



**Help
Musicians**

**Andrew Lloyd Webber
Foundation**

UK charity Help Musicians is generously supported by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, with a donation via the match-funded Spotify COVID-19 Music Relief project

The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation's £50k donation, which will be match-funded by Spotify, will further Help Musicians' mission to support professional musicians during the COVID-19 crisis.

22 April 2020 - Help Musicians, the 99-year-old UK charity, is honoured to announce support from the prestigious Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. The generous £50,000 donation will assist in continuing frontline support for musicians during the Coronavirus crisis.

The donation is being made via the Spotify COVID-19 Music Relief project, which established a partnership with Help Musicians in March alongside other verified organisations worldwide, with Spotify matching the donation to take the total up to £100,000. Spotify will match all donations made to the collective organisations via its [COVID-19 Music Relief page](#) dollar-for-dollar up to a total Spotify contribution of \$10 million.

The power of music to bring joy and connect the isolated has never been more appreciated across the world. This has united the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, Spotify and Help Musicians in action:

- In addition to one-off charitable donations to organisations such as Help Musicians, Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation remains committed to supporting professional musicians and advancing musical education at this difficult juncture in many careers. The Foundation stands by all the talented musicians and musical organisations they currently fund across the UK, while their projects are profoundly affected by the impact of COVID-19.
- Spotify is working with a growing list of organizations offering financial relief to creators around the world, to support the music industry. The Spotify COVID-19 Music Relief project has been created to amplify the efforts of those organizations that focus on helping those most in need.
- Help Musicians is assisting musicians to embrace their entrepreneurial spirits through its rounds of 360-degree creative funding programme, Do It Differently*, as

well as providing urgent and much-needed financial hardship support for thousands of musicians who are no longer able to perform.

James Ainscough, Help Musicians CEO, said: *"It is through challenging times like these that we see music bringing people together. Neighbourhoods become choirs and homes become global concert halls. It is wonderful to see musicians, music companies and music lovers working together to support artists who have seen their livelihoods completely disappear. I am so grateful to the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation and Spotify for this combined £100,000 donation, which provides Help Musicians with vital resource for us to reach more artists in urgent need, and highlights the matched-donation opportunity at Spotify that all music-lovers can utilise."*

Andrew Lloyd Webber said: *"I am pleased that my Foundation has been able to help support my fellow musicians during these exceptionally difficult times for self-employed professionals in the live entertainment industry. I would also like to thank Spotify for matching the donation of the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation."*

Tom Connaughton, UK/IE Managing Director, Spotify, said: *"At times of great challenge, music helps to uplift us. But right now, thousands of creative professionals in the music industry need help. We're working with a growing list of organizations offering financial relief to creators around the world, and we're delighted to match the donation from the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation as part of our wider support for the global music community."*

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About Help Musicians:

Help Musicians is an independent charity, with an extraordinary history. For nearly 100 years, it has provided a broad spectrum of help, support and opportunities to empower musicians aged 18+, at any stage of their career, from times of great need to times of opportunity, providing a lifetime of support when it is needed most.

The charity is uniquely placed to take a personalised approach with each individual supported, through its integrated programme that offers emerging and established professional musicians assistance across health and wellbeing, business practises and creative development.

Help Musicians aims to make a meaningful difference to the lives of professional musicians and is passionate about creating a world where musicians thrive. To support Help Musicians [click here](#), email fundraising@helpmusicians.org.uk or call 0207 239 9100.

***About Do It Differently**

Help Musicians has opened an adapted round of its existing Do It Differently Fund, offering musicians a way to keep developing where possible in the face of this unsteady period.

Following the online application process detailing their creative project, awarded musicians will receive a grant of £3,000 to bring it to life, along with 121 business coaching via Skype to help shape their future. See more [here](#).

About Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation was set up by Andrew in 1992 to promote the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit; since inception Andrew has been the principal provider of funding for all its charitable activities.

In 2011, the Foundation embarked on an active grant giving programme and has now awarded grants of over £20 million to support high quality training and personal development as well as other projects that make a real difference to enrich the quality of life both for individuals and within local communities. Significant grants include £3.5m to Arts Educational Schools, London to create a state-of-the-art professional theatre, £2.4m to the Music in Secondary Schools Trust, £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, \$1.3m to the American Theatre Wing and over £300,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need. The Foundation is also a founding supporter of the Get Into Theatre careers website www.getintotheatre.org

About Spotify

Spotify transformed music listening forever when it launched in Sweden in 2008. Discover, manage and share over 50 million tracks, including 700,000 podcast titles, for free, or upgrade to Spotify Premium to access exclusive features for music including improved sound quality and an on-demand, offline, and ad-free listening experience.

Today, Spotify is the most popular global audio streaming subscription service with 271m users, including 124m subscribers, across 79 markets. We are the largest driver of revenue to the music business today.