



The Countess of Munster
MUSICAL TRUST

2RAKE
CALLEJA
TRUST

Help
Musicians

HATTORI
FOUNDATION

Grant Giving Musical Trusts

tillett
trust

CRAXTON
MEMORIAL TRUST

Sir James
Caird Trust



WAYNE
SLEEP
FOUNDATION

Please Note: This document is to serve as a guide only and was correct at the time of compiling in Oct 2025. Always check the relevant website for updated and further information.

Grant Giving Musical Trusts



The Countess of Munster MUSICAL TRUST

- Funding for postgraduate instrumentalists, singers and composers.
- Applications open on January 1st 2026 and close on 10th February 2026.
- Offers awards of £4,350



- Scholarships for Undergraduate and Postgraduate musicians.
- Applications open on 5th Jan 2026 and close on 9th Feb 2026
- Scholarships range from £1,500- £5,000

Help Musicians

- Awards for postgraduate instrumentalists and singers (including opera), as well as support for some musical theatre courses
- Application dates will be announced on their website
- Offers awards from £1,000 - £5,000.

HATTORI FOUNDATION

- Offers both senior (21-27) and junior (15-20) awards to instrumental soloists or chamber ensembles.
- Senior Award applications close end of April 2026, Junior Awards ongoing,
- Senior grants up to £5,000, Junior grants up to £1,000

WAYNE SLEEP FOUNDATION

- Awards for Musicians, Dancers and Actors studying at Undergraduate and Postgraduate level at a Performing Arts Institution.
- Applications open on Monday 30th March 2026
- Applications close: Sunday 17th May 2026
- Awards typically range between £500 - £2,000



- Invites a nomination from each of the main British conservatoires for an outstanding student about to enter their second or subsequent year of postgraduate study.
- Awards typically range between £1000 - £5000

CRAXTON MEMORIAL TRUST

- Offers biennial awards of between £450 - £1,600 for postgraduate study or special projects.
- The next round of awards will be in 2027.

Sir James Caird Trust

- Awards to Scottish Musicians travelling away from their home town to a place of study either in the UK or abroad.
- They MUST have Scottish nationality or heritage.
- The scholarships are for post graduate levels of study
- Offers awards up to £4,600
www.cairdtrust.org.uk

Music Funding Key Dates

Funding dates 2026



**DRAKE
CALLEJA
TRUST**

**fillett
trust**

**Help
Musicians**

**HATTORI
FOUNDATION**

**CRAXTON
MEMORIAL TRUST**

**Sir James
Caird Trust**

**WAYNE
SLEEP
FOUNDATION**

↓
Applications
Open: 1st Jan

↓
Applications
Close: 10th Feb

↓
Reference Deadline:
17th Feb

↓
Auditions:
17th Apr - 21st
May

↓
Applications
Open: 5th Jan

↓
Applications
Close: 9th Feb

↓
References: Only
required if asked to
audition

↓
Auditions:
9th - 17th May

↓
Applications are
by nomination
from each of the
UK based
conservatoires.

↓
Auditions:
April (usually
during easter
break)

↓
Written
application
(opening date
to be
announced)

↓
Auditions will
take place in
London (dates
to be
announced)

↓
Applications
Open: Jan

↓
Applications
Close: 30 Apr

↓
Auditions: June

↓
Awards paid
from Sept

↓
The next round of
funding for the
Craxton Memorial
Trust is in 2027.

↓
Applications
Open: October
1st

↓
Applications
Close: January
31st

↓
Auditions held
in Spring
annually

↓
Applications
Open: 30th
March

↓
Applications
Close: 17th
May

↓
Auditions: Date
TBC, auditions
will take place
in London

For exact information, it is crucial to visit the trust or foundation website for your application.



The Countess of Munster
MUSICAL TRUST

Application Information

Eligibility

- **UK citizens:** resident in the UK and/or completed a continuous course of education in the UK within the last 10 years.
- **Commonwealth Students:** funding for study within the UK .
- **International students:** must have previously completed a undergraduate course within the UK.

Application Top Tips

- Do **not** submit repeat repertoire, between round 1 and 2 or from a previous application.
- Fill out the financial form accurately.
- If submitting a video of a longer work, cut to the required listening length.
- All video submissions must be dated.
- Once an application has been submitted, check that your chosen referees have received the link and submitted their references by 17th of February.

Application process

- Opens on **1st January 2026**, and closes on **10th February 2026**.
- Submit two contrasting videos (totaling 10 minutes) with recording dates.
- Fill out financial form.
- Two references are required. Referees will receive an automatic email, and their responses must be submitted by **17th February, 2026**.
- Approximately **100** applicants will be selected for a live audition.
- If you have been turned down for an award once you can apply again.
- You can receive a **maximum** of two awards in total.

Audition Dates 2026

- **Keyboard:** 17th April
- **Organ Brass, Percussion and Accordion:** 27th April
- **Strings:** 11th and 12th May
- **Composition Interviews:** 12th May (pm)
- **Voice:** 13th and 14th May
- **Jazz:** 20th May (am)
- **Woodwind:** 20th and 21st May

Audition Requirements

- You will perform for around 10 minutes followed by a brief 5 minute interview.
- Please check our website for specific requirements for composition, collaborative piano, and percussion
- Repertoire used in your application videos may not be repeated in live audition.



Application Information

Eligibility

- Open to all nationalities: UK, EU, and international students
- Scholarships available for musicians aged 18 and over, with no upper age limit
- No residency requirements
- Applicants must prove enrollment as a student in the UK for the 2026-27 academic year

Application Top Tips

- Applications must be submitted online via the website form only; no other formats accepted
- Clearly state your instrument or voice type
- Specify the course and academic year you will be entering
- YouTube links are preferred; ensure they are unrestricted and do not expire

Application process

- Submit applications via the online form by 9th February 2026
- Provide two video recordings (approx 5 minutes each) via the form; longer recordings allowed if specific sections are indicated
- Recordings must be made within the last year; YouTube links preferred
- Include name and email of a referee. Reference required only if invited to audition
- Submit a budget for the 2026-27 academic year
- Provide a 600-word personal statement and updated biography/CV

Audition Requirements

- Invited auditionees must perform two contrasting pieces totaling about 10 minutes
- A short interview will follow the performance
- Piano accompanist provided free of charge if needed
- 15–20 minutes rehearsal time available before the audition

Audition Dates 2026

- Saturday 9th/Sunday 10th May
- Manchester - May tbc
- London - Saturday 16th/Sunday 17th May

For more information, please visit www.drakecallejatrust.org, email info@drakecallejatrust.org, or call +44 7973 333770.

Application Information

Eligibility

- Be studying or are intending to study a postgraduate music performance degree (ie. MMus, MA, PGDip, Artist Diploma), starting in September, at one of the UK conservatoires.
- Be aged 18 or over
- Have the legal right to live and work in the UK, and currently live in the UK
- Not have more than £10,000 savings (some exceptions apply)
- Have a UK bank account
- Demonstrate that you have the musical potential and ambition to create a successful and sustainable career in music.
- International students must demonstrate they have been resident and studied in the UK for 3 or more years prior to applying
- We are unable to consider applications from students who have been awarded postgraduate support within the last 2 years

Application Top Tips

- Read any guidance on the website carefully
- Ensure you have set up a Help Musicians profile
- Provide as much detail as possible in your application answers
- Check that any links you provide work
- Use the word count to your advantage
- Allow plenty of time

Audition Requirements

- **Singers & Instrumentalists:** Prepare two contrasting pieces by different composers, totaling no more than 10 minutes. An accompanist can be provided for brass, strings, woodwind, and voice disciplines.
- Additional requirements are in place for disciplines such as piano accompaniment, or musical directors - please see the website for further details
- Each discipline is assigned an audition day and this cannot be changed. If you are unable to make the day assigned to your discipline, contact the team as soon as possible

Application process

- Set up a Help Musicians profile
- Submit a written application and financial need statement
- Submit links to two recordings of contrasting rep
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to in-person auditions at a London venue (tba)

Audition Dates 2026

Please keep an eye on our website for information about upcoming application and audition dates.

Application Information

Eligibility

Senior Awards

- Senior Awards (ages 21–27)
- Postgraduate-level instrumental soloists
- Chamber ensembles with average age ≤27 and at least 12 months together
- British citizens
- or foreign nationals normally resident, or studying full-time, in the UK

Application Top Tips

- Complete all sections clearly.
- Detail your budget and financial needs.
- Use recent, quality recordings with varied repertoire.
- Choose a contrasting recital programme with a pre-1850 piece.
- Provide a concise, complete biography.
- Select referees who know your work well.
- Submit everything on time (and give your referees time to submit their supporting reference).

Audition Requirements

- Invited applicants must perform a 20-minute recital featuring 2 or 3 contrasting works from different periods.
- The programme must include at least one work composed before 1850 (transcriptions allowed). Exceptions apply for instruments with no solo works before 1850 (e.g., trombone, accordion).
- Works from stage 1 recordings may be included in the recital.
- The recital will be followed by an interview with Trustees, the Music Advisor, and possibly an independent adjudicator.
- Awards decided on individual talent, musicality, and the suitability of requested assistance.

Application process

- Use the appropriate application form available from the Foundation's website.
- Select types of financial assistance needed.
- Submit project description with detailed 2025-26 budget (costs, income, shortfall).
- Explain your career development plans.
- Include YouTube link(s) to 30+ minutes of recordings (3+ contrasting works, including one pre-1850), made within 6 months of application.
- Submit a 20-minute recital programme (2-3 contrasting works, one pre-1850).
- Provide two referees; ask them to send references directly to the Foundation.

Audition Dates 2026

- One weekend (Saturday and Sunday) in June in central London.
- Exact dates announced when applications open



Postgraduate Bursary Information

Eligibility

- The Tillett Trust annually invites a nomination from each of the main British conservatoires for an outstanding student about to enter their second or subsequent year of postgraduate study. These nominees are auditioned and offered study grants according to ability and financial need. All applicants are nominees and these awards are not open to independent individuals.
- Conservatoires will be asked to provide the CV and biography of their candidate, plus a covering letter outlining the candidate's financial need with a full breakdown of costs, fees, living expenses and any income.
- Bursaries are open to both UK and international students and candidates can be from any discipline of performance study.
- Bursaries can also be put towards living expenses.

Audition Requirements

- Candidates will perform a programme of 20 minutes of music of their own choice, followed by a short interview in which they will be asked about their expectations and aspirations as well as their previous achievements and current financial position.

Audition Dates 2026

- Usually in April in the Easter holidays

For more information, please visit www.thetilletttrust.org.uk or email info@tilletttrust.org.uk

Application Information

Please note the next round of applications will be in 2027

Eligibility

- There is no restriction on nationality but applicants should have been resident in the UK for a year prior to applying.
- Awards are currently made to pianists and instrumentalists, excluding the players of organ, harpsichord and percussion.
- We do not give awards to assist with undergraduate expenses.
- The age limit is 25 years at the closing date. Applicants must have been resident in the UK for at least a year prior to applying

Application Top Tips

- Make sure both references are from highly qualified individuals and sent directly to the Trust.
- Clearly outline your goals and how the grant will support them.
- Be concise but thorough in your personal statement.
- Ensure your CV is up to date and relevant to your musical background.
- Double-check all details before submitting: spelling, dates, contact info.
- Proof of payment may be helpful if sending electronically.
- Use email for faster delivery, but post is accepted too.

Application process

Complete the application form with all required personal and musical details.

- Write a short statement explaining:
- Why you're applying
- How you'll use the grant
- Why you need it now

Include with your application:

- Updated Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- £20 non-refundable fee
- Arrange for two references to be sent directly by qualified referees by the deadline.

Sir James Caird Trust

Application Information

Eligibility

- Scholarships for post graduate level students studying music away from their home town or for under graduate students of exceptional ability who also study music away from their home town.
- Applicants may be of any gender, must be of Scottish nationality, i.e. either (a) having been born in Scotland or (b) if not born in Scotland having at least one parent or grandparent who was born in Scotland.

Audition Requirements

- Arrive on time
- Applicant's should arrange their own accompanist
- Composers must forward to the Administrators some recent scores of their work.
- All instrumentalist are required to make arrangements for their instrument except pianists.

Application process

- Your application should include:
- Personal letter (on A4 paper) outlining your aims and intentions
- Estimated course cost for your proposed study
- Copy Birth Certificate
- If not born in Scotland, also submit a copy birth Certificate of Scottish parent or grandparent
- Ask at least two referees to complete and send the forms directly to the Trust

Application Top Tips

- Applications can be submitted by email to the Trust Manager
- Ensure to include references and a cover letter
- Complete applications in full, ideally typed and ensure your email address is included

Audition Dates 2026

TBC

Application Information

Eligibility

- Must have lived in the UK for the past 3 years
- Must be 18 or over (no upper age limit)
- If successful, the Institution will be asked to confirm that the student is enrolled for the 2026/2027 academic year

Application Top Tips

- Applications must be submitted by Sunday 17th May
- Double check that any links provided work
- Try to provide as much detail in your estimated budget as possible

Audition Dates 2026

- Auditions will take place in London, and the date will be announced on our website.

Application process

- Submit the application by: Sunday 17th May 2026
- Provide two recordings (maximum 10 minutes duration)
- Provide a detailed budget for the academic year
- Provide a reference, who will be contacted prior to audition.

Audition Requirements

- Applicants who are invited to audition will be asked to prepare a performance lasting no longer than ten minutes. This could consist of one single piece, or multiple pieces.
- Following the audition, there will be a short interview with the panel.
- An accompanist will be provided for free for those who need it.
- A rehearsal space is available 15 minutes before the audition time.

Audition Outcomes



The Countess of Munster
MUSICAL TRUST

- Results will be announced at the beginning of June.

DRAKE
CALLEJA
TRUST

- Results will be announced at the beginning of June.

Help
Musicians

- Results will be announced shortly after auditions.

HATTORI
FOUNDATION

- Results will be announced by the end of June.
- Awards paid from September.

tillett
trust

- Results will be announced shortly after auditions.

CRAXTON
MEMORIAL TRUST

- Results will be announced shortly after auditions.

Sir James
Caird Trust

- Results will be announced shortly after auditions.

WAYNE
SLEEP
FOUNDATION

- Results will be announced shortly after auditions.