

# Concerteenies

## Join our Board of Trustees

Concerteenies is seeking up to three new Trustees to join the Board of our newly registered charity. This is an exciting time to join our team as we embark on a period of rapid growth and development and establish Concerteenies as one of the UK's leading providers of musical adventures and creativity for children in their early years..

### About Concerteenies

Concerteenies is an award-winning producer of participatory music programmes and live music events for children aged 0-7 and their adults. For many young children, access to high-quality live music and participation is dependent on social background and postcode. Our mission is to level up access to music for children from lower socio-economic backgrounds and those from under-served communities who experience barriers to musical participation.

We take participatory concerts, music workshops and event series directly to children, in schools, nurseries, playgrounds, community venues and hospitals. Our programmes feature music of varied genres; beatboxing, classical, global, folk and jazz. Music in the early years has a life-changing impact on children supporting speech and language development, literacy, numeracy and physical development. It also improves confidence and creative expression, builds bonds between children and adults, combats parental isolation and improves wellbeing.

### Our new Registered Charity

Founded in 2017, Concerteenies was originally a trading name of Polly Ives Ltd. In September 2022, wanting to extend Concerteenies' reach and impact, we registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee (company number 14322703) and an initial Board of Trustees was established. In March 2023, Concerteenies became a registered charity (Charity number 1202569).

Concerteenies is headed up by Creative Director/CEO Polly Ives and the current board is Jane Shields (Chair), Margaret Bennett (Treasurer), Naomi Atherton and Alison Blakemore. Find out more about them and the rest of the team [here](#).



## Concerteenies' achievements

In 2022–23 Concerteenies delivered 180 live music events in 75 cultural venues, community and education settings across South Yorkshire, reaching 10,050 children aged 0–7 and their adults. We provided employment for 80 freelance musicians and creative practitioners, many of them locally based. Training and professional development for musicians, creative practitioners and teachers are an important part of every project, increasing understanding of, and advocating for, the value of music to children's early development. We publish free to access online resources including YouTube concerts and creative activity packs and SEND support packs designed to help teachers and parents to embed music in children's everyday lives and learning. In 2020, we were winners of the Royal Philharmonic Society's *'Inspiration Award'* for our innovative digital project, "24-hour Soundtrack" (with BBC Radio 3 and DECCA).

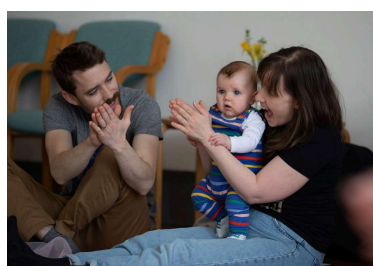
Our projects are rigorously tested and evaluated with academic researchers at the Universities of Leeds and Sheffield and are co-designed with educators, musicians and beneficiaries.

Currently, our focus is on increasing access to music across South Yorkshire, but as our reputation grows, we are forging links with leading cultural and education organisations across the UK, including Wigmore Hall, Wath, Ryedale, Kings Lynn and Aldeburgh Festivals, London Mozart Players and multiple Music Hubs, who all value how we connect with early years children and their families and are commissioning performances and educational programmes with us to extend their own reach and impact. We are ambitious for Concerteenies to become a national brand leader in early years music provision.

**We are looking to appoint up to three new Trustees who will bring specific skills, knowledge and experience to our team. Importantly we are looking for people who are representative of the communities we serve because we want their voices to be loud and clear in our decision making and planning.** We are committed to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and to ensuring that people from diverse backgrounds are visible and reflected in our staff, our musicians and our board so we particularly encourage interest in joining the Board from people underrepresented in the arts sector and within our team.

**We are looking for people who have any of the following skills, knowledge and experience:**

- A passion for music and music education
- working in the arts and/or third sector
- working with 0–7 year olds
- Legal, HR, marketing/PR, fundraising and business management.



## The role involves:

As a Trustee you will act with care and skill to ensure that the charity is sustainable, well-managed and that we deliver on our charitable objectives. You will work with the Creative Director and staff team to help shape the future of Concerteenies. You will take part in quarterly board meetings including an annual away day, and other smaller meetings as needed. You will oversee governance, policy and performance and come along to events, celebrations and socials when you can. We are a small team of part time staff, and currently 4 board members. Together we are a passionate, strong and ambitious team and are excited to invite new voices to support us grow, shape and develop this new charity over the next few years.

Trustees are appointed for an initial three-year term, renewable up to a maximum of 15 years. The time commitment will be variable; there is a 2 hour meeting four times a year plus an annual away day. Meetings have papers prepared in advance and so time to read and understand the papers is also essential for full and informed meetings. Most meetings are in person, in the evening in Sheffield but this will be reviewed to meet the trustees' needs.

Becoming a Trustee is a great way to make a big difference to people's lives, beneficial for your CV as well as being vital to the running of Concerteenies. We hope that you will get as much out of being involved as we do. Being a trustee is a voluntary role. We offer an induction process and training and development opportunities to trustees. We can also cover out-of-pocket expenses if required to allow you to fulfil the role.

If you would like to find out more about Concerteenies and what being a Trustee entails to help you decide whether this is the right opportunity for you, please contact Polly Ives on [info@pollyives.com](mailto:info@pollyives.com). Find further information at <https://www.concerteenies.com> or our socials pages.

## How to apply:

You can apply for this opportunity by sending a statement about why you are interested in the opportunity and sharing your relevant experience(s) to the role requirements. This can be in writing (not longer than 1 side of A4), as an audio or video file (no longer than 5 minutes), or in any other format that is accessible to you.

Please send to [info@pollyives.com](mailto:info@pollyives.com) by **7th May 2024**. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an informal interview at a date that suits you.

