



HELP MUSICIANS is an independent UK charity for professional musicians of all genres. In 2020, Help Musicians provided over 19,000 musicians with Financial Hardship Funding in the wake of the pandemic. They offer a range of creative development funding, supporting professional growth, creative ideas, research projects, instrument costs, or postgraduate studies, and work with musicians from early career to retirement. The charity has had a dedicated talent development programme since the early 1980s and currently invests more than £600,000 a year in helping emerging artists; musicians helped include leading lights of the classical profession such as Dame Evelyn Glennie and Tasmin Little OBE. In 2017, Help Musicians launched a free mental health service for everyone working in the UK music industry - Music Minds Matter - in which BACP accredited counsellors with understanding of the music profession are available on the phone 24 hours a day to offer practical advice and emotional support.

YOUTH MUSIC works to break down barriers so that all children and young people are able to have musical lives. They give grants to other organisations - small charities, arts venues, music businesses, youth clubs, music education hubs, housing associations, nurseries and more - to run music-making projects for children and young people aged 0-25, or to create career progression opportunities in music, knowing that these opportunities allow youngsters to develop personally and socially as well as musically. They work particularly with those who don't get to make music, because of who they are, where they live, or what they're going through, enabling those in challenging circumstances to transform their lives. Youth Music funds around 300 projects across the country every year, supporting more than 80,000 children and young people to make music, develop their skills, and progress on their chosen paths. They work to influence policy so that inclusive, relevant, long-term music education is standard practice, working to affect not only how music is taught but how it is perceived.

FUTURE TALENT operates two programmes supporting gifted young musicians from low-income backgrounds across the UK. They aim to support the aspirations of the young musicians, and listen to their needs, providing a range of development opportunities such as masterclasses and workshops, one-to-one mentoring sessions with relevant and encouraging experts, and crucial performance opportunities. Alongside this, Future Talent also provides their young musicians with financial support towards musical costs such as instrument purchase/maintenance, sheet music, tuition, or exam/audition fees. Furthermore, the charity's Relationship Team are on hand

throughout to provide guidance, advice and support to the young musicians and their families: they believe in being present to celebrate the good days and offering comfort and kindness on the bad days, with consistent and unconditional love and a door that is always open. The charity is entering an exciting period of planned growth, with a new Liverpool office in addition to their London headquarters: this permanent presence in the North of England will enable them to better reach and support young musicians in the North and beyond. Performance opportunities created for Future Talent's musicians have ranged from a series of Virtual Concerts during lockdown, to spectacular in-person concerts hosted at Buckingham Palace by the Duchess of Kent, who founded the charity in 2004.

LIVE MUSIC NOW facilitates thousands of interactive music programmes every year in care homes, hospitals, special schools, and other community and healthcare settings. They work with a diverse range of people that rarely, if ever, have the opportunity to experience live music. LMN selects young, professional musicians, offers them training, and sends them out into the community to perform. LMN is one of the few music organisations to offer bespoke activities for children and young people whose access to live music is restricted due to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The charity has also been working for years to combat loneliness amongst older people through music sessions in hospitals and hospices, and in the community at large; they also run regular programmes of interactive music sessions for patients living with terminal or life-limiting conditions. At the heart of LMN's work is the training of young professional musicians to work in these fields. LMN was dreamed up by legendary violinist Sir Yehudi Menuhin, who said, *"Music, amongst all the great arts, is the language which penetrates most deeply into the human spirit, reaching people through every barrier, disability, language and circumstance. This is why it has been my dream to bring music back into the lives of those people whose lives are especially prone to stress and suffering... so that it might comfort, heal and bring delight."*