

October 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

**Berkshire Maestros Charity Single – applications for songwriting team**

I’m happy to announce that this academic year, we will be running a pilot scheme for an official Berkshire Maestros Charity Single. This will be an original song written and performed by our students and ensemble members, and we are now opening up for applications to be part of the songwriting team.

Who we are looking for

Any Maestros student or ensemble member in school years 10-13 or equivalent age can apply. The ideal team member will have had some experience of songwriting/composition in any genre, including music without live instrumental or vocal elements, e.g. electronic music. It is preferred that applicants are studying music GCSE/A-level or other music related qualification, but not essential.

What will the songwriting team do

The team will meet in person for 3 sessions, and will collaboratively work to compose an original song and lyrics with the guidance of Guitar and Soundstage Teacher, Joe McCormack. These sessions will be hands on, with team members playing, improvising and composing together for the first few meetings, with the focus shifting to refining, editing and lyric writing in the last session.

The songwriting sessions will be taking place at our Reading Music Centre (100 Cockney Hill, Tilehurst, Reading, RG30 4EZ) The sessions will be on **Tuesdays, 23rd November, 30th November, and 7th December,** starting at **7:30pm** and will be approximately one-hour long**.** Applicants must be available to attend these sessions in person, as we will not be offering an online alternative for this activity.

How you can apply

Please follow this link to go to the application form: <https://forms.office.com/r/xyd46qu9AV>

As part of the application process, we will be asking you to provide an audio recording of some music that you have composed, either individually or collaboratively. Recording sound quality is not important, a phone recording will do.

**The deadline for applications is Sunday, 7th November 2021.**

If you have any queries or questions related to the above, please get in touch via email to

[joemccormack@berkshiremaestros.org.uk](mailto:joemccormack@berkshiremaestros.org.uk)

Best wishes

Joe McCormack

Berkshire Maestros