



## Sound Connections' Investment Programme for Music Education Hubs

### Programme Guidelines

#### About Sound Connections' Investment Programmes

Sound Connections is a development organisation championing young people's music-making, with inclusivity, youth voice and social justice at the heart. We facilitate Wired4Music, a network for creatives aged 16-25 powered by youth voice; we run a dynamic programme of professional development; and we lead ground-breaking research, advocacy and change programmes.

Our investment programmes (Generate, Innovate and Activate) are designed to support young people, practitioners and organisations to:

- Explore and experiment with new ideas
- Develop skills, confidence and knowledge for working inclusively with children and young people through music
- Build networks and professional contacts
- Develop project development skills, such as fundraising, project management and evaluation skills

#### Purpose of the ACTIVATE Fund

Activate is our brand-new programme for **London-based Music Education Hubs to develop and embed youth voice in their work**. We are keen to support and invest in Hubs that already have a demonstrable commitment to, and practice of, youth voice, and are ready to take their next steps up the Ladder of Participation.

#### What is on offer?

1. £2,000 towards your project
2. Mentoring sessions with Youth Voice specialists
3. Up to two free places on the Essential Youth Voice training course in Autumn term 2021
4. A supported process throughout the lifespan of the investment cycle

#### What types of activity can the fund support?

The sorts of things you might want to apply for can include:

- Developing youth voice skills and knowledge across your team
- A small piece of youth consultation
- Facilitating a youth-led event
- Establishing a youth forum or young producers group
- Setting-up a micro-bursary scheme for young people
- Investing in training-up some of your young leaders so that they can take on more responsibility
- Providing your Youth Collective/Council etc. with a pot of money to programme their own activity

Whatever it is, it needs to be youth-led, meeting the needs of your young people and supporting your organisation to take your next steps up the Ladder of Participation.

### Eligibility and what we need from you and your project

1. The project needs to start in Autumn Term 2021 and be complete by 31 March 2022.
2. You need to be a London based Music Education Hub Lead Organisation benefiting young Londoners. We welcome partnership working.
3. Youth voice & participation needs to be essential to the project.
4. We ask you to demonstrate that you are already committed to youth voice and/or youth voice is already part of your work in some way. You need to show that this investment will take your youth voice work further.
5. You need to demonstrate how this investment will support you to continue to develop and embed youth voice in your work; in order to do this we want to see evidence there is senior-leadership buy-in.
6. You need to match-fund the project by 50% i.e. a maximum of £1,000 which can be a combination of in-kind and/or cash.
7. Your score on the [Youth Engagement Equaliser](#).
8. You commit to attending Essential Youth Voice Training (Autumn Term).
9. You commit to reporting on your activity by the end of April 2022.

### How to apply

1. Book in for a chat with Lawrence Becko, Liz Coomb or Jenn Raven - [book here](#) (optional)
2. Complete the [Youth Engagement Equaliser](#) and take a note of your score
3. [Complete and submit your application](#), along with uploading a budget, by 5pm Friday 11 June 2021 ([you can find a list of the questions here](#))

### Timeline

1. Applications open – Friday 30 April 2021
2. Applications close – 5pm, Friday 11 June 2021
3. Announcements made – week commencing 21 June
4. Projects start – Autumn 2021
5. Projects complete – end of March 2022
6. Reporting complete – end of April 2022