

# INSTRUMENTAL OUTREACH PROGRAMME MUSIC EDUCATION PRACTITIONERS

OFFALY/ WESTMEATH MUSIC EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

**FOR VACANCIES AND/OR OPPORTUNITIES  
THAT MAY ARISE DURING ACADEMIC YEAR  
2014/2015.**



Offaly and Westmeath are among twelve counties selected for participation in Music Generation – the U2 and Ireland Funds’ supported National Music Education Programme, initiated by Music Network.

In response, Offaly County Council, on behalf of Music Generation Offaly Westmeath is now seeking to create a pool of instrumental instructors for the Music Generation Offaly Westmeath Instrument Outreach Programme. Expressions of interest from individuals or groups to deliver The Instrumental Outreach Programme in schools and other settings across both counties are welcomed.

It should be understood that any pool created is being done so **IN ADVANCE** of any teaching opportunities existing and that **NO GUARANTEE** of future work can be made.

Music Generation Offaly Westmeath is looking to engage with musicians who are highly motivated, passionate about music education and interested in developing additional skills through the continual professional development opportunities that will be made available. Musicians tendering to join the pool of instrumental instructors are expected to be able to play at least one instrument to a high standard with good facility on additional instruments an asset.

Interest in generating and contributing to ensemble activity is essential, however prior experience is not a requirement.

**Musicians expressing interest should understand that they will be joining a wider developmental programme of embedding music into the everyday lives of young people in Offaly and Westmeath.**

**Musicians involved in delivering the Instrument Outreach Programme will be required to participate in further training and professional development opportunities as they arise.**



Ireland's National Music Education Programme  
A Music Network initiative, co-funded by U2, The Ireland Funds,  
The Department of Education and Skills  
and Local Music Education Partnerships

## THE INSTRUMENT OUTREACH PROGRAMME

### **1. About the Offaly/ Westmeath Music Generation Instrument Outreach Programme**

The 'Play an Instrument' Outreach Programme is aimed towards children and young people aged 9 to 18 and it will provide the mechanism to develop and extend an instrumental tuition system. As this programme develops, two differing, though complementary strands, differentiated by teaching approach, will be available.

Strand 1, the 'Play an Instrument' Outreach Programme – Classroom Tuition Strand will provide the opportunity to develop a whole class, large group approach to instrumental tuition, specifically intended to ensure that pupils are provided with the chance to experience learning and playing an instrument first-hand.

Available in both the upper primary and secondary setting, this style of instrumental tuition will provide pupils with an equal opportunity to learn an instrument in a flexible, creative environment under the guidance of a trained musician who will impart this life-long skill. Delivered through weekly lessons, this style of tuition provides a vehicle for pupils to begin the process of learning the basics of an instrument, while still facilitating the integration of those with intermediate and advanced skills in a stimulating, learning, musical and relaxed environment.

This approach to classroom instrumental tuition has a demonstrated suitability to guitar (including bass guitar), keyboard, and drum kit among other instruments, and this style of 'hands on' education has proven itself effective to the point that many other countries use it as the foundation of many practically – based music education programmes.

With established materials, flexible learning and teaching approaches, together with the facility to accommodate large mixed-ability groups whilst providing a quality music education experience, Music Generation Offaly Westmeath's Classroom Instrument Strand aims to provide equal access to instrumental tuition for children and young people, of all backgrounds and experiences thereby opening a new avenue for experiential learning.

As a tutor on the Play an Instrument Outreach Programme - Classroom Tuition Strand, musicians would be expected to nurture and develop young people across the range of abilities that may be reflected in a group. It is expected that this strand would be available during school hours.

Strand 2, the Play an Instrument Outreach Programme – Small Group Tuition Strand is based on the Midland Arts Instrumental Tuition Scheme currently available in a number of Co. Westmeath schools. This strand will be available on a variety of instruments and will not be genre specific. Tuition will most likely take place during or immediately out of school hours, and will be offered in a variety of settings accessible to children and young people.

This strand will provide a high quality music experience, delivered in a fun and accessible way, which enables children to develop instrumental skills.

Delivered in weekly tuition sessions of 40 minutes to groups with a minimum of 4 students, it is hoped that performances/ ensembles in individual schools/ centres/ areas will develop organically.

The Small Group Tuition Strand differs from the Classroom Tuition Strand in 2 key ways.

- Firstly it is delivered to students electively participating, availing of a group lesson, with children leaving the classroom to attend the tuition during the school day, or returning to a teaching centre after hours for lessons;
- Secondly it is expected that pupils (and parents) will understand that this strand requires a commitment to attend tuition on a weekly basis over an extended period of time, and that practice between lessons is essential for progress to be made.

## 2. Required Skills and Experience

### Musical Qualities

- Have excellent instrumental skills on first study instrument
- Be a highly motivated practicing musician, with a passion and vision for music education.
- Must demonstrate the capacity to champion, energise, motivate and deliver successful results with a flexible approach to learning and teaching.
- Able to collaborate with other parties and work as part of a multidisciplinary team for Music Generation Offaly Westmeath.
- Ability to play additional instruments to a high standard is advantageous
- Able to demonstrate potential or have had previous experience of:
  1. Delivering a comprehensive and progressive programme of instrumental tuition in any setting and show evidence of planning and self-evaluation.
  2. The range of skills required when working with a variety of group sizes in mixed-ability contexts.
  3. Ensemble teaching/ conducting.
  4. The creation and management of, together with participation in, performance settings.
  5. Working with large groups/whole classes at both primary and secondary school level.

### Personal Qualities

- To be patient, creative and flexible in your approach to instrumental tuition
- Be enthusiastic for working with children and young people, and willing to engage in collaborative teaching.
- Be willing to undergo Garda Vetting and to complete Child Protection Training to the satisfaction of Offaly County Council.
- Be able to accommodate working in school hours, evenings and some weekends as required.
- Willing and able to commit to Continual Professional Development (CPD)
- Have excellent communication skills.
- Possess a 'hands on' attitude and a spirit of openness.
- Able to provide own transport.
- Capable of acting and dealing with a variety of people in a professional and courteous manner.
- Able to commit to taking part in forums outside of schools, for example attendance at meetings, training, open evening, performances.
- Open to opportunities where one's initiative can be used.
- Committed to providing work of a high standard.

## 3. Proposed Model of Implementation

Instrumental instructors may be allocated a number of schools/ teaching centers to work in, and will be required to deliver tuition services as they become available. It is anticipated that Instrumental instructors may deliver services in a number of schools/ settings each week.

Once schools have registered their interest in taking part in the Instrument Outreach Programme, Instrumental instructors will visit participating schools each week, for a total of 25 weeks, for the provision of tuition.

Instrumental instructors will, on being allocated a school, be free to negotiate agreeable teaching times with that school. However, it should be noted that in some cases, schools may be required to timetable tuition sessions where large numbers are involved. In such circumstances, no flexibility of timetabling can be assumed.

#### 4. Budget and Financial Issues

- Any teaching offered will be on the basis of a **fixed hourly teaching rate** set at **€35** per hour (or part there – of).
- This rate **IS INCLUSIVE** of all training, preparation and development work associated with the programme; together with any travel expenses and subsistence costs incurred during the delivery of The Instrument Outreach Programme. Also included in this fee are any costs sustained when required to attend training, together with any additional costs incurred during rehearsal and performance commitments. **No other amount over and above this set rate will be paid.**
- On joining the pool of prospective instructors, individuals will be required to submit a current Tax Clearance Certificate prior to commencement and will accept sole responsible for their own tax and PRSI affairs.

#### 5. Selection Criteria

Selection for membership of the pool will be by means of a CV and Selection Committee with the following criteria being applied:

➤ General suitability and availability	30%
➤ Qualifications	25%
➤ Experience	10%
➤ Interest and knowledge of music education	15%
➤ Ability on instrument*	20%

**\*Interested musicians will be required to play a short, pre-prepared piece of music on their 1<sup>st</sup> study instrument at the selection meeting. Sheet music need not be provided. No accompaniment will be available. A keyboard instrument will be available on the day.**

#### 6. Terms of Business

- Day to day contact will be with Margaret Broome, The Development Officer for Music Generation Offaly Westmeath. Various methods of communication may be used but they will include phone and email.
- School/ site visits will be undertaken by The Development Officer to observe work.
- Instrumental Instructors will be required to report to Music Generation Offaly Westmeath or its sub-committee.
- No commitment of any kind, contractual or otherwise, shall exist unless and no guarantee of future work can be given.
- A probation period of no longer than 6 months will apply.

## 7. Expression of Interest Requirements

- Expressions of interest can be made by CV and signed covering letter to include the following information:
  - Contact Details including address, telephone, email;
  - Academic, Professional or Technical Qualifications to include awarding body; description of course/subjects and final grade/s;
  - Previous Employment describing main duties and responsibilities
  - Any other achievements or relevant experience;
  - A statement of suitability for the programme limited to 500 words;
  - Availability and ability to commit to training requirements;
  - Names and contact details for 2 referees.
  
- *CVs and supporting documentation should be posted in sufficient time to ensure delivery not later than the latest time for acceptance.*
- *Receipt of CVs will be acknowledged by email. **No responsibility can be accepted for lost/ late submissions.***
- *Expressions of Interest should arrive in Hard Copy Only, marked **FOR THE ATTENTION OF The Development Officer, Music Generation Offaly / Westmeath, Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly and to arrive not later than 3 pm on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2014.***
- ***Late submissions will not be considered.***
- Following shortlisting, meeting/s with the Steering Committee of Music Generation Offaly Westmeath or their appointed representatives will be held. **No expenses will be paid.**
- Successful musicians will be required to submit to Garda Vetting and there being no disclosure of convictions which Offaly County Council considers would render the instrumental instructor unsuitable to work with children/vulnerable adults. This process will commence before any offer of paid tuition can be made.
- The responsibility for the provision of the Garda Vetting Procedure and Child Protection Training will be assumed by Offaly County Council.
- A pool of potential instrumentalists will be formed.

ANY PAID TUITION OFFERED IS DEPENDENT ON THE INFORMATION GIVEN DURING THE SELECTION PROCESS BEING TRUE.