

Irish Association of Youth Orchestras

Youth Orchestra Collaboration Grant 2023

Application Guidelines

In 2023, IAYO is once again running our Youth Orchestra Collaboration Grant scheme to stimulate collaboration among youth orchestras in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. (International collaborators can take part too)

This scheme is in response to members asking for more regional festivals and collective performance opportunities beyond the annual IAYO Festival at the National Concert Hall. We feel that the creation of such opportunities is more feasible if led locally and supported by IAYO rather than run centrally by IAYO.

The 2022 scheme was a great success with Musica Fusion Community Orchestra and Athenry Music School being the recipients. You can read more about their projects on www.iayo.ie.

In 2023, this scheme once again replaces the Youth Orchestra Ovation Awards.

The Youth Orchestra Collaboration Grant Scheme is aimed at:

- increasing opportunities for Irish youth orchestras to perform with and for each other;
- increasing opportunities for youth orchestras to work with each other collaboratively;
- allowing young musicians from different orchestras to get to know each other and to play together;
- creating activities and performances that are too big for just one orchestra;
- growing and connecting the youth orchestra community.

We are open to any ideas of collaboration that bring young people from three or more orchestras together to rehearse and perform with, or for, each other and to get to know each other through music and related activities.

We are very happy to receive applications for activities that operate in a blended format in whatever form that might take - especially where it gives the young players opportunities to get to know each other and to work with each other.

We are very open to young people and youth orchestras collaborating in ways that we haven't thought of yet.

We will look particularly favourably on activities that have a high level of leadership by young people.

Funding Available

The total fund for the 2023 scheme is €10,000. This may be distributed to between two and four projects at between €2,500 and €5,000 each depending on the applications received.

We may offer less than requested but will consult with the applicant on the feasibility if we feel this is necessary.

Who Can Apply?

Youth orchestras in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland that are members of, or affiliated to members of, the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras.

What Sorts of Activities Will We Fund?

- Shared concerts, small festivals, combined orchestras, shared artistic projects.
- Blended activities including a mix of online and in-person activities.
- Social and cultural exchange activities that allow players to get to know each other and develop the community of youth orchestras and young players.
- Innovative activities that involve collaboration between orchestras and young musicians not contained in the above.

What Costs Will Be Covered?

- Transport, catering and accommodation for participants within the island of Ireland.
- Venue hire and equipment hire.
- Fees for artistic facilitators: conductors, composers, tutors etc. and related expenses (including international flights if artists are coming from abroad).
- Fees for youth facilitation: i.e. fees for youth workers or other staff to facilitate youth leadership.
- Promotion and publicity costs.
- Administration costs.
- Documentation and dissemination costs: i.e. video production.
- Costs relating to access for those who have specific barriers to access: i.e. disability.

What Costs Will Not Be Covered?

- Capital purchases.
- Ongoing core costs of ensembles.

- Activities or costs that do not fit the purpose of the award.
- Costs for activities that have already taken place or which will have commenced before decisions on applications have been made.
- Outbound costs for travel by Irish youth orchestras to other countries.

How to Apply

- Please submit applications and accompanying materials by email to info@iayo.ie and using web links where appropriate.
- Please submit a project outline of no more than two A4 pages telling us some or all of the following things:
 - What will happen, when it will happen, how it will happen, and who will be involved;
 - The profile and number of the young people who will be the participants;
 - How the participants will be chosen;
 - Artistic goals and ambitions: how will this develop the young people and orchestras musically?
 - Community goals and ambitions: how will this bring young musicians and youth orchestras closer together?
 - Who will be the artists involved: composers, conductors, tutors etc.?
 - Have young people been part of developing the project and, if so, how?
 - What leadership roles will young people take in the project?
- Please submit a brief (less than one page) biography of each participating orchestra or ensemble and a paragraph about each participating artist if you wish.
- Please submit a budget outlining the main items of income and expenditure and how the Youth Orchestra Collaboration Grant will be used.
- You can send supporting material in the form of video, audio, printed music or other materials. However, please choose a small amount of curated representative samples. If a large amount of material is submitted, a small and random amount will only be assessed.
- You can include links to video on YouTube or another publicly accessible streaming service. Please do not send large video files.
 - Please give timings for relevant extracts of 3 minutes or so and no more than 3 extracts.
- You can include audio files sent by a file sharing service such as WeTransfer.
- Samples of printed music or other samples of work are welcome.

How Will Applications Be Assessed?

- Applications will be assessed by the IAYO CEO, an IAYO board member and an external panellist. The judges will be announced at a later date.
- We will assess each application in relation to the criteria set out under, "The Youth Orchestra Collaboration Grant Scheme is aimed at:" above and form our opinions of the relative merits of programmes.
- We will select those that we consider to create the greatest amount of connectivity and artistic and social collaboration amongst youth orchestras and young musicians and allocate funding to that end.
- All applications will be considered in light of the age and level of development of a particular orchestra(s).
- We may make an offer of less than the amount applied for but will discuss the feasibility with applicants if we feel this is necessary.

Funding Timeline

- Wednesday, 1 March 2023: Applications Open.
- Friday, 5 May 2023: Application Closing Date.
- Monday, 5 June 2023: Offers of funding made.
- Monday, 26 June 2023: Funding offers to be accepted.
- Monday, 26 June 2023: 60% of funding offered can be drawn down.
- Sunday, 30 June 2024: Projects must be completed by this date unless there is specific agreement to an extension.
- Wednesday, 31 July 2024: Reports of funded projects should be received by this time.
- The remaining 40% of funding can be drawn down as soon as reports are received. If there is a compelling reason to draw funding down sooner, we will facilitate this.

Reporting

At the least, we will require a written report of two pages of A4 along with some high-resolution photos for our paper Newsnotes and web sites. However, video, audio materials are most welcome and will be distributed through our online channels if suitable.

Conditions of Funding

- A single orchestra / member organisation can make the application for the funding but at least two other orchestras outside of that organisation must have

agreed to take part or support the activity and provide letters of support.

- At least two of the involved orchestras should be from the island of Ireland.
- Where 3 or 4 orchestras participate, there will need to be at least 10 participants from each orchestra.
- For applications with more than 5 orchestras, there will need to be 25 or more participants not from the orchestra awarded funding.
- Activities must take place before Sunday, 30 June 2024.
- The main in-person activities must take place on the island of Ireland.
- This is not a touring grant and outbound costs for travel by Irish youth orchestras will not be covered.
- Funding will not be awarded to activities that have already commenced at Monday, 5 June 2023.
- Funding must be for activities that are not already fully funded from another source.
- Appropriate safeguarding procedures will be in place covering all participants. Participating orchestras must agree on which safeguarding policy / procedure is to be followed.
- No late applications will be accepted.

Closing Date for Applications Is Friday, 5 May 2023.