

SUPPORTING TALENT

Exceptional young musicians deserve a place where they can unlock their full potential with the help of world-renowned teachers, outstanding facilities, tailored career guidance and unrivalled performance opportunities. As the top performing arts institution in Europe (2021 QS World University Rankings), the Royal College of Music (RCM) can provide that. For many young musicians, a scholarship makes the dream of studying at the RCM a reality. With your support, talented and dedicated individuals – regardless of their background or circumstance – can pursue their aspiration of a life-changing music education. Students graduate from the RCM with the tools and training they need to harness their artistry to make a difference in the world around them. We invite you to join the extraordinary group of individuals, legators, foundations and organisations who support the RCM Scholarships Fund as an investment in the future of young musicians and the future of music worldwide.

OUR MISSION

Give every talented and committed musician the opportunity to study at the RCM regardless of their background or circumstance.

Ensure that every student can make the most of an RCM education and is able to focus on their craft without the hindrance of financial worries.

Nurture the next generation of musicians, educators and researchers and provide the highest calibre of music education.

THE RCM SCHOLARSHIPS FUND

At the RCM, we believe that the opportunity to study at a world-leading institution should be based on talent and dedication. That means we need to remove the barriers that prevent students from embarking on an RCM education by reaching, nurturing and funding young musicians with the greatest potential from around the world. It is our long-term ambition to raise enough funds to secure the RCM as a fee-free institution where financial circumstances do not come between a young musician's dreams and their opportunity to study with us. Currently, over 60% of our students receive financial assistance and every new gift represents important progress towards our goal.



STUDENT IMPACT

Students at the RCM enjoy tuition from the very best professors in the world. They are encouraged to broaden their horizons and perform at the highest international level, as well as participate in outreach work through RCM Sparks. They also have access to personalised career guidance and networking through our Creative Careers Centre. Each student tailors their degree to suit their individual interests and aspirations. We pride ourselves on being a creative community where talented individuals excited by the study and practice of music can flourish.

The RCM has trained some of the most important figures in music, including Sir Thomas Allen, Dame Sarah Connolly, Gustav Holst and Ralph Vaughan Williams. The incredible talent of our students and graduates is demonstrated through their predominance in the top spots of national and international competitions, including BBC Young Musician of the Year, Hong Kong International Piano Competition and The Royal Over-Seas League. Our graduates are leading successful careers across the globe in a range of professions from conducting major orchestras to pioneering new education initiatives. Scholarships ensure that all students can reach their full potential.

Music tuition is expensive because of the specialised one-to-one teaching model. The rising costs of higher education and living in London make a conservatoire education out of reach for many young musicians. Through supporting the RCM Scholarships Fund, you will remove the barriers to music education and allow our students to engage fully with the RCM experience and be better positioned to build sustainable careers after graduation. Thanks to the collective generosity of RCM supporters, we have been able to distribute over £3 million in life-changing scholarship funding in 2020-21. With your help, even more musicians will be able to access transformative music education.

THE FUTURE OF MUSIC

RCM graduates influence the practice and study of music across the globe. With the devastating impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on performing arts and artists, it is more important than ever to ensure we continue to offer the highest quality music education. Without donations to the RCM Scholarships Fund, we will be unable to sustain the increased financial support required due to the pandemic.

Each year we present more than 500 in-person or virtual events ranging from solo recitals to orchestral concerts and fully staged operas. These not only give our students a huge number of performance opportunities, but also allow the public to experience live music-making of the highest standard, performed by pre-eminent musicians of the future. Nothing compares to the power of live music and the experience of sharing it together. By breaking down the barriers to music education, we can continue to diversify our performance programme to engage new audiences, in turn inspiring their own journey of musical discovery.

'Our gifted young musicians are the future of the music industry and have never been more in need of support at this essential stage of their development. I am honoured and delighted to endorse and encourage the RCM in their continued efforts to educate, inform and inspire every talented young composer and performer that is fortunate enough to benefit from their exemplary teaching, thus helping to secure the future excellence of music-making.'

Debbie Wiseman OBE, RCM Visiting Professor, Composer/Conductor



HOW CAN I HELP?

RCM scholarships are made possible by generous philanthropic support. With your help, the RCM can train and nurture the next generation of pre-eminent musicians from diverse backgrounds, enabling them to contribute fully to the wider arts world. Gifts of any level are hugely valuable in increasing accessibility to music education. Our programme is uniquely bespoke: for gifts of £10,000 or more we are pleased to offer the opportunity to name a scholarship, in your own name, the name of an organisation, or in honour of someone, which will be credited by the recipient in their biography and concert programmes. As a scholarship supporter you will receive an annual impact report and invitations to various events to see your scholar perform and witness the tremendous impact of your support. You will have the special opportunity to follow personally your scholar's journey at the RCM; many supporters in fact keep in touch with their scholars long after they graduate, following their path to the international stage.



ANNUAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

When you support an annual scholarship, you are providing timely financial assistance to exceptionally talented and deserving young musicians.

£5,000+ provides a Named Award for one year

£10,000+ provides a Named Scholarship for one year

£26,000+ provides an International Named Scholarship for one year

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

When you establish an endowed scholarship with a gift of £300,000 or more, you are creating a scholarship that will be awarded in perpetuity. Each year, the accrued interest on your gift will support your scholarship, whilst the capital is protected to ensure that your endowment can continue to provide for future generations of inspirational young musicians. An endowed gift creates a stable foundation for planning and future growth, making it uniquely impactful.

An RCM scholarship typically support students' tuition fees, however, undergraduates can opt to use their scholarship funding to support their living costs if, for example, they have already secured a loan to cover their fees. To align with our belief that the opportunity to study at the RCM should be based on artistic talent and dedication, all students offered a place are considered for a scholarship, which are awarded by a committee comprising Heads of Faculties and the RCM Director, on the basis of excellence and need.

THE TIME IS NOW

Without the support they received through the RCM Scholarships Fund, many of our students simply would not have been able to pursue a career in music. The support you give now will transform the lives of an RCM student during their studies, whilst also enabling them to build a sustainable music career: they will enter the field with reduced student debt and with the confidence that comes from knowing that someone has been willing to invest in their potential. Your support will shape the future of music and its impact on society.

By supporting the RCM Scholarships Fund, you will be helping to ensure that no talented and dedicated young musician is left behind through want of funds. To discuss further how you can transform the lives of aspiring musicians, please contact the RCM Development and Alumni Engagement Office:

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