



Trainee Music Leader scheme

Spitalfields
music

In partnership with:

ACADEMY
of ST MARTIN
IN THE FIELDS



BRITTEN PEARS
ARTS

CBSO City of
Birmingham
Symphony
Orchestra

Trainee Music Leader scheme

Spitalfields Music, in partnership with Academy of St Martin in the Fields, BBC Proms, London Orchestras and Choirs, Britten Pears Arts, and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, is now accepting applications for the 2024/25 Trainee Music Leader Scheme.

This scheme is a paid, practical training programme for musicians from across the country, working in all genres, who are passionate about creative music-making in community settings. The majority of alumni still work in the industry, including some of the most respected workshop facilitators and animateurs in the sector today. Trainees will have the opportunity to develop their music leadership skills through hands-on experience and training, and learn from experienced music leaders in a supportive professional environment.



The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 15th July, with auditions to be held on 22nd, 23rd and 24th July 2024. The scheme will begin in September, opening with a weekend of activity that will include meetings, skills training and networking opportunities.

→ About us

We are [Spitalfields Music](#)

We **foster passion** for music through our education projects in schools and community settings in Tower Hamlets.

We **nurture diverse talent** by commissioning emerging composers and musicians and offering professional development programmes that propel them to success.

We **cultivate outstanding leadership**, through our first-of-their-kind Trainee Music Leader scheme and Trainee Trustee scheme.

We **stage innovative performances** in remarkable, accessible spaces around East London during our Spitalfields Music Festival.

→ What is the Trainee Music Leader Scheme?

The Trainee Music Leader Scheme is one of the most prestigious and well-respected schemes of its kind. Since its inception in 2003, many of the UK's foremost workshop leaders have trained on the scheme and credit it with giving them the broad base of experience skills, and contacts to develop their successful careers in the music education sector.

→ What do Music Leaders do?

Music leaders run creative music workshops in the community. They work with people of all ages and from all walks of life in a range of settings, including schools, care homes and other community spaces. They use music to encourage and support creative expression, instilling wellbeing and confidence in the groups they work with. Recent Trainee Music Leaders have worked on a range of projects including Music & Mindfulness sessions and creative songwriting workshops in local schools.

→ What skills are we looking for?

These are the kind of skills and attributes that we're looking for in Trainee Music Leaders:

- Experience of some form of music leading – this might be leading or supporting a choir or running/assisting music workshops in community settings
- Brilliant and creative musicians, regardless of genre and training
- Authentic, inclusive and collaborative
- Open to learning from peers and participants
- Ambitious and passionate about creative learning and working in community settings
- Keen to develop skills in vocal or instrumental leading, collaborative song-writing and creative music making
- A willingness to develop personal skills and learning, and to contribute fully to the network of other trainees



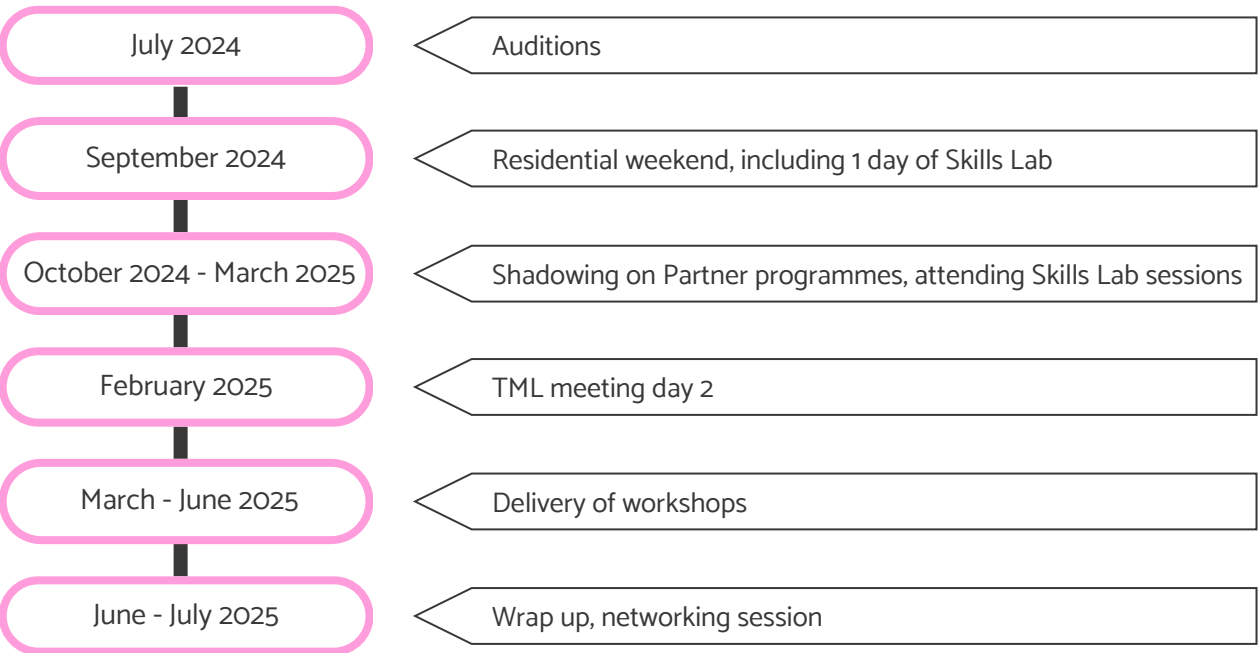
→ How does the scheme work?

There are five places on offer. Trainee Music Leaders will be hosted by Academy of St Martin in the Fields, Britten Pears Arts, BBC Proms, London Orchestras and Choirs, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and Spitalfields Music, with opportunities to engage in the host organisation's creative programmes.

Over an eight-month period, trainees receive:

- A place on a residential weekend in early September that will comprise of a development day with course leaders, host organisations and the full TML cohort; followed by a second consecutive day of Skills Lab training. Accommodation and group meals will be included. Venue details will be confirmed in due course, though it is expected this will take place in East London.
- 2 further days of Skills Lab training led by professional music leaders
- 2 further full-day group meetings - one at the midpoint and one at the end of the scheme.
- 3x 1:1 mentoring sessions with a professional workshop leader
- 7x Zoom Action Learning Sets led by a professional facilitator, with trainees also learning how to facilitate action learning sets.
- Opportunities to lead a minimum of 1-2 sessions on host organisation programmes, Spitalfields Music Neighbourhood Schools and/or NewYVC projects and to receive at least 1 observation and feedback session from a professional working in the sector
- Opportunities to observe, assist and lead on host organisations' projects throughout the scheme
- Opportunities to network with fellow community musicians and representatives from host organisations

In addition to the investment in your training and development, you will also receive a bursary of £1,800 to cover your time on the scheme. Host organisations will also cover reasonable travel expenses.



Meet the hosts of the scheme



The Academy of St Martin in the Fields believes creative empowerment improves lives. Through the creative freedom of its musicians it shares joyful, inspiring performances and delivers meaningful social impact. Through its Social Purpose programme, ASMF harnesses music's ability to empower people, extending the creative freedom of its players beyond the concert hall. Decades of impactful work has connected with people experiencing homelessness across London, while projects with emerging musicians nurture autonomy, creativity and talent development worldwide. The programme re-started in March 2023 following a hiatus in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. ASMF has now launched a new strategy including an ambitious period of growth, aiming to reach more of London's homeless communities and emerging musicians around the world over the next three years and in the decades to come.

We are looking for London-based deliverers to join our growing team of workshop leaders around homelessness. We are ideally looking for leaders who are comfortable working with orchestral musicians, but also working in a range of styles. We are particularly interested in hearing from individuals who have experienced homelessness.

BRITTEN PEARS ARTS

Britten Pears Arts is a pioneering music, arts and heritage charity based on the Suffolk coast at two popular, historic visitor destinations: The Red House and Snape Maltings. We emerged from the creative partnership of composer, Benjamin Britten singer, Peter Pears.

Britten and Pears shared a progressive vision for music and the arts to be useful and our Community Programmes seek to fulfil this by engaging with communities throughout East Suffolk and beyond. We do this through participatory heritage and music projects delivered in a variety of settings, currently focused on five areas: Families, Schools, Young People, Later Life and Criminal Justice.

We are looking for an East Anglia-based musician to host. We are open to musicians of any specialism, with the quality of musicianship being our priority. However, we are keen to meet people with an interest in working with schools, families and young people. In particular any instrumentalists who are also strong singers and enjoy co-creating music with participants. We would like to expand our artist pool in West Suffolk and Lowestoft, and particularly welcome applications from artists from those areas, however this is not essential.



We are the Learning team for the BBC Proms and London-based BBC Orchestras and Choirs. We produce high-quality and creative learning experiences and content which offer as many people as possible the chance to engage with the music we make at the BBC, through thrilling performances across the UK and on BBC platforms; inspirational education and talent programmes; and work with communities across the UK. We work with people on all kinds of musical journeys and prioritise working with those who may not see an obvious pathway into music as a listener, performer or creator. In 2025 the BBC will take up residence in a new music studio at East Bank, a new cultural quarter on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, alongside V&A, Sadler's Wells, UCL and UAL's London College of Fashion.

We are looking for applications from musicians living or working in East London as we develop our Learning and Community engagement programme in the area. We're particularly interested in vocalists or people with an interest in cross-arts or interdisciplinary practice. During your placement you'll work with the Learning team to develop relationships and new work in East London to engage communities with music making at the BBC and there's an opportunity to design projects with us to reach these audiences.



The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO) is an internationally celebrated symphony orchestra, at home in Birmingham. A family of 90 incredible musicians, led by Music Director Kazuki Yamada, proud to make exciting musical experiences that matter. Resident at Symphony Hall, the orchestra's musicians perform over 150 concerts each year in Birmingham, the UK and around the world, with music that ranges from classics to contemporary, soundtracks to symphonies, and everything in between. For more than 100 years, the CBSO has been involved in every aspect of music-making in the Midlands. And through its wide-reaching community and education projects, choruses, and youth ensembles, this continues to grow – helping to build a life-long love of music for audiences, communities and musicians across Birmingham, the West Midlands and beyond.

We are looking for a Midlands-based individual to held up co-present some of our schools' concerts, and build a curriculum-focused project at Shireland CBSO Academy. There will be a range of programmes being delivered during the scheme with opportunities to shadow and gain experience, including workshops with the Shireland CBSO Academy, working in profound and multiple learning disability (PMLD) settings, community programmes, and more.



We are a creative charity in East London. We use music to bring diverse communities together through high-quality performances, an industry leading artists development programme, and award-winning projects in our community.

We are looking for a musician of any specialism to help us deliver our work across East London. We are particularly interested in hearing from applicants who are confident in vocal leading as much of our work centres around group singing. There will be lots of opportunities to get involved with projects across Tower Hamlets and Newham across the course of the traineeship. We have strong partnerships with our local Neighbourhood Schools - past trainees have assisted or led on our Big Sing events which bring school students together from across the borough, and on our Music & Mindfulness projects. There will also be chances to engage with our resident youth choir, New Young Voice Collective (NewYVC). The choir is open for young people aged 11-25 and sings everything from pop and soul classics, through musicals and movie hits, to world, folk music and classical hits.



Hear what past Trainee Music Leaders have to say



Rosie Bergonzi

Trainee Music Leader 2016-17

“I can’t imagine what I’d be doing right now if I’d not been on the scheme, but I’m sure my future wouldn’t be looking so colourful and varied. This year has been phenomenal, and I hope it’s the stepping-stone to an exciting career - already the links I’ve made have led to professional work from various arts organisations”



Jessie Maryon Davies

Trainee Music Leader 2008-9

“The training was life changing for me. I got so much from the opportunity. Before the training scheme I didn’t know what a music leader was, and afterwards it became the focus of my career. It was an invaluable chance to meet other musicians and experience up close how they held different spaces; connect with an organisation and build up a network of future collaborators and employers; and develop a toolkit for music facilitation and build a pathway for peer support. Many of my cohort still work and play together, and as a freelance music leader that support network is invaluable”



Sam Glazer

Trainee Music Leader 2003-4

“The TML scheme became the foundation for everything I’ve done professionally since 2003. I got to see some extremely skilled and inspiring leaders at work and be part of a process that opened my eyes to a world of exciting collaborative possibilities. That experience, and the contacts I made, gave me the impetus and confidence to launch myself into a freelance career”

→ How do I apply?

We'll be accepting applications from now until **12 noon on Monday 15th July 2024**. Following a shortlisting process, we'll then be holding auditions on 22nd - 24th July 2024. To complete an application, we'll ask you to complete an online form. We'll ask you to nominate which organisation you're applying to be hosted by on the scheme, so please read pages 4 and 5 of this booklet carefully. We want to hear why you're applying to the scheme, and how you think it will benefit you. You'll also get the chance to tell us about your previous experience in music leading. You can submit your application either as a written format, or recorded responses via email.

We welcome applications from individuals of all backgrounds. People of the Global Majority, disabled people and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds are currently under-represented amongst the music leader workforce and are strongly encouraged to apply.

[Click here to access the online application form](#)

If you have any questions, or you'd like to discuss the scheme further, please get in touch with us on info@spitalfieldsmusic.org.uk.

