

# Sound and Music

## COVID-19 Composer Awards

>> Check you are eligible for this opportunity by reading the [eligibility criteria](#) below <<

Please let us know if you would like this document in a different format.

### The COVID-19 Composer Awards

The COVID-19 Composer Awards have been created by Sound and Music to support UK-based composers and music creators (freelancers and self-employed) who have lost work due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Sound and Music has repurposed the existing [Francis Chagrin Award](#) in order to respond to the needs of the composer community during this unprecedented emergency.

**This is not a hardship fund.** It seeks to award, in the first instance, 10 small-scale grants of £500 to composers and music creators looking to develop your skills during this time of quarantine, particularly with a view to supporting your longer-term ability to sustain yourself. This could be through undertaking, for example:

- An online course
- A programme of coaching sessions
- Acquiring and learning a new software package
- A self-directed learning project

We are looking for applicants who have a clear idea of the activity they would like to undertake and who will be able to pay for both the activity and their own time with the award. The application process is simple and should take less than 15 minutes.

### Who can apply?

Composers, music creators and artists working in sound are eligible to apply who:

- are based in the UK (for at least 2 years) or a British Citizen
- are not studying full time
- are not receiving regular income during the COVID-19 crisis
- are not currently participating in a Sound and Music programme

## **How do I apply?**

Applications are open now. We are able to make 10 awards and are fundraising in order to be able to provide more.

Decisions will be made and awards will be granted in May in the first instance, and we will continue to review the situation and our offer.

If you have access needs which would mean additional financial support is needed in order for you to undertake work as part of this award, please let us know in your application. If you require access support in order to fill out the application form, please get in touch with the Executive Administrator Alex Noble (contact details below).

In the application form you will be asked:

- to upload a short biography (maximum 100 words)
- to confirm that you have no regular income during the COVID-19 crisis, and that you have lost work and are in need of financial support. (During this incredibly challenging time for the composer community, we ask you to think carefully about your need compared to others.)
- whether you need financial support for access-related costs in addition to the standard £500 award, and details of this
- to upload a statement (in Word or PDF format – no more than ½ a side of A4) OR a video or audio application of no more than 2 minutes which:
  - briefly describes the activity you want to undertake
  - briefly describes why it is important to you right now; what difference will it make to you as an artist in terms of being better equipped to support yourself in the future?

## **What is the selection process?**

Decisions will be made and awards will be granted by members of the Sound and Music staff team, all of whom have senior expertise, and in line with our Fair Access Principles.

The same criteria will be used to review all applications:

- the impact this support will have on your future career
- value for money (to maximise the impact of these awards)
- diversity of recipients, a breadth of types of work and geographical locations will also be taken into consideration

## **When will I hear?**

We will let people know by mid-May (timing will be dependent on the number of applications we receive and need to review).

Due to the expected high numbers of applicants and the exceptional nature of this fund, we unfortunately will not be able to offer personalised feedback on your application. If you are not successful we will send you information on how many people applied, plus any general advice if you plan to submit another application in future.

*If you have any questions about this Award, please do get in touch with the Executive Administrator, Alex Noble at [alex.noble@soundandmusic.org](mailto:alex.noble@soundandmusic.org)*

## **Background to the COVID-19 Composer Awards**

In response to the COVID-19 emergency and its huge immediate impact on the creative output of composers, Sound and Music has temporarily re-purposed its existing [Francis Chagrin Awards](#), ring-fencing funding in order to create this new and temporary award.

Sound and Music is actively seeking support for this award including funding partners and donors, to ensure we can increase and sustain this essential support.

If you are interested in discussing how you can support The COVID-19 Composer Awards please contact [sophie.morrison@soundandmusic.org](mailto:sophie.morrison@soundandmusic.org)

## **Other opportunities available**

We understand that during this crisis many composers will be looking for opportunities and funding. Though Sound and Music is not a funder we are seeking to support composers where possible, and are also offering opportunities through the [British Music Collection](#).

Our friends in the sector have created hardship funds that you may be eligible to apply for. We have compiled a list of them and how to apply [here](#).