



**NYMAZ Digital Research & Development Project Manager (Freelance)
Application Pack**

Contract: Freelance, fixed term between September 2014 – September 2015
Fee: £9,600; equivalent to 48 days @ £200 per day plus travel expenses
Location: Home-based within the UK, with occasional meetings in North Yorkshire

NYMAZ is a youth music development charity which champions the transformative potential of music for children and young people. We strategically develop and deliver high quality music-making activities across North Yorkshire with our partners. In parallel, we run professional networks which enable musicians and practitioners to develop their skills and learn from one another.

We are seeking an experienced and motivated project manager to lead on the coordination of a year-long project supported by the Digital Research & Development Fund for the Arts - Nesta, Arts & Humanities Research Council and public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. Working with the University of Hull, UCan Play and the North Yorkshire Music Hub, the project will test the effectiveness of video-streaming technologies in contributing to music education for children living in rural areas.

With significant experience of digital technologies, business model development, and knowledge of the education sector, you will have a proven track record of working with multiple partners and delivering to set timescales. This is an exciting opportunity to work on a project of national strategic significance in addressing the music education needs of children with restricted opportunities due to rural isolation.

Closing date: 10am, Tuesday 26 August

Interview Date: Monday 1 September (afternoon), in York

An application pack can be downloaded from www.nymaz.org.uk



Supported by Nesta, Arts & Humanities Research Council and public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England

NYMAZ

Job Profile

Job Title: Digital Research & Development Project Manager (freelance)

Reports to: NYMAZ Director

Location: Home-based within the UK, with occasional meetings in North Yorkshire

Tasks and responsibilities

- To lead and coordinate project partners NYMAZ, The University of Hull, UCan Play, and the North Yorkshire Music Hub on the delivery of the Digital Research & Development project in line with the project plan, timeline and milestones (please see Project Brief)
- To lead on contractual arrangements between NYMAZ and partners The University of Hull, UCan Play, the North Yorkshire Music Hub, and additional partners as necessary, ensuring that partners are delivering as required according to the budget and payment / milestones schedule
- To work closely with the NYMAZ Project Officer on delivering the project with participating North Yorkshire schools
- To use the research data and findings to develop viable business model and packages for other Music Education Hubs
- To participate in Partner team meetings
- To monitor the project budget and cash flow and provide financial reports on a regular basis to the NYMAZ Director
- To liaise with the Digital R&D Fund for the Art's Learning partner, including participating in peer coaching telephone calls
- To attend Digital R&D Fund for the Arts Learning events on behalf of NYMAZ
- To write and compile milestone reports and corresponding evidence for the Digital R&D Fund for the Arts, in line with NYMAZ's agreed payment schedule
- To work alongside NYMAZ staff and Marketing Consultant on delivery of the project's Communications Plan, including the dissemination of research findings and new business models
- To write copy for the Digital R&D Fund magazine *Native*, Digital R&D 'insights' and NYMAZ project website as required
- To maintain regular contact with NYMAZ staff throughout the duration of the project
- To prepare quarterly reports for NYMAZ Board of Trustee meetings

Application is by covering letter and C.V.

Please email applications to Heidi Johnson, Director at heidi@nymaz.org.uk

Deadline for applications: 10am, Tuesday 26 August

Interviews to be held: Monday 1 September (afternoon), in York

Person specification

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications/ Training/ Competencies	A good level of education and the ability to prove competence in the relevant areas of work	Educated to degree level or equivalent in an appropriate subject / vocational area
Relevant Experience	<p>Experience of project development and management within an arts and/or education context</p> <p>Significant experience and knowledge of digital technologies within an arts and/or education context</p> <p>Significant experience of strategic business planning</p> <p>Proven track record of delivering projects on budget and to agreed timescales</p> <p>Ability to form strong relationships and facilitate successful partnership-working with organisations from different sectors including academia</p> <p>Experience of multi-partner project working</p> <p>Strong track record in reporting back to funders</p> <p>Experience of budget management within a publicly funded context</p> <p>Experience of managing marketing and external relations functions</p> <p>Project evaluation experience</p>	Experience of project development and management within an music education context
Knowledge	Knowledge of statutory agencies within the youth and education sector	Understanding of national and regional music education development issues and policies

	<p>Understanding of the issues surrounding the management and development of project work in rurally isolated areas and schools</p> <p>Knowledge of marketing and PR and web-based communications</p> <p>Evidence of a broad understanding of young people's needs and the issues effecting rurally isolated young people</p> <p>Knowledge of current Health & Safety, Safeguarding and Diversity and Equal Opportunities legislation and best practice</p> <p>Understanding of the arts funding system</p>	Broad knowledge of diverse musical forms
Skills	<p>Proven leadership and management skills, with the ability to negotiate a range of priorities and agendas</p> <p>Ability to use a range of technologies effectively and a keen interest in learning more</p> <p>Ability to work independently and with minimum supervision</p> <p>Good interpersonal skills</p> <p>Ability to direct, develop and sustain effective partnerships</p> <p>Well organised, good analytical, presentational, verbal and written, report writing communication skills</p> <p>Competent in the use of computer based technology, Word, Excel, e-mail packages, Dropbox, Skype.</p>	Experience in using project management software e.g. Trello
Special circumstances	<p>Ability to travel from working base to occasional meetings in North Yorkshire, Manchester and London</p> <p>Commitment to equal opportunities</p>	

	Confirmation of self-employed status and of paying own Tax and National Insurance contributions.	
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Project Brief

Digital Research & Development Project

NYMAZ (Arts Partner)

University of Hull (Research Partner)

UCan Play (Technology Partner)

Research Proposition

In what ways can video streaming increase the ability of organisations operating in rural areas to deliver a high quality and varied music education for all children and young people, and can software be utilised and developed to enable the effective two-way flow of information between teachers and students?

Project Description

This one-year project will test the ability of video-streaming technologies to become a useful ingredient in providing music education for children living in rurally isolated North Yorkshire. As England's geographically largest administrative county, North Yorkshire covers 3,102 square miles. It has a very dispersed population, with 32% of people living in areas defined as 'sparse' and 24% in 'super sparse' areas. This presents significant challenges to service provision and results in rural isolation. Access to music education opportunities, which requires specialist tuition and associated significant travelling time and costs, can therefore be limited.

We will test the effectiveness of video streaming in enabling children's' musical progression, ensuring quality of delivery, cost-effectiveness and access to new live music performances for primary schools via video link-up.

Using the Roland VR-3EX technology as a starting point - a portable audio and video mixer that enables multiple images and audio to be streamed at the same time, presenting different angles - we will trial delivery of the following music education roles via video streaming in seven primary schools, one in each North Yorkshire district:

- Instrumental tuition (one-to-one tuition, small group tuition and whole class)
- High-profile live music performances (1 per term)
- Staff training

During the project we will test a range of software that enables the two-way flow of information between music leaders and students. This software will include existing web-based communication solutions like Skype, but will also look at using other forms of communication such as Twitter within an online teaching and learning environment.

The project is supported by the Digital R&D Fund for the Arts - Nesta, Arts & Humanities Research Council and public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. The Digital R&D fund for the Arts is a £7 million fund to support collaboration between organisations with arts projects, technology providers, and researchers. It is a partnership between [Arts Council England \(www.artscouncil.org.uk\)](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk), [Arts and Humanities](#)

[Research Council \(www.ahrc.ac.uk\)](http://www.ahrc.ac.uk) and [Nesta \(www.nesta.org.uk\)](http://www.nesta.org.uk). The Fund's website is: <http://artsdigitalrnd.org.uk/>

Benefit to wider arts sector

The delivery of high quality, cost effective music education to all children as envisaged in the National Plan for Music Education is a significant challenge to many Music Hubs (of which there are 123 nationally), especially those working in rural areas. This was a specific recommendation (No. 33) made by Darren Henley in his report that future research should: '... examine how technology could enable better teaching of music (particularly in rural communities)'. (DfE 2011, p.30)

This project aims to benefit all Music Hubs and other arts organisations working in the wider formal and non-formal education sector. The approaches tested in this project will be of use to: Music Hub Leaders; School Head Teachers & Music Coordinators; ACE grantholders; Bridge Organisations; Freelance music practitioners; musician membership organisations.

The research will benefit the wider arts sector in the following ways:

- Proof of concept for future projects;
- Testing new video streaming solutions enabling the affordable two-way sharing of information that can be used for a range of educational and artistic purposes (not just music);
- A series of presentations, journal articles, and reports that can be shared within the wider arts community

The project will produce the following information / technology:

- A resource including project findings, dataset and business model recommendations
- The design of a new technological solution to the use of web-based technologies and discrete video mixing/streaming hardware that allow for the two-way flow of information between student and teacher using a standard broadband connection
- CPD opportunities

Research Methodology

Stage 1: September – December 2014

- Interviews with music teacher participants to provide assessment of needs;
- Provide staff development session for using online technology in music tuition;
- Identify schools/pupils to target and gain ethical consent;
- Install technology in study locations (music office and 4 schools);
- Observe first lessons for all participants;
- Observe final lessons;
- Interviews with teacher participants to provide feedback; and
- Reflection and brief analysis.

Stage 2: January – August 2015

- Install technology in study locations (music office and 3 schools);
- Observe first lessons for all participants;
- Observe final lessons;
- Interviews with teachers, participants and key stakeholders to provide feedback; and
- Analysis and report writing

The research will be in two stages so that a critical evaluation can take place at the mid-point and modify the approach if necessary. The interviews will provide opportunities to respond to short- and long-term development needs relating to the software and to issues of CPD as they arise, as well as gathering valuable reflective feedback from those responsible for delivering the music educational opportunities. Additionally, questionnaires will be designed to gather the specific feedback of pupil participants, parents and carers, to fully engage with their experiences of music provision via video streaming. Since the study will allow a stronger understanding of the impact of innovative technologies on the aspirations of young musicians, the methodology will also include a final exit interview with pupil participants and their teachers in dialogue.