

JOIN OUR YOUTH COLLECTIVE

Are you passionate about music and want to connect with the Edinburgh International Festival? We are looking for enthusiastic 16-18 year-olds living in Edinburgh to join our Youth Collective and help us shape exciting activities for young people.

We love to hear young people's ideas about how the Edinburgh International Festival could be more relevant to you! By collaborating with us, you'll play an important role in developing our work with young people and growing our young audiences. Along the way, you will gain valuable skills, build a creative network, and have the chance to work alongside arts professionals and international artists.

From January to September 2025, you will work on key projects for young people including helping to shape and promote our <u>Young Musician's Pass</u> and working with artists in next year's festival. You will also get special access and free tickets to the August 2025 International Festival.

Read on to learn more about the opportunity and who can apply!

CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

The deadline to apply is 5pm, Wednesday 15 January 2025.

Invitations to be part of Youth Collective will be sent by 21 January 2025.



ABOUT YOU

You must be aged 16-18, interested in music, and live in Edinburgh or The Lothians.

You must be able to commit to the majority of the dates. If you have a regular commitment which clashes with the dates you should consider what you would like to prioritise.

You don't need to have any experience, but enthusiasm, eagerness to work in a team, and passion is a must!

IMPORTANT DATES

The Youth Collective will meet every few weeks from 4.30pm – 8.00pm at The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh, EH1 2NE. During holidays and exam leave, we have not scheduled meetings. Meetings include a free evening meal when there will be time to socialise.

Key dates are:

6. Thursday 29 May
7. Thursday 12 June
8. Wednesday 25 June (TBC)
BC)
and various dates in July and August decided

together

WHO WILL YOU WORK WITH?

- The Edinburgh International Festival's Discovery & Participation team to plan and deliver events and activity for young people.
- The Edinburgh International Festival's wider team, including our senior staff.
- International artists who will be performing in the Festival in 2025.



WHAT PROJECTS WILL YOU WORK ON?

- Help shape projects for young people in 2025 festival and work with artists in the programme.
- Help shape and promote our Young Musician's Pass, a membership scheme for young people aged 8-18 which gives them free access to music performances at the Festival.

WHAT WILL YOU GET?

- Skills and experience in teamwork, event planning and communication.
- Develop your CV.
- Make new friends and develop your confidence.
- Learn about careers in the arts.
- Build a network of peers and professionals to help you develop your connections, knowledge and employability.
- Access to free music performances throughout the year, and a VIP pass for the Edinburgh International Festival 2025.
- Connect with world-class artists performing in the Festival in 2025.

HOW TO APPLY?

Fill in this application form:

https://form.jotform.com/Learning Engagement/EIFYouthCollective

Deadline to apply is 5pm, Wednesday 15 January 2025. Invitations to be part of Youth Collective sent by 21 January 2025.

If you would like assistance, more information, or to submit an application in a different format, such as a video, please email: connect@eif.co.uk



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How are you picking who will be in the Youth Collective?

We will pick our Youth Collective members based on the level of detail and passion they show in their application, while making sure we have a balance of experience and perspectives. We will be selecting a group of 15-20 young people.

We are also aiming to create a Collective that reflects the diverse backgrounds and experiences of our community. This helps us to better understand and meet the needs of our young audiences.

Edinburgh International Festival presents theatre and dance as well? Why is the Youth Collective just focussed on music?

While we have run lots of different projects for young people, this is the first year we are running the Youth Collective. We have taken the decision to focus on music to maximise what the Collective can achieve. In future years, we hope to look at all our art forms – music, opera, dance and theatre.

Do I get paid to be part of the Youth Collective?

While food, travel, and tickets will be covered, we won't pay Youth Collective members for their time. By taking part, we will help you with your personal development through training, networking and tickets. Any other reasonable expenses can be discussed with the Discovery & Participation team.

How long is the commitment for the Youth Collective?

The commitment is for 8 months, during which you will participate in approximately 8 sessions (dates above) and further meetings, projects and events related to the International Festival (dates TBC in consultation with the Collective).

What kind of projects will we work on?

Youth Collective members will collaborate on various projects, including project development, event planning, and initiatives aimed at engaging young audiences with the International Festival music programme.

Can I join if I have no experience in the arts?

Absolutely! We welcome individuals from all backgrounds and experiences. Your passion and willingness to contribute are what matter most.

How often will we meet as a Youth Collective?

Initially we have scheduled 8 meetings which will typically be held every few weeks, but we may





also have additional gatherings or workshops throughout the year. We will be mindful of when exams are happening, and we expect you will be busy. There will be more opportunities to do more during August 2025 when the Festival is on.

What if I can't make all the meetings?

If you cannot make a meeting, you will get in touch with us as soon as possible to let us know. We understand that sometimes things come up and you might not manage every meeting. We do encourage you to attend as many as you can, and if you have a regular conflict, you should consider whether your place would benefit someone who can commit fully.

What if I have ideas but don't know how to share them?

Don't worry! Our team will offer support and guidance on how to express your ideas, ensuring that everyone's contributions are valued. We will provide various ways to share your thoughts, and our experienced team will help you make the most of the experience.

Can I leave the Youth Collective if I decide it's not for me?

Yes, if you feel that the Youth Collective is not a good fit for you, please communicate with us as soon as possible, and we can discuss.

Will I have the chance to meet artists and professionals?

Yes, members will have opportunities to engage with arts professionals and international artists through workshops, events, and collaborative projects. Our staff at the Edinburgh International Festival are excited to work with you!

I'm a musician. Will I get to perform as part of the Youth Collective?

No, this opportunity does not involve any performing, but we hope that you'll meet other musicians through this opportunity who you can share your passions with.

What happens after the Youth Collective programme ends?

After August, we will evaluate the project and work out our next steps. There may be an opportunity to keep working with us. At the Edinburgh International Festival, we like to keep in touch! At the end of the programme, we will try to support you with your plans and aspirations.

What should I do if I have additional questions?

If you have more questions, please reach out to the Discovery & Participation team, and we'll be happy to assist you: connect@eif.co.uk