

## Appendix II

### How social mobility is embedded in the Scholarship Programme Guildhall School of Music & Drama 2023/24

#### **Grant summary & criteria**

A ring-fenced grant of £30,000, awarded by the City of London Corporation for Guildhall School recipients in 23/24 academic year, was restricted to support students meeting the following agreed criteria:

***“Support skills development in performance, production arts and creative enterprise, provide support where the need is greatest, particularly students from a broad cultural and socio-economic demographic, and strengthen progression opportunities to the Guildhall School, and its associated Young Artist programme, for pupils from the City of London Academies. Providing greater support for Guildhall Students on pathways such as those mentioned above would help to ensure greater alignment between the School’s own Widening Participation strategy and the City of London’s Education, Skills and Cultural and Creative Learning strategies.”***

#### **Guildhall School’s Social Mobility Programme: Supported Application Scheme**

At Guildhall School of Music & Drama we recognize the City of London Corporation’s definition of social mobility within the Social Mobility Strategy as follows: “The ability and opportunity for individuals, families or groups to progress within a society to reach their full potential – in terms of income, education, employment, perceived social status, housing and place/postcode”.

Guildhall School encourages applications from students whose backgrounds are underrepresented in higher education. Our commitment to social mobility recruitment is reflected in the Supported Application Scheme, a programme which provides applicants from low-income backgrounds with a range of activities and resources designed to develop skills and confidence for the competitive audition process. Students coming through this programme are prioritized for scholarship funding to help them to start and continue their training.

To be eligible for Guildhall School’s Supported Application Scheme, applicants must:

- Have no previous experience of university; and
- Be applying for an eligible undergraduate programme; and
- Be UK-domiciled; and
- Be living in a household with a gross annual income below £33,000 OR receive means tested state benefits and/or in receipt of Free School Meals, a 16-19 bursary OR a means tested bursary in a Centre for Young Musicians or Junior Guildhall (under 18s).

In addition, they must meet at least one more of the criteria below:

- Have a home postcode which is classified as Quintile 1 or Quintile 2 in the POLAR4 data;
- Have a home postcode which is classified as Decile 1-4 in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Government dataset;
- Be Black, Asian or ethnically diverse;
- Be in care, a recent care leaver or estranged from family;
- Attend one of our partner schools or youth organisations;
- Have a disability declared on the application;

- Have attended a state school or college for the entirety of their education and able to provide evidence of this.

Supported Application Scheme students are prioritized for scholarship support from the City of London Education Board. In the case of 23/24 recipients 3 out of the 6 undergraduate awards were made to students who came through this process. Two other students who did not apply via this scheme received financial support as they qualified under the same set of stringent criteria i.e.:

**Student 1:** Single parent, low-income household, Black, Asian or ethnically diverse.

**Student 5:** Single parent, low-income household, Black, Asian or ethnically diverse.

The only exception is **Student 6** who would not have qualified for support under this category but is still underrepresented within the Guildhall School community as a mature student from a low-income household with no financial support from their family.

### **Guildhall Young Artists Scholars (under 18s)**

As with the higher education awards, Guildhall School is mindful of both the set grant criteria and the Social Mobility Strategy in awarding scholarships. All awards are made on the basis of means testing. We aspire to increase the number of applicants for all our performing arts courses from City of London Academies, and are working hard to counteract the challenges resulting from the decline in performing arts training opportunities in schools.

As there is now no music education within the curriculum, there is often little space within schools to engage with music study. Schools have neither the staff, time nor funding to introduce their pupils to music and, as a result, fewer students are choosing to pursue either additional or further music education, via the school route. Demand for extra-curricular music and performing arts training is coming directly from young people and their families via community settings such as local council run music hubs, e.g. Music Education Islington and Saturday centres.

Guildhall School recognizes the importance of increasing out-of-school (weekend) provision for the performing arts for young people and has seen soaring demand for this in the Guildhall Young Artists online service and the new Guildhall Young Artists Kings Cross Centre which opened in September 2022. This new centre currently has 132 students aged 5-18, nearly double its intake from its first year. 75% of take up is from state school educated pupils or those who are home educated. At least 43% of students are from global majority backgrounds, and 33% are from lower income backgrounds and are supported by bursary to attend. As such, we know that demand for performing arts and music training overall is strong outside of the schools setting.

In order to drive and enhance recruitment efforts in City of London Academies this year the Head of Junior Guildhall took the following proactive measures:

- Wrote to all Head Teachers and Directors of Music to make them aware of the scholarships;
- Sent a follow-up communication to remind contacts of the funds available;
- Advertised funding specifically for students from City of London pupils for the Young Composers course online;
- Prominently signposted the scholarships available on our GYA webpage;
- We also conducted introductory workshops in schools to introduce students to courses, making them aware of funding available and encouraging applications.

The outcome is that 7 out of 13 awards made to under 18s from the City of London Education Board grant were to pupils attending City of London schools and 4 others were to pupils who live in the City of London.

**Further information**

For any further information on Guildhall School's scholarship awarding process and social mobility agenda, please contact: Caroline Hawley, Head of Development, [caroline.hawley@gsmd.ac.uk](mailto:caroline.hawley@gsmd.ac.uk), 07733 385099.

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