



**Music Practitioners**  
**Information for applicants**

<b>Closing date:</b>	31 October 2019
<b>Interviews &amp; auditions:</b>	w/c 11 November 2019
<b>Contract:</b>	Freelance
<b>Hours of work:</b>	Typically 7am-5pm plus travel time
<b>Rate of pay:</b>	Competitive, depending on experience
<b>Location:</b>	UK-wide, but often London, South East, Wales, North West.

### **About Finding Rhythms**

Finding Rhythms is a registered charity that runs intensive education projects in prisons and community settings. Learners on the project are challenged to write, compose and record an album of original music. We demonstrate that the skills used in creating music are transferable both to work and life outside of the creative context. Learners build employability and social skills which can lead to an Edexcel-accredited BTEC in employability skills.

To date we have worked with over 500 people across 24 prisons and 5 community organisations. We have helped 264 people to earn a BTEC award, and published 50 albums of original music. Music made on Finding Rhythms courses can be heard here:  
<https://findingrhythms.bandcamp.com/>

### **About the role**

We are looking for a number of talented freelance musician-educators to work on our acclaimed group music projects in prisons. You will need exceptional musicianship, the ability to inspire and motivate learners, and a commitment to using music for social change. This is challenging but highly rewarding work that has been shown to trigger long-term change in learners, and to enrich the practice of working musicians.

The Music Practitioner position is a freelance role with a competitive rate of pay that acknowledges the intense nature of the work. Candidates should be able to demonstrate at least TWO of the following:

- Exceptional professional musicianship
- Professional and extensive music engineering skills
- Music education skills with significant experience in teaching hard to reach/mixed

ability groups, including goal setting, coaching, lesson planning, learner engagement and working towards educational outcomes.

Candidates should be able to lead learners and support other members of the project team in co-creating an original album of music that is uniquely the product of those learners' tastes, sensibilities and experiences.

Comprehensive training will be provided on working in prisons, as well as the Finding Rhythms process and values.

Projects vary and can run every day for 5-6 days, one day a week over six weeks, two days a week over three weeks or one day a week over 12 weeks. Appropriate transport and accommodation is provided by Finding Rhythms. Candidates should be willing and able to travel with England and Wales, and to be away from home for upto a week at a time.

### **Purpose of the role**

The Music Practitioner will take one of the roles in the Finding Rhythms project team, which typically comprises Tracking Engineer, Support Musician and Project Leader. Collectively, this team has responsibility for both the musical and the educational outcomes of the project. This requires an ability to motivate, inspire, set expectations and create an environment of creativity, productivity and mutual respect.

### **Main responsibilities**

- Working as part of the project leadership team. Ensuring that all members of the team share a common understanding of the process and goals
- Engaging all learners, clearly explaining the project goals and expectations
- Assessing and documenting learner abilities, engagement and potential
- Allocating tasks and supporting learners to achieve these
- Ensuring that all members of the project team are actively involved in support of the goal and working with learners
- Overseeing the creation of 8-10 tracks of original music per project
- Sharing the workload of managing and transporting equipment
- Ensuring that the music which is created is in keeping with Finding Rhythms' values

### **Person specification**

- Highly professional, conscientious, organised and punctual
- Aligned with Finding Rhythms' values and committed to using the arts for social change
- Highly trained and experienced musician, ideally educated to degree-level
- Significant experience of teaching and / or group music-making
- A confident leader, assertive enough to manage large groups which may include disruptive individuals
- An empathetic person, able to engage sensitively with individuals who may have problems

including poor mental health, low self-confidence or a history of trauma.

### **Requirements**

- Confident using recording software, preferably Ableton Live or Logic Pro
- DBS cleared, or willing to be so.
- Composition
- Engineering
- Recording
- Mastery of at least one instrument
- Experience of using Dropbox and other cloud storage
- Driving licence - not essential, but highly desirable
- It is not essential to have worked in prisons, but candidates should be able to demonstrate that they have worked in challenging settings with mixed-ability groups, and that they appreciate the unique features of working in secure settings.

### **How to apply**

To apply send your CV to **[info@finding-rhythms.co.uk](mailto:info@finding-rhythms.co.uk)**. If you would like more information before making an application, please email the same address with any questions.