



## 2021 Auditions

Tuesday 23 & Wednesday 24 November 2021

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### AUDITION INFORMATION

Applications will be open from 2 September – Friday 8 October 2021.

If you plan to apply to audition, please visit our website to find all the details and link to the application form: [livemusicnow.scot/musicians/auditioning-for-lmns/](https://livemusicnow.scot/musicians/auditioning-for-lmns/)

Please read these guidelines carefully before completing the Audition Application Form.

### ABOUT LIVE MUSIC NOW

Live Music Now was established by the legendary violinist Yehudi Menuhin and his friend, the philanthropist, Sir Ian Stouitzer. Menuhin's vision was of an organisation that supported the very best musicians at the outset of their performing careers by providing them with paid performance opportunities for audiences who rarely have the chance to experience high quality live music.

Typical Live Music Now venues include residential homes and day centres for older people, schools for children with special educational needs, day centres for people with learning and physical disabilities or mental health problems, hospices, hostels for homeless people and prisons. Each year Live Music Now arranges over 3,000 performances and workshops throughout the UK, with over 500 of these being delivered by Live Music Now Scotland.

Live Music Now Scotland (LMNS) offers performance and workshop opportunities across a wide range of musical traditions and cultures to emerging musicians who are building their careers in Scotland. The scheme is suitable for musicians who want to develop leadership and a range of skills, as well as their performing practice.

LMNS selects musicians as soloists or in groups, usually of up to five people who are offered between four and six years on the scheme.

### WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- A very high standard of musicianship.
- Good communication skills and an ability to establish a rapport with the audience, inviting their participation as appropriate.
- The ability to offer performances with a varied and suitable choice of music for different LMNS audiences.
- A commitment to the aims of Live Music Now Scotland

### ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

LMNS is intended for musicians who are at the start of their careers. There is no need to have undergone formal higher education training, as musical and technical excellence coupled with a willingness to communicate through music in a wide range of settings are the driving forces in accepting musicians onto the scheme. They are usually between the age of 20 and 30. Exceptions are considered for musicians whose performing career has been delayed for certain reasons, for example:

- Musicians from a tradition whose training/musical development follows a different path and time scale to the Western classical tradition
- Musicians who recently moved to Scotland or whose career development has been interrupted at the start of their career
- Groups with an older 'mentor' figure whose role is key to the music's tradition
- Musicians from a world cultural tradition that is rarely heard in Scotland
- Over 2021/22, we'll be piloting new ways of hearing artists who would like to be part of Live Music Now Scotland, designed especially for those whose musical experience has not followed a mainstream western educational pathway.

## Availability

Most LMN performances take place on weekdays during the daytime. Other commitments should allow you availability to accept the work.

## Eligibility

Only musicians who are resident in the UK and Ireland can apply. Musicians from overseas residing in the UK must ensure that they have a valid visa which enables them to undertake paid employment. There should be a minimum of 18 months before the visa's expiry date.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR AUDITION

### STEP 1

- Complete the application form and submit with your **full repertoire/set list**.
- Obtain 2 written references from people who are familiar with your work as a performer and who support you joining the scheme. Ensembles may submit one reference for the group and one for each individual member of the group.
- A non-refundable audition fee of £25 per musician should be received with the application form. If you have any difficulty with paying the audition fee, or travel or other expenses, please get in touch.

### STEP 2

- You will be offered a time and date for your audition

### STEP 3

- You will be invited to attend a concert by LMNS musicians in a typical setting, e.g. a special school or care home, to see the work in action and to have the chance to speak to the musicians about their experience.

### STEP 4

- Programme one hour of music suitable for either children with additional support needs or an audience of elderly people. You may submit this beforehand if you wish and discuss its content with Carol Main, Director of LMNS.

### STEP 5: The Audition

- At the audition you will be asked to perform for a panel of about 8 people which comprises experts in a wide range of musical fields. At least 2 members of LMNS staff will also be present.

- You are allocated a total of 25 minutes: during the first 15-20 minutes, you are required to introduce and perform pieces of your choice from the submitted one hour programme/set list, demonstrating how you would present this for your proposed audience. LMN expects its musicians to be able to communicate well with a range of audiences, many of whom may not be used to listening to live music.
- Musicians are also required to demonstrate musicianship of the highest quality and you are therefore advised to include in the programme and play at the audition at least one piece that shows your musical ability to its best advantage.
- Please note that the panel may ask you to perform additional pieces from the one-hour programme.
- After your 20-minute performance the panel will ask you some questions which may cover topics such as your reasons for auditioning for the scheme, your choice of music for the audition and your performing experience so far. You will also be given the opportunity to ask questions.
- If your group can no longer attend the scheduled audition time, please advise LMNS immediately if this happens. We may be able to offer your space to another group. If you withdraw from audition less than 2 weeks before your scheduled audition date, and wish to re-apply in the future, your group will need to pay another audition fee.

### **Key points to remember:**

- Keep your presentation clear and simple
- Use appropriate language/vocabulary (i.e. do not assume that the audience will be familiar with technical or unusual terms)
- Include different moods, styles and duration of pieces
- Choose a varied programme/set list which demonstrates your musical abilities and will engage the 'proposed audience'

### **AFTER THE AUDITION**

Candidates will be notified of the decision of the panel within two weeks. Those not accepted onto the scheme as part of an ensemble may not re-audition in the same ensemble.

Successful musicians will be required to:

Attend an induction session and training sessions on working with LMN's core audience groups on **Monday 11 January 2022, Thursday 27 January 2022 and Thursday 3 February 2022.**

**Provide publicity photographs and short biographies** (around 150 words) for the LMNS website. Advice will be available on this.

All musicians accepted on to the scheme will undergo an Enhanced Disclosure Scotland PVG check. Musicians will be charged £59 for registering with the Protecting Vulnerable Groups scheme or, if they are already registered, a charge of £18 for a refreshed report at the time of induction.

Please note: If an ensemble is selected for the scheme, a later change in personnel will normally require the ensemble to re-audition.