

Exceptional Music Student Bursary Scheme 2016

Music Generation Mayo is offering a Bursary Scheme, for young musicians and singers aged 13-18 yrs., who can demonstrate exceptional musical ability in any genre of instrumental or vocal music.

The overall value of the scheme is €15,000 and bursaries will be awarded on a competition basis, to students who have already acquired an excellent standard in instrumental/vocal music performance in any genre. This should be demonstrated in an online application, supporting material and for shortlisted candidates, during an audition with an Independent Assessment Panel.

FAQs

Who can apply?

Students with exceptional ability within the age range 13-18 years inclusive may apply. (*Note: you must be no more than 18 years of age and no less than 13 years of age on 30/06/2016*). Applicants must be resident in Co. Mayo on a permanent basis.

What can you apply for?

Music Generation Mayo is offering bursaries for:

- A.** Defraying the cost of accessing recognised expert tuition, particularly for progression opportunities such as participation in summer schools, masterclasses, ensemble workshops/sessions etc. which are additional to the applicant's ongoing tuition. Applications for financial support for the candidate's current /ongoing tuition costs will also be considered. Tuition bursaries are valid for the 2017 calendar year. Travel costs, where required, will be considered at a maximum of 20% of bursary value sought.
- B.** Defraying the cost of purchasing a high quality musical instrument where the applicant's existing instrument is no longer adequate to their standard of proficiency. Each applicant may apply for one instrument only and should apply for the instrument in which they are most proficient. Current and competitive quotes from instrument suppliers must accompany your application.

Please note candidates may only apply for Bursary option A or B above and not both.

In addition to music instruments, the following components are eligible as expenditure as part of Bursary B:

- Bows / Mouthpieces / Reeds / Instrument cases

What is the value of the bursary?

The value of the bursary awarded may vary but the maximum amount that any successful applicant will receive is:

A: 100% of the total cost of additional tuition progression opportunities as identified above

And/or

50% of the total cost of current/ongoing tuition costs

– up to a maximum of €2,000.

B: 50% of the total purchase price of an instrument – up to a maximum of €2,000

Bursaries remain valid for 11 months however they must be drawn down before 01.12.17.

Who will decide?

An Independent Panel, with the appropriate expertise, is in place. The Panel's function is to oversee the process and assess the qualifying applicants. Their decision will be final.

How will applicants be assessed?

The Independent Panel will assess applicants based on the level of music skill and ability demonstrated and the quality of documentation submitted. The ambition, quality and scope of the bursaries sought will also be taken into account.

Bursary A: Priority will be given to applicants applying for additional tuition progression opportunities which they can demonstrate will develop and broaden their musical experience and attainment. This might involve masterclasses, holiday courses, participation in ensemble/orchestra workshop or sessions, or online tutorials with an expert musicians. Such opportunities must be with a recognised institution/professional and may be in Mayo, elsewhere in Ireland or abroad.

Bursary B: Priority will be given to applicants who take time to seek advice from tutors/professional musicians, visit workshops and suppliers and choose an instrument that they feel is a sufficient upgrade and would allow them to improve and enhance their playing.

Awarding Ceremony

Successful applicants will attend a ceremony at which they will be awarded their bursary status, undertake a performance and be present for a photo call. The awards ceremony will take place in Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar on Monday Dec 12th 2016 at 7pm.

Time Schedule

- Closing date for completed online applications is **12.00pm on Friday Nov 4th 2016.**
- Auditions for short-listed applicants will be held on **Saturday Nov 26th** – if short-listed for an audition you will be contacted in advance with a date and time-slot. Please note you must present in person for audition and no alternative dates can be accommodated.
- Final decisions of the Independent Bursary Board will be announced on **Monday Dec 5th 2016.**
- Awarding Ceremony to take place **Monday Dec 12th 2016** – all successful applicants must attend the ceremony to perform and officially receive their award.

How can I apply?

To apply you must complete an online application process at **www.musicgenerationmayo.ie** before **12.00pm on Friday Nov 4th 2016**. *Please note: Incomplete or late applications cannot be considered.*

The application process includes:

1. A fully completed online **Application Form** – links to this form and instructions for uploading supporting material can be accessed on our website at www.musicgenerationmayo.ie. The application is online only, no hard copies will be accepted.
2. **A Personal Essay** (*approx. 1,000 words in type and written by the candidate*) – in this essay you should give details of:
 - a. how you became interested in music
 - b. your achievements in music to date
 - c. your ambitions for your future musical development
 - d. how being the beneficiary of a bursary would help you in achieving your musical goals
 - e. why you believe you should be considered for this bursary
3. **If applying for Bursary A**, a quotation or estimate from music provider/service for the cost of tuition fees
4. **If applying for Bursary A**, the CV/biography of the tutors/musicians from whom you will be receiving tuition and/or details of the course/workshop/session you wish to attend and the institution delivering it. All opportunities must be with a recognised professional/ institution with a proven track record in the provision of high quality music tuition.
5. **If applying for Bursary B**, a quotation for the cost of an instrument from at least two individual instrument suppliers. In the case of extremely rare or specialist instruments where it may not be possible to source from more than one supplier, one quotation will be accepted. Please note however that as bursaries are only valid for an 11 month period, it is not advisable to obtain quotes from bespoke instrument makers that have excessive waiting times for instruments. Bursaries cannot be drawn down until the applicant has received the instrument.
6. A **recording** of one solo piece of music played or sung by the applicant with minimal or no accompaniment. Please note this does not have to be a professional recording, a home recording will suffice. Please upload the recording (.mp3 format). Video files or links to website pages will not be accepted.
7. A scanned copy/photograph of the applicant's **Birth Certificate**. Note: applicants must be no more than 18 years of age and no less than 13 years of age on 30/06/2016.

Further Terms and Conditions

- Candidates will be awarded bursaries in one category only, A or B and successful candidates will only receive an award for the category in which they applied.
- Candidates will not be awarded for tuition that has already taken place or instruments already purchased.
- Candidates in receipt of a previous bursary award from Music Generation Mayo are not eligible to apply in subsequent years.
- The Bursary Board will select the successful candidates. Their decision will be final.
- Bursaries will not be awarded towards third level academic costs.

- Purchase of instruments, access to tuition opportunities and drawdown of funding must take place within 11 months of award being granted. All financial transactions relating to the Bursary must be completed by 01.12.2017.

If awarded a bursary, successful candidates will be obliged to provide the following documentation upon which the bursary amount awarded will be paid:

- A letter requesting the drawdown of the bursary
 - Receipt(s) for expert tuition opportunities attended or instrument purchased
 - Relevant travel receipts – this must not total more than 20% of the total bursary award
 - Photographic documentation (*2-3 images*) of applicant attending at tuition opportunity or playing the instrument purchased
 - Bank Account details for electronic funds transfer
 - Note: tuition bursaries may be drawn down in tranches to accommodate various opportunities applied for – please liaise with Music Generation Mayo office in these instances.
- Individuals must acknowledge the support of Music Generation Mayo in biographical and publicity material for at least two years. Logos will be provided where required.
 - Those in receipt of an instrument bursary will not sell or otherwise dispose of instruments funded under this scheme. If instruments are no longer needed, in negotiation with Music Generation Mayo, the individual will transfer the instrument to another authorised body or sell the instrument and refund Music Generation Mayo with the relevant proportion of the bursary granted.
 - Those awarded an instrument bursary must make adequate provision for housing, insurance, care, maintenance and repair of instrument.
 - Only online applications will be accepted. Late applications will not be considered. Shortlisting may occur. Canvassing will disqualify.
 - All applicants will be notified of their success or otherwise by post.
 - Applicants should note that funding is limited and that this is a competitive process. Meeting the guidelines for this award does not guarantee an award.
 - The continuation of this bursary scheme on an annual basis is funding dependent.

Online Application Checklist:

Note: The application process must be completed online, no hard copies will be accepted. All instructions available at our website.

- Completed Application Form
- Personal Essay, in typed format
- Recording of a Solo Piece (mp3 format)
- A quotation(s)/estimate (s) for the cost of tuition opportunity (*Bursary A*)
- CV of person(s)/institute identified to provide expert music tuition (*Bursary A*)
- Two quotation(s) for the cost of a new instrument (*Bursary B*)
- Scanned Original Birth Certificate

Please keep a copy of your submission documents for your own records.

Visit our website: www.musicgenerationmayo.ie to apply.

Music Generation Mayo is funded and supported by:

