

Sonic Bothy Open Call

Paid Trainee Musician 2026–27

Sonic Bothy is seeking a Trainee Musician to develop their skills and experience in inclusive music facilitation. The Trainee Musician will work alongside experienced Sonic Bothy musicians to deliver experimental music projects for Disabled children and young people at Hollybrook Academy and Middlefield School in Glasgow. This is an entry-level, supported development opportunity. It is funded by the Youth Music Initiative Access to Music Making fund.

Key information

Role: Trainee Musician.

Engagement: Freelance Contract.

Period: Project Induction - w/c 31st August. Project Period - September to December 2026.

Working pattern: 2 half-days each week during school delivery, plus paid training, planning and reflection.

Location: Hollybrook Academy and Middlefield School, Glasgow, with some meetings taking place online or at Collabor8te, Glasgow.

Total payment: £2,867.

Expenses: Agreed travel expenses and work-related access costs will be reimbursed.

Responsible to: Project Manager.

Application deadline: Friday 31st July.

Interviews: Early August (dates TBC).

Funding: This opportunity is supported by the Creative Scotland Youth Music Initiative Access to Music Making Fund.

All required training, planning, preparation, delivery, meetings, administration and reflection will be paid. Payment will be made monthly upon receipt of an invoice.

About the Youth Sessions

The project provides regular experimental music sessions for children and young people at Hollybrook Academy and Middlefield School. Sonic Bothy musicians will support the pupils to explore:

- Regular experimental music sessions.
- Participant-led, responsive approach.
- Exploration of sound, instruments and technology.
- Development of original musical ideas.
- Accessibility, autonomy and meaningful participation.

- Building confidence and creative skills.

Sessions are participant-led and responsive to pupils' different communication styles, interests and access requirements.

What the Trainee Musician will do

The Trainee Musician will:

- attend an induction and training provided by Sonic Bothy;
- contribute ideas to project planning with support from the delivery team;
- observe and assist experienced Staff Musicians during sessions;
- support pupils to explore instruments, sounds and musical ideas;
- help create an inclusive, respectful and encouraging environment;
- contribute to practical session preparation and set-up;
- communicate appropriately with Sonic Bothy staff and school staff;
- take part in regular mentoring, check-ins and reflective meetings;
- contribute to project monitoring and evaluation; and
- follow Sonic Bothy's safeguarding, health and safety, equality and data protection procedures.

We are committed to providing access support and reasonable adjustments wherever possible. The Trainee Musician will work alongside experienced facilitators and will not have sole responsibility for a school group.

Training and support

The successful applicant will receive:

- an induction;
- safeguarding and child-protection training;
- mentoring, reflective meetings and check-ins;
- constructive feedback and opportunities to identify development goals
- experience delivering experimental, participant-led music facilitation;
- supported observation and practical experience."

Who we are looking for

Essential criteria

You should be able to demonstrate:

- an active interest in music, sound or experimental creative practice;
- an interest in developing inclusive music-facilitation skills;

- a willingness to learn, reflect and respond to feedback;
- a respectful and non-judgemental approach to children and young people;
- an ability to communicate and work collaboratively with others;
- an understanding that people communicate and participate in different ways; and
- a commitment to safeguarding, equality and inclusion.

Your musical practice may use instruments, voice, technology, found objects, improvisation, composition or other approaches. Formal qualifications and music-reading skills are not required.

Desirable, but not essential

It may be helpful to have:

- experience of collaborative music-making;
- experience of working or volunteering with children and young people;
- experience of inclusive, community or education settings;
- knowledge gained through lived experience of disability, neurodivergence or barriers to participation; or
- an interest in experimental, improvised or new music.

You do not need to disclose personal medical information, a diagnosis or details of a disability to demonstrate these criteria. You do not need formal music qualifications or previous professional facilitation experience. We are interested in your musical interests, your willingness to learn and your commitment to inclusive practice. We particularly welcome applications from Disabled musicians.

How to apply

Please complete the [Trainee Musician Application Form](#) answering up to 300 words per question.

OR

Submit an audio or video application [by email](#) to Christine Cooper, General Manager, answering in up to 2 minutes per application question:

- Why are you interested in becoming Sonic Bothy's Trainee Musician?
- What would you like to learn or develop through the traineeship?
- Tell us about an experience that demonstrates how you work with or support other people. This can come from employment, education, volunteering, music-making, caring responsibilities or another part of your life.
- What do inclusion and respectful participation mean to you?
- Tell us about any other experience relevant to the trainee role.

- Please confirm whether you can attend the Project Induction w/c 31st August and the Project Period from September to December 2026.

Information can be provided in alternative formats if required. A CV is not required and will not be used instead of answering the application questions. Contact us before the deadline if you need support to submit your application. For all queries, please contact:

Christine Cooper (General Manager)

[Click here to email](#)

Telephone/text: 07356114780

Selection process

Applications will be assessed by at least two people against the published essential criteria. Personal access information will not be used to score applications. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a structured interview in Early August (dates TBC). There will be no unpaid trial work. Feedback will be offered to everyone who attends an interview.

The Recruitment Process

You may request reasonable adjustments at any stage of the recruitment process. You do not need a formal diagnosis. Examples could include communication support, an online interview, rest breaks or another adjustment appropriate to your needs. Please tell us what would remove the barrier for you; you do not need to provide detailed medical information.

Further Information

Safeguarding and appointment checks

This position involves a regulated role with children. The preferred applicant will receive a conditional offer, subject to:

- successfully obtaining PVG Scheme membership before starting;
- two satisfactory references;
- confirmation of the relevant right to work in the UK.

Sonic Bothy will arrange and reimburse you for the required PVG process. Referees will not be contacted before a conditional offer has been accepted. Any information will be considered confidentially, fairly and proportionately in relation to the responsibilities and safeguarding requirements of the role.

Equality and inclusion

Sonic Bothy is committed to fair and equitable recruitment and to removing barriers within music and employment. We will not discriminate because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. Selection will be based on the published requirements of the role, with reasonable adjustments made where required.

Funders

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