing or facilitating music at a high level within creative performance activities
  - Experience of working collaboratively within a team of like-minded teachers and arts professionals
  - An ability to work flexibly, responsively and calmly under pressure
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## What you'll commit to:

- Your own learning and development as a musician and music educator/facilitator
  - Supporting each activity you commit to alongside a team of specialist music educators (please note you will not be expected to lead any activities alone or without support)
  - Following the lead of the educators in the room and their best practice in safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion
  - Supporting the evaluation and reporting processes at Music Masters
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## What we'll provide:

- The opportunity to sign up to a wide range of training opportunities, workshops, events and other ad hoc activity throughout the 2026-27 academic year.
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## How to register your interest:

If you would like to register your interest to be a Volunteer Musician please complete the form on our [website](#), where you will also find some guidance on what we'd like to read about in this form. Selected individuals who are eligible for this programme will be sent more information on the spread of experiences available to them beforehand, including specified dates, times and locations of the activities delegated to them, once they have signed-up.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being and welfare of children and require everyone associated with Music Masters, including all trustees, employees, and volunteers to share this commitment. Whilst we don't expect Volunteer Musicians to have DBS checks, we do have other policies and procedures in place to manage safeguarding, including being accompanied at all times when with children. Successful applicants will need to agree and adhere to our Child Protection, Safeguarding and Visitor Guidance policies, which will be shared with them on acceptance to the programme.

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| <b>Applications Open</b>                          | 10am, Monday 6th July                      |
| <b>Applications Close</b>                         | <b>10am, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b> |
| <b>Applicants informed of application outcome</b> | By Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September        |

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## Further support:

Music Masters is committed to equal opportunities and values diversity in its workforce. You can find full information on our selection process in the 'Guide to Registering your interest' document. There is space to tell us about any access requirements on the form and we will always do our best to make any reasonable adjustments. If you need any of the documents in a different format or need support with your application, please contact [programmes@musicmasters.org.uk](mailto:programmes@musicmasters.org.uk).