



Information for Volunteers

About us

Musical Connections is a small, York-based charity (reg. no 1165993). Our aim is to empower vulnerable and socially isolated people to live happier, healthier lives through participation in weekly music groups, which are held in care and community settings across the city.

At present, the number of beneficiaries is around 200 per year, most of whom are over 65. No musical training is required to join our groups and we employ skilled musicians who tailor the work to accommodate a wide range of abilities, interests and any additional needs. Our approach avoids age-related and social stereotypes, and we employ a wide range of musical styles and activities. We also incorporate other art forms eg textile arts, poetry.

Musical Connections is led by a board of trustees, and is regulated by the Charity Commission. Volunteers make a valuable contribution to our work, and we are always on the look-out for additional helpers.



Our groups can be found in the following venues:

- Barstow House Music Group, 5 St Benedict Rd, Nunnery Lane YO23 1YA: Mondays 10.30-11.45am
- Glen Lodge Music Group, Sixth Avenue, Heworth, YO31 0TR
Mondays 1.15-2.30pm
Tang Hall Community Choir, Tang Hall Community Centre, Fifth Avenue, Tang Hall YO31 0UG: Tuesdays 10.15-11.45am
- Honeysuckle Singers: Moor Lane Youth Centre, Wain's Road YO24 2TX
Wednesdays 10-11.15am
- Gale Farm Court Music Group, Front Street, Acomb YO24 3DR
Thursdays 3.30-4.45pm

Volunteering Possibilities

Please note that volunteers do not need any musical training, just an enthusiasm for and commitment to our work.

Volunteer work could include:-

- Supporting the music sessions – participating enthusiastically alongside our beneficiaries, chatting with them, supporting them in the different activities
- Supporting the musicians – helping with setting-up, packing-away, escorting participants who need help finding their way to sessions. Helping with handing out instruments and other resources during the sessions
- Arranging to bring a member of the community into a session on a weekly basis eg by calling for them and then walking or driving them to the session and escorting them home afterwards
- Offering your own artistic or other relevant skills for inclusion in a group session
- Support with larger events – finding venues, arranging transport and refreshments etc
- Driving a small mini-bus to transport participants to events either on a weekly or occasional basis
- Fundraising

Benefits of Being a Musical Connections Volunteer

- You will receive a basic induction and simple training, so you can feel confident in your role. Opportunities for further training will also be available.
- You will receive a free DBS check, which will be portable and eligible for a free annual update
- You will be able to put your own skills to good use
- You will be able to make music yourself in a relaxed and enjoyable setting, alongside our beneficiaries and with the support of a trained musician
- We work in several venues – you choose the one most convenient to you



For more information please contact our volunteer manager Emma Tatnall -
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