



Folk Experience Days 2022

Call for Music Education Hub partners

The English Folk Dance and Song Society is looking for Music Education Hub partners to host Folk Experience Days for young instrumentalists in March, April and May 2022.

We are offering this opportunity, worth £1,000, for free to Music Education Hub partners.

We will be selecting partners on the basis where we feel a Folk Experience Day will make the most impact and contribute most positively to encouraging a wider range of young people to experience and access folk music.



Aims

The vision of the National Youth Folk Ensemble programme is young people throughout England discovering, playing and loving folk music.

Through these Folk Experience Days, we aim to:

- Introduce a wide range of young musicians to folk music
- Provide a positive and inspiring experience of folk music
- Develop connections with Music Education Hubs and support them to develop folk music provision
- Identify young musicians who may wish to apply for the National Youth Folk Ensemble in the future



What is a Folk Experience Day?

Each Folk Experience Day provides the chance for up to 30 young musicians (aged 12-18) to learn from highly skilled folk artist-educators in a positive and inspiring day of creative folk music workshops. Indicative timings are 10am-4pm.

Participants will:

- Have a positive introduction to folk music
- Gain skills in learning and playing music by ear
- Develop creative arrangement ideas
- Experience playing in a band for the day
- Learn from highly skilled professional folk musicians
- Experience techniques and repertoire used with the National Youth Folk Ensemble.

Who are Folk Experience Days aimed at?

- Young musicians aged 12-18
- Competent instrumentalists
- No folk experience necessary
- All instruments are welcome (not suitable for vocalists)

This is a great opportunity for young instrumentalists of all backgrounds – young people who are new to folk as well as a development opportunity for young folk musicians. We particularly wish to encourage musicians who show potential in playing by ear and creative music-making.

“It was an amazing experience that introduced me to the folk scene and has encouraged me to get more involved with folk music - the people leading the workshop were so friendly and inspiring” Youth Folk Sampler Day participant

What are we looking for in a partner?

We are looking for Music Education Hubs who are committed to developing folk music activities.

Partners agree to:

- Active commitment to guarantee 20-30 young musicians attend
- Identify and encourage musicians to attend who have skills in playing by ear and interest in developing their creativity
- Provide a venue – one large room for 30 to sit in a circle, plus 2 smaller breakout rooms
- Provide a suitable number of staff to supervise and support the young people



As a partner, what will you get in return?

- Up to 30 young musicians can attend the Folk Experience Day free of charge
- We will work with you to schedule and plan the day
- We will send you film resources in advance to share with your students
- The opportunity for CPD - a limited number of educators are welcome to observe or join in the workshops
- It could lead to further partnership opportunities with the English Folk Dance and Song Society eg. support to further develop folk activity in your region.

Further information

- Partners will sign a partnership agreement and agree to pay EFDSS £500 if they cancel the workshop or fail to bring 20+ young musicians.
- Further information about the National Youth Folk Ensemble: efdss.org/youthfolk



How to apply

Send your expression of interest outlining:

- where the Folk Experience Day would take place
- why you feel you would be a good partner
- which young musicians this event will involve
- how this would support your development of folk activities
- which dates would work for you and your region in March, April or May 2022

To: Sarah Jones, ensemble@efdss.org

Deadline: 3 December 2021



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