



Funding Opportunities

Introduction

The tables below give an overview of live funding opportunities available. They are split into categories which aim to help schools, music and community organisations (including charities) and individuals to easily find relevant funds. We hope that you find this information useful and feel encouraged to apply for further resources that can enhance opportunities for making music together in Leeds. Please check the links to each website for further details of eligibility and how to apply, checking for any changes that may be made after publication of this report. ArtForms cannot accept responsibility for any errors or changes made to the funds further to publication of this report.

Summary of Funds Available for Organisations Only (Including schools and academies, but not individuals)

Fund Name & Organisation	What's Available?	How Much?	Who can apply?	Deadline and Where to Apply
The Community Fund National Lottery Community Fund	Financial support towards projects that benefit the community. This can include money towards musical development	£300 to £20,000	Constituted voluntary & community organisations, groups and clubs, charities, CIO's, Not for profit companies, CIC's, schools, statutory bodies, community benefit societies	Ongoing application process. Apply at least 16 weeks before the activity is hoped to start https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-england#section-3
Reaching Communities National Lottery Community Fund	Financial support towards projects that benefit the community. This can include money towards musical development	£20,001 or more for up to 5 years	Constituted voluntary & community organisations, groups and clubs, charities, CIO's, not for profit companies, CIC's, schools, statutory bodies, community benefit societies, co-operative societies	Ongoing application process https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/reaching-communities-england#section-2
Partnerships National Lottery Community Fund	Financial support for organisations working together in partnership to help their community. This can include money towards musical development	£20,001 or more for up to 5 years	Constituted voluntary & community organisations, groups and clubs, charities, CIO's, not for profit companies, CIC's, schools, statutory bodies, community benefit societies, co-operative societies	Ongoing application process https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/partnerships-england#section-1

Summary of Funds Available for Schools Only (Not including community organisations or individuals)

Fund Name & Organisation	What's Available?	How Much?	Who can apply?	Deadline and Where to Apply
UMUKSF School Funding Universal Music UK Sound Foundation	Financial support for students, schools and teachers to improve their access to music by purchasing or upgrading musical instruments and / or equipment	Up to £1,500	Schools, teaching the national curriculum, which are based in the UK and Ireland	Please check the website for details of when the next round of funding will be open. Trustees review applications and offers are made twice a year; March and October. Check the website for news https://www.umuksoundfoundation.com/umuksf-school-awards/
BBB Trust Award Music for All	Financial support for established orchestras as well as those aspiring to set one up. For creating a self-sustaining environment enabling more pupils to access music making	Up to £8,000	Primary and Secondary State Schools, which are based in the UK	Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/

Play Enabling Grant, Child Friendly Leeds	Financial support towards inclusive, exciting and accessible play opportunities that support children's emotional, social and physical learning and development.	TBC (The last fund was up to £5,000)	Voluntary and community organisations who can enable the development of play opportunities for children from 0-18 years old, across the city that support local need.	This information is based on the most recent funding round, which has now closed. Please check the website https://wearechildfriendlyleeds.com/2024/05/03/peg-2024-25/ or contact childfriendlyleeds@leeds.gov.uk to be added to updates for future fund announcements.
Buttle Uk Chances for Children	One-off financial support to help improve wellbeing and educational engagement for children and young people aged 2-18, where they have experienced a crisis. This can include money towards musical activities	Up to £2,400	Frontline professionals working for a registered charity, housing association or public sector organisation (including schools) who are working directly with the children/young person	This grant is always open so eligible applicants can apply at any time. https://buttleuk.org/apply-for-a-grant/chances-for-children-grants/
Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants	Financial support for projects up to 3 (sometimes 4) years. Including special activities like tours, major projects and place partnerships that reach and engage people and communities in England with high quality creativity and culture	£100,001 or more	Individuals and organisations doing projects related to arts and culture, including music. It can also include helping people to develop skills, research or organisational development that helps to develop and support creativity and culture	Project Grants is always open so eligible applicants can apply at any time. Setting up an applicant profile can take up to 10 days. https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants/national-lottery-project-grants-guidance-library#t-in-page-nav-3

Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants	Financial support for creating and delivering creative and cultural activity and projects (including tours) that reach and engage people and communities in England with high quality creativity and culture	£30,001 to £100,000 including 10% match funding recommended	Individuals and organisations doing projects related to arts and culture, including music. It can also include helping people to develop skills, research or organisational development that helps to develop and support creativity and culture	Project Grants is always open so eligible applicants can apply at any time. Setting up an applicant profile can take up to 10 days. Decisions may take up to 14 weeks https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants/national-lottery-project-grants-guidance-library#t-in-page-nav-2
Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants	Financial support for creating and delivering creative and cultural activity and projects that reach and engage people and communities in England with high quality creativity and culture	£1,000 to £30,000	Individuals and organisations doing projects related to arts and culture, including music. It can also include helping people to develop skills, research or organisational development that helps to develop and support creativity and culture	Project Grants is always open so eligible applicants can apply at any time. Setting up an applicant profile can take up to 10 days. Decisions may take up to 9 weeks https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants/national-lottery-project-grants-guidance-library#t-in-page-nav-1

Summary of Funds Available for Organisations Only (Not including schools, academies or individuals)

Fund Name & Organisation	What's Available?	How Much?	Who Can Apply?	Deadline and Where to Apply
Creative, Confident Communities Esmée Fairbairn	Financial support to strengthen bonds in communities, helping local people to build vibrant, confident places where they can fulfil their creative, human and economic potential	Unlimited	Constituted organisations including registered charities, social enterprises, CIC's and not for profit companies with an annual turnover of more than £100,000	Ongoing application process https://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/applications/
The UK Fund National Lottery Community Fund	Financial support towards activities that strengthens relationships between diverse communities, creates connections between online and offline worlds, helps ensure people from all backgrounds can shape the future of their communities	£500,000 to £5 million	Registered charities, CIO's, CIC's, community benefit societies, co-operative societies, constituted voluntary or community organisations, statutory bodies, companies ltd by guarantee, partnerships of organisations	Ongoing application process https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/the-uk-fund

Providers of childcare / activities for 0-5, 6-19 and training Seedlings Foundation	Financial support for equipment and resources, activities to support education and development of children and young people and training	Up to £1,500	Registered charities or voluntary organisations and some private organisations at the trustees discretion	Ongoing application process https://seedlings-foundation.org.uk
Pears Youth Fund Leeds Community Foundation	Financial support to support organisations to deliver youth work and promote youth voice, youth empowerment and youth activities. For people aged 5 to 20 (or up to 25 with additional needs).	Up to £20,000 over two years	Organisations with an income between £30k and £750k, who can clearly demonstrate how their work with young people is underpinned by Youth Work Values and Principles.	Check deadlines with the funder: https://pearsfoundation.org.uk/news/rachel-franklin/pears-youth-fund-is-open-for-applications/
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust People's Postcode Lottery	Financial support towards enabling participation in the arts. Prioritised for groups from communities experiencing racial inequity, disabled and LGBT+ people	£500 to £25,000	Formally constituted organisations operating over a year, requesting no more than 1/3 of total income	https://www.postcodeneighbourhoodtrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant

<p>Working with primary-school aged children</p> <p>Music for All</p>	<p>Financial support for providing opportunities to make music for children and young people aged between 4-11</p>	<p>Up to £2,000</p>	<p>Community based groups able to demonstrate ways in which they nurture underprivileged young talent. Including those operating in caring, as well as more formal educational settings. Choirs are welcome to apply.</p>	<p>Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/</p>
<p>Chronic diseases and conditions affecting quality of life</p> <p>Music for All</p>	<p>Financial support</p>	<p>Up to £2,000</p>	<p>Community based groups who can demonstrate how music is used within their project work and where possible, can illustrate previous examples of work as well as show how funds will support music-making</p>	<p>Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/</p>
<p>Working with groups with mental health challenges and / or affected by loneliness / isolation</p> <p>Music for All</p>	<p>Financial support</p>	<p>Up to £2,000</p>	<p>Community based groups who can demonstrate how music is used within their project and illustrate previous successful examples</p>	<p>Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/</p>

Working with communities from the Global Majority, in collaboration with Black Lives in Music Music for All	Financial support	Up to £2,000	Community based groups who can demonstrate ways in which they nurture disadvantaged individuals through music-making opportunities	Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/
Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants Supporting Grassroots Music Priority	Financial Support for rehearsal and recording studios, promoters, festivals, and venues for live and electronic music performance to help bring live and electronic music to the public and support the development of talent	£1,000 to £40,000	Grassroots music venues and club sector organisations including rehearsal and recording studios, promoters, festivals, and venues for live and electronic music performance	This is a listed priority within the general 'Project Grants' fund until at least Sept 2025. 'Project Grants' is always open so you can apply at any time
Trailblazer Fund Youth Music	Financial Support for organisations trialing first time work, testing a new way of working or disrupting the status quo for children and young people (25 or under) to make, learn and earn in music	£2,000 to £30,000	Small charities, arts venues, music businesses, youth clubs, music education hubs, housing associations, nurseries and more, working in at least theme including: - - Early Years - Disabled d/Deaf and neurodivergent young people - Youth justice system - Young people facing barriers - Young adults - Organisations and the workforce	https://youthmusic.org.uk/trailblazer-fund

Summary of Funds Available for Organisations, Bands & Individuals (Not including schools or academies)

Fund Name & Organisation	What's Available?	How Much?	Who Can Apply?	Deadline and Where to Apply
Inspire Leeds City Council, Culture Programmes	Financial support for new one off non profit creative and cultural projects over a 12 months period – stand alone or part of a recurring event eg. annual festival	£500 to £1,500 (with 10% match funding cash or in-kind)	Leeds based, individual artists, Culture & Creative Organisations, Community & Voluntary groups based in Leeds Commercial organisations to support discreet non-profit free to access cultural projects.	https://www.leedscultureprogrammes.org.uk/inspire
Physical mobility or accessibility needs Music for All	Financial Support to provide music making opportunities to those with physical mobility, coordination and/or accessibility needs	Up to £2,000 for community projects and £800 for individuals	Community groups who can demonstrate how music is used within their project work and where possible, be able to illustrate previous examples as well as illustrate how funds will be used to remove barriers to support music-making for the group	Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/

International Showcase Fund PRS Foundation	Financial support for music creators to attend industry facing showcases and writing camps to encourage international export opportunities	Up to £5,500	Artists, bands, songwriters and producers who have been invited to perform or create new music at international industry facing showcasing festivals, song writing camps or conferences	Rolling deadline https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/international/international-showcase-fund/international-showcase-fund-guidance-and-faqs/
PPL Momentum Music Fund PRS Foundation	Financial support towards recording and release, touring and live performances, online content, promotion, marketing, creation of new music, fees to collaborate, education / training, commissioning and some equipment, mentoring and showcase support	Up to £5,000	Artists and bands in Yorkshire with strong musical potential, who write and / or perform their own music and have had coverage in regional or national press and blogs, as well as an existing fan base.	https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/next-steps/ppl-momentum-music-fund/
The Hitmaker Fund PRS Foundation	Financial support towards time to create, training, creative and professional development, studio hire, some equipment, tracking, maternity leave and childcare, international activity	£5,000 to £10,000	Songwriters and producers (with a professional track record) working in popular music genres to further develop their careers and writing / production	Check deadlines with with the funder: https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/next-steps/the-hitmaker-fund/

Women Make Music PRS Foundation	Financial support towards the creation of new music, covering fees, touring and live performances, recording and release, creative residencies, promotion, marketing and some equipment	Up to £5,000	Over 18 year old women, trans and non binary music creators including: songwriters, composers or artists, bands, producers and performers involved with the composition / writing process	Check deadlines with with the funder: https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/all-career-levels/women-make-music-2/
The Open Fund for Music Creators PRS Foundation	Financial support towards the creation of new music, covering fees, touring and live performances, recording and release, creative residencies, promotion, marketing and some equipment	Up to £5,000	Over 18 year old music creators not signed to a major record label or in full-time education (unless an exception is made by the Grants Team)	Check deadlines with with the funder: https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/all-career-levels/the-open-fund-for-music-creators/
Composers' Fund PRS Foundation	Financial support as proposed by composers that would make a significant difference to their long term development	£8,000 to £15,000	Composers at a crucial tipping point in their careers, showing current progression and growth, with the potential to significantly develop their careers. Managers, publishers, lawyers and advisors can make an application on their behalf	https://prsfoundation.com/funding-support/funding-music-creators/next-steps/the-hitmaker-fund/guidance-and-faqs-2/

Grow, Project Funding Leeds City Council, Culture Programmes	Financial support for new one off artistically ambitious projects	£5,000 to £15,000 (25% cash match funding required up to £10k / 50% cash match funding required up to £15k)	Leeds based, individual artists, cultural and creative organisations, helping to deliver Leeds Best City Ambition. Engagement and benefit to reflect cultural diversity, protected characteristics and / or in disadvantaged areas	https://www.leedscultureprogrammes.org.uk/grow-project
Peter Whittingham Jazz Award Help Musicians	Financial and business support for time to create, manufacture, distribute, access creative spaces, PR and Marketing, Mentoring, Touring and Live activity, recording and merchandise	Up to £5,000 One to one tailored business advice	Emerging or early career jazz musicians or groups over 18 years old. Applicants welcomed from underrepresented groups such as women, people with disabilities and individuals from minority ethnic backgrounds	Please sign up to the Help Musicians mailing list on their website for details of when next applications will open https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/get-support/develop-as-a-musician/support-your-studies

Summary of Funds Available for Individuals Only

Fund Name & Organisation	What's Available?	How Much?	Who Can Apply?	Deadline and Where to Apply
Next Level awards Help Musicians	Financial and business support towards ambitious projects, for example recording and releasing an album, going on tour or joining a long-term course	Up to £3,000 Business advice Online meet ups Online peer drop-in spaces	Individual musicians over 18, with a track record of making 40% of income from music over the past two years or longer and no more than £10,000 savings or access to other related capital	https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/get-support/develop-as-a-musician/next-level-awards
Fast Track support Help Musicians	Financial support towards courses, purchase of musical equipment, production and composition software / hardware / performance related technology to enable improved income / costs to essential upgrades, repair or maintenance of musical equipment	Up to £500	Individual musicians over 18, with a track record of making 40% of income from music over the past two years or longer and no more than £10,000 savings or access to other related capital	https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/get-support/develop-as-a-musician/advice/fast-track-awards-application-guidance

Amber Music Awards The Amber Trust	Financial support towards instrumental and singing lessons, purchase of musical instruments and technology, tickets and assistance, travel and accommodation	Funding up to three school terms or a maximum of 36 lessons or session across the school year	Parents and carers of blind or partially sighted children and young people up to 18 years old	Check deadlines with with the funder: https://ambertrust.org/amber-music-awards/
The Knoydart Songwriting Retreat CIC Music for All	Two free places to 'The Knoydart Retreat' between 23-27 September 2024 with Boo Hewerdine	N/A	Individual experienced Songwriters aged 25 to 65+ seeking mentorship and inspiration; looking for collaborations; keen to develop writing skills; looking to increase their current catalogue of songs; and / or need guidance and support in understanding the music industry	Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/
Arts Council England Developing your Creative Practice	Financial support for for development activities related to our supported disciplines, for example undertaking a period of research, networking, or time to create new work. Up to one year in length	£2,000 to £12,000	Individual creative or cultural practitioners at an early to mid-point stage in practice, needing support to make a major change or carry out a period of focused development work	Developing Your Creative Practice (DYCP) Arts Council England

NextGen Fund Youth Music	Financial support for early-stage musicians and wider music adjacent creatives 18-25 year olds	Up to £2,500	Individual Musicians, Singers, Rappers, Songwriters, Producers, DJs, A&Rs, Managers, Promoters, Agents, Activists, Campaigners and roles yet to be defined	https://youthmusic.org.uk/nextgen
Support your studies Help Musicians	Financial support towards study and living costs on specific courses in Musical Performance, Musical Theatre, Opera and Composition	Up to £5,000	Individual Musicians on postgraduate and in some cases undergraduate studies	https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/get-support/develop-as-a-musician/support-your-studies
Funding for Music Christine Brown Trust (Local Charity)	Contributing towards the cost of lessons, paying for summer school or orchestra fees - in fact, anything connected with the costs of an instrumental education.	N/A	Musicians under 19 years of age who are in financial hardship and unable to meet the expenses involved in learning a musical instrument.	Website: Funding for music Online application form.

<p>Junior Programme Development Programme & Senior Programme Future Talent</p>	<p>Their programmes aim to support, develop and listen to the needs and aspirations of young musicians by providing a range of development opportunities. Opportunities include expert masterclasses, world-class workshops, one-to-one mentoring sessions and performance opportunities. Awards can be spent on any musical costs throughout the year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrument costs • Sheet music • Tech and equipment • Music lessons • Examination fees • Auditions 	<p>Award amounts vary from £500 per year on the Junior Programme, £1000 per year on the Development and Senior Programme, or up to £2,000 per year for recipients of named award scholarships.</p>	<p>Junior: Ages 8-14 (Grades 1-5) Development: Ages 12-16 (Grades 5-7) Senior: Ages 16-18 (Grades 7+)</p>	<p>Guidelines: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Npl8nn1rxJaEz5ROBLrG52sWhktUroWd/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>Register Interest: https://future-talent.typeform.com/to/jGjtUwlt</p> <p>Website: https://www.futuretalent.org/join/programme</p>
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Summary of Potential Future Funds

Subject to changes – please sign up to mailing lists and see individual websites for information nearer the time

Fund Name & Organisation	What's Available?	How Much?	Who Can Apply?	Deadline and Where to Apply
Various Funds available Music for All	Financial support to help people of all ages and social backgrounds access music making	Variable	Organisations including but not limited to: schools or any form of educational establishment, community projects, charities, organisations, companies and individuals	Four funding rounds in total throughout the year. Please check the website for specific dates and details for future rounds announced as follows: https://www.musicforall.org.uk/apply-for-funding/application-process/
Grow, Revenue Funding Leeds City Council, Culture Programmes	Financial support for ongoing core costs, inc. salaries and overheads to enable delivery of funded programme of activity	£5,000 to £15,000	Leeds based organisations that enable engagement and demonstrate benefit across the city	https://www.leedscultureprogrammes.org.uk/grow-revenue
Thrive Leeds City Council, Culture Programmes	Financial support for organisations who have previously received Arts@Leeds funding and been in operation for at least 5 year, delivering on Best City ambition, demonstrating positive, creative and social impact on communities they work with	£20,000 to £60,000 for 2 years	Leeds based organisations who have previously received Arts@Leeds funding, delivering on Best City ambition and been in operation for at least 5 year	https://www.leedscultureprogrammes.org.uk/leeds-thrive