



MUSIC IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS TRAINING
College Street Arts Centre and Nottingham
Children's Hospital, Queen's Medical Centre
29 and 30 May, 2, 3 and 4 June 2014

Background

OPUS Music CIC (OPUS), in partnership with **Nottingham Music Hub**, is offering a five-day training programme for musicians working in, or interested in working in healthcare settings.

OPUS Musicians are currently engaged in music residencies at Derbyshire Children's Hospital (Royal Derby Hospital), Leicester Children's Hospital (Leicester Royal Infirmary), Nottingham Children's Hospital (Queens Medical Centre) and children's wards at Kings Mill Hospital, Sutton in Ashfield. In addition, OPUS also has a long-standing residency at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals (adults), and a residency at Nottinghamshire Hospice (adults). OPUS has also recently been working with young musicians (aged 14-18) to take music-making into elderly residential care settings across Derbyshire.

OPUS musicians visit the healthcare settings on a regular basis to make music for and with patients, residents, visitors and staff in wards, waiting rooms, day rooms, neonatal intensive care and accident and emergency departments amongst others.

Music in Healthcare Settings is an innovative approach to the use of music in healthcare contexts for cultural rather than clinical purposes. It has been pioneered over the last 18 years by musicians of Musique & Santé in Paris.

OPUS Musicians are trained by Musique & Santé through European Commission funded exchange and training programmes. Lead trainer Nick Cutts has vast experience of music in healthcare practice, having delivered and observed practice in healthcare settings in the UK, France, Ireland and Poland, Nick has also been trained as a trainer of musicians in healthcare settings through a partnership between Musique & Santé and Royal Northern College of Music and has delivered highly acclaimed training courses to musicians and healthcare professionals from across the UK and beyond.

Overall objectives of the training

The key objectives are:

- Introduction to and exploration of the skills and competences required of musicians for delivering music-making activity in healthcare settings
- Development of new competences for trainee musicians

The programme will have the additional benefit of:

- Humanising the hospital environment for patients, visitors and staff

Training sessions

- Five days (including two half-days of music-making at Nottingham Children's Hospital). These will take place from 9.30am to 3.30pm on 29, 30 May and 2, 3 and 4 June 2014.
- The training will consist of theoretical knowledge acquisition, group and individual musical work and practical work in the field (musical actions in healthcare settings for hospitalised patients).
- Whilst this training will focus primarily on working with hospitalised children and young people, the theoretical background and practice will also be of benefit to those who wish to work with other age groups and in other healthcare settings.

OPUS is planning to offer longer-term, paid 'apprenticeships' (subject to funding) to support the development of a highly skilled Music in Healthcare Settings workforce. Should we be able to offer places on an Apprenticeship programme, completion of this course is a requirement for making an application. Please note that we expect considerable competition for places, and cannot offer any guarantee of paid work beyond, the Apprenticeship programme.

Training description

Each location, patient, member of care staff and each ward are unique. The approaches, methods and presence of music in health settings can vary from providing music at the patient's bedside to regular workshops, performances and artistic residencies.

For the musician's work to be part of an open and flexible dialogue between health and cultural sectors, it is necessary that musical interventions be adapted to each situation. This particular context requires the musician to think about their own place and interventions in an original way as playing music in health settings involves theoretical and practical competences that have to be reinvented in every moment.

The sessions will be delivered by experienced musicians/trainers from OPUS. A maximum of nine trainees will be accepted onto this training course.

Objectives

- Understand the place of music and of the musician in healthcare settings
- Identify and explore the theoretical and practical competences necessary to carry out high-quality musical actions
- Explore and reflect upon methods and approaches of musical actions in health settings
- Explore musical techniques (vocal/instrumental repertoire, appropriate instruments, improvisation)
- Develop spatial awareness and interaction with patients and families
- Explore the importance of partnership with health institutions and care staff
- Understand ethical principles underpinning the practice

Conditions for musicians

- Compulsory attendance at all training sessions - five days in total.
- An enhanced DBS (CRB) check dated within the last two years (we can help to obtain this if required).
- This course is offered free of charge to participants. No support is available towards the costs of travel/accommodation.
- Successful applicants will be required to sign a contract of commitment to the course.

Musicians will receive a certificate of attendance (if required)

Criteria for selection of trainees

Necessary criteria:

- **instrumental ability** (accompanying, instrumental play); suitable instrument for a healthcare environment and easily portable *and / or* **vocal ability** (knowledge and usage of suitable repertoire, vocal improvisation)
- **creative ability** (improvisation, listening & creative response to groups/individuals)
- **communication skills**
- **interpersonal skills**
- **desire to learn**

Desirable criteria:

- previous musical experience in healthcare settings

The following details should be submitted:

- A completed application form (download from OPUS website)

There is no deadline for applications, **however limited places are available**. Applications will close once the course is filled with suitable applicants. You are advised to send an application as soon as possible.

Please send completed applications to Nick Cutts, Director, OPUS Music CIC

Email: nick@opusmusic.org

Web: www.opusmusic.org

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