



OPUS Music CIC Board Recruitment April 2026 onwards

About Us

OPUS Music CIC (OPUS) is a Community Interest Company (CIC) governed by a board of seven Directors. OPUS was established in 2000 as a non-constituted not-for-profit organisation, transitioning to a CIC in January 2012. OPUS became an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) in April 2023.

OPUS' vision is music as an intrinsic part of health and social care, everywhere. Our mission is to champion the use of music to connect and transform the lives of all people within health and social care. Our values are embedded deeply within our work, keeping music-making at heart of practice, and ensuring that all musical contributions are valued equally and without prejudice. OPUS strives to promote autonomy, agency and self-efficacy through music-making, creating connections across boundaries and beyond hierarchy through practice informed by an awareness of, and openness to wide-ranging theory and research.

View our latest organisational overview here: [OPUS overview February 2026](#)

How Music Helps

Much has been researched and written about the positive effects of music and the arts on a person's health and wellbeing. We see the physical, cognitive, emotional, social and spiritual benefits of music-making through our practice.

Music-making enhances health and wellbeing: Music-making can reduce anxiety, lower blood pressure, alleviate pain, and improve sleep quality, contributing to overall physical and mental health.

Music-making facilitates emotional expression: Engaging in music allows individuals to express emotions non-verbally, fostering connection and breaking down communication barriers.

Music-making supports healing environments: In healthcare settings, music creates a more humanised atmosphere, offering comfort and distraction for patients and staff alike.

Music-making empowers individuals: Music-making provides autonomy, enabling individuals to lead and express themselves, beneficial for all but particularly children, or those who are vulnerable or isolated.

Music-making promotes social connection: participating in music activities fosters a sense of community and belonging, combating loneliness.

How do we do this?

- Responsive, person-centred live music-making at the bedside, and in communal spaces within acute hospital settings, including intensive care, high dependency, specialist and general wards with patients from neonatal intensive care to the end of life.
- Community-based music-making for people living with dementia and their carers, fostering a community of connection and support through music-making activity.
- Partnerships with healthcare professionals and carers, within hospitals, care settings and community spaces.
- Training and Mentoring programmes for aspiring and emerging Healthcare Musicians
- Partnerships with Healthcare Trusts and other place-based organisations, supporting sustainable hyper-local programmes of practice through partnership building, training and mentoring.
- Training for Healthcare Professionals on the intentional use of music within every-day moments of care.
- Development of local, regional and national networks of practice, supporting exchange and sharing of best-practice.
- Advocacy for the role of the Healthcare Musician, including the ongoing development and promotion of a Quality Framework supporting excellence within the practice.

Board Recruitment

We are looking to recruit up to three new Directors to join our board.

We are particularly looking for an individual with strategic leadership experience to fill the role as Chair.

Additionally, we are looking for individuals with one or more of the following areas of expertise:

- Arts Expertise, including the development of partnerships
- Knowledge and experience of health/care and innovation within the sector
- Local, regional and national agendas and policies
- Financial management and governance
- IT and/or Marketing expertise

Please note that experience of music/Music in Healthcare practice isn't required to be a Director.

We are committed to diversity and inclusion and understand the value of a board with a range of perspectives and backgrounds. Therefore, we particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups, principally those from the following groups: global majority ethnicities and identities, Disabled, LGBTQIA+ and those facing social barriers to accessing the arts.

Director's Responsibilities

The Board supports the work of OPUS Music CIC and provides leadership and strategic governance. While day-to-day operations are led by the Chief Executive, the Board-Senior Leadership relationship is a partnership, and the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected. We are looking for individuals who share our passion for our practice. We need board members to:

- Be an advocate and ambassador
- Be present and participate
- Bring your expertise
- Give your time

Director's duties will include:

- Contributing to, reviewing and updating policies and strategic plans.
- Monitoring the organisation's compliance to all statutory and government regulations.
- Acting as an ambassador and advocating for the organisation's mission and vision.
- Supporting our fundraising and networking through the identification and connection with potential donors and partners.

Directors will be expected to attend quarterly board meetings as well as any other extraordinary meetings. They are expected to visit activities and events throughout the year and where appropriate, attend training seminars and conferences on behalf of the organisation. We estimate the time commitment of a Board Member is approximately 6 hours per month. The position is voluntary and you will receive no remuneration for this work, but reasonable expenses (such as travel to meetings, additional childcare costs etc) may be reimbursed.

In addition, the Chair will be expected to:

- Lead meetings of the board
- Support the Chief Executive, acting as a channel of communication between board and staff.
- Meet monthly with the Chief Executive.
- Act as a figurehead for the organisation, representing it at functions, meetings and events etc
- Challenge Directors to be appropriate custodians of the organisation's vision, mission and values
- Ensure appropriate and timely regulatory reporting and that key strategic decisions are taken.
- Create and maintain an inclusive and effective working environment during board meetings
- Take urgent action between board meetings where necessary and required.

How to apply

If you're interested in applying for a role on the OPUS Music CIC Board but would like an informal conversation first, please contact Nick Cutts, Chief Executive at nick@opusmusic.org

To apply, please send your CV and a cover email (no more than 400 words) to nick@opusmusic.org

Please address the following within your covering email.

- 1) What previous employment or voluntary experience you have which you can bring to the role and enhance the existing board.
- 2) Why you would like to be a board member for OPUS Music CIC.

If you prefer, you can send your cover email as a video or audio file of no more than 3 minutes duration.