



Background

The **Liam Colgan Music Fund (LCMF)** was established in 2020 in memory of a young Inverness singer/songwriter. Our aim was to provide support and assistance to young musicians and others across the Highlands and Islands, like Liam, who are keen to pursue their ambitions in music.

Since its launch in October 2020, LCMF has made a real mark on the music scene in the Highlands, emerging to become one of the most dynamic small youth music charities in the creative industries sector in the North of Scotland.

Our work

Over the past three years, we have undertaken a range of activities and programmes to support young people keen to get into music.

We have organised online workshops for young songwriters, provided grants to enable young people to attend conferences, donated instruments, created awards for young musicians and songwriters, sponsored a stage at a local music festival to showcase the finalists and raised over £20,000, through fundraising, sales and donations, to fund our programmes and events.

From the outset, we have partnered with the University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI) in establishing annual awards for music students, working with graduates helping with the Fund's promotional music video and a social media marketing campaign. Last year, we contributed to a hardship fund for music students attending UHI NWH College Alness.



In 2022, the Fund became the first organisation in the North of Scotland to receive a donation for its work from the **BRIT Trust**, the UK music industry's principle charity.

The BRIT Trust donation has helped fund one of the highlights of our work to date, our groundbreaking '**SETTING THE STAGE**' training workshops for young people interested in learning about live event production (sound, lighting, backline and event management).



This full-day workshop, based around a simulated live music gig, offers young people a unique opportunity to get practical, hands-on experience, working with industry professionals and live bands in a real-world setting.

Local professional engineers provide instruction in setting up the stage, sound, and lighting with trainees then getting basic instruction in using the equipment with three live bands brought in specially to assist with the workshop,



A trainee 'production crew' is assigned to each artist/band, to work with them, learning how to manage the stage and control the sound and lights, as each band performs a few numbers.

The recent workshop also incorporated breakout sessions with industry professionals holding Q&A sessions on the live event industry.



Click here to see a short video of LCMF's first '[Setting the Stage](#)' workshop.

The Future

In many ways, the Fund has arrived at a crossroads in its development. The current trustees believe if the Fund is to build on its work to date and capitalise on the opportunities it has created, such as the **'Setting the Stage'** workshops, can only be achieved by bringing in people with new ideas, skills and fresh energy.

What are we looking for

VOLUNTEERS

The Fund is seeking volunteers who share our belief in the importance of the creative arts, especially music, and its potential to enhance the lives and well-being of young people. We welcome individuals, whether musicians or non-musicians, who can offer a few hours a week or month and contribute useful skills and experience to help implement our plans.

If you enjoy working with others, sharing ideas and are up for a new challenge, you might be the person we are looking for. We need people who can help in various capacities, whether as a behind-the-scenes helper, a front-line organizer, or somewhere in between.

Volunteers will be called upon as and when needed with ongoing or specific projects. The types of work might be organizing and attending workshops and events, helping out with fund-raising, undertaking desk research, helping with email marketing, managing our social media or undertaking various administrative tasks.

TRUSTEES

We are also seeking potential trustees to join our Board. As a trustee, you would play a key role in helping shape the Fund's future direction, sharing responsibility for its strategic development, effective administration and governance. We welcome candidates from all backgrounds, whether in the commercial, public, or voluntary sectors.

We particularly welcome individuals with knowledge and experience of the music industry, whether at national or local level, whether as a professional or non-professional performer, creator, producer, engineer or technician, but it is not essential.

More importantly, we need Board members who are good communicators and who have skills and experience in any of the following:

- strategic planning and organisation
- business development
- marketing
- media relations

Whether as a volunteer or a trustee, this is an opportunity to get involved with a small charity that has built a reputation for its innovative programmes, and to play a part in the next stage of the Fund's work in supporting young people.

How To Apply

If you are interested in helping as a volunteer or as a potential trustee, please email us at admin@liamcolganmusicfund.com to express your interest and tell us what you could bring to the Fund.

If you would like an informal chat about getting involved with the Fund, just drop an email to chairman@liamcolganmusicfund.com and we'll get back in touch.

For Further Information

For further information on the Fund, go to our website at www.liamcolganmusicfund.com or visit us at facebook.com/liamcolganmusicfund.