

**WILLIAM HILL TRUST FUND
APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

<p><u>Applicant Details</u> Name and Address of Applicant/Organisation:</p> <p>Telephone No:</p>	<p>Melrose Music Festival SCIO SC049870</p>
<p>Address to which payment should be made:</p>	<p>As above.</p>
<p><u>Activities</u> Please supply a brief description of the activities of your organisation and the benefits it brings to the local community:</p>	<p align="center"><u>Melrose Music Festivals thus far</u></p> <p>Momentum has steadily built since 2017 when the first Melrose Music Festival took place. Our core belief is that a flourishing music festival will enrich the quality of life in our community; create opportunities for talented local musicians; as music plays less part in our schools to foster initiatives to advance musical education and at the same time increase the range of tourist attractions to this beautiful part of Scotland.</p> <p>We are most grateful for the generous help provided by William Hill Trust last year to Melrose Music Festival. We put this to good use by bringing National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCOS) to the Borders for the first time and by creating opportunities for local performers and composers which otherwise they would not have had. Last year over 700 people took part in the Melrose Music Festival. We are confident the varied and exciting 2023 program will take these benefits to new levels.</p> <p align="center"><u>Helping the Community – the 2023 Festival</u></p> <p>Melrose Music Festival has always sought imaginative and innovative ways to bring high quality music to the Borders. There are at least five choral societies in the Borders yet, until now the considerable talent each displays has never been combined in a celebration of the Borders’s choral potential. Our opening event for 2023 does just this with a performance of Carmina Burana at Corn Exchange, Melrose in involving some fifty performers. This year, children from the local schools will be invited to join the choristers from St Mary’s Cathedral Edinburgh for a specially arranged introduction to the Cathedral Choir. The Choir will share some of their regular repertoire. Together with the NYCOS visit these are the first steps of a carefully thought through plan to establish a hub in the Borders around which musical education will be encouraged throughout the year.</p> <p>The relative absence of top quality jazz led us by way of contrast to encourage some exceptional jazz performers to join us. The internationally renowned Bass Player, Brian Shiel’s home is in the Borders and we were able</p>

	<p>to persuade his Be Bop Band to take part this year.</p> <p>Again by contrast, building on the developing choral tradition of local musical excellence, a professional octet from the Borders sings again with an expanded repertoire. The Festival program continues with an Opera night involving three performers from Scottish Opera, a classical evening with an inspirational guitar and violin duo. The finale concert which brings together young and not so young musicians is conducted by James Lowe, our most celebrated contributor. When not pursuing his busy International career James also lives in the Borders.</p> <p>Through personal connections of some Trustees who are performers themselves, most contributors offer their services to the Festival on a non commercial basis at significantly below current charges. The Festival has no employees and has always relied entirely on the support of volunteers.</p> <p>We are happy to provide any further information.</p>
<p><u>Assistance Requested</u> Please indicate the sum requested and the purpose for which it will be used:</p>	<p>£2,500 Following MMF's pattern, the Festival will be funded by a combination of ticket sales and donations. The purpose of this application is to seek a contribution towards the cost of 2023 Festival.</p>
<p>When will the donation be required:</p>	<p>April 2023</p>
<p>If this is a one-off project then please give the following details –</p> <p>Date (s):</p> <p>Estimated total cost:</p> <p>Funds already raised by applicant's own efforts:</p> <p>Funds raised or expected to be raised from other sources (please state sources):</p>	<p>Please see above details.</p> <p>As the projections show the cost of 2023 Festival will be £17,588 and after ticket sales of £8,640 the expected shortfall is £8,948</p> <p>Applications have been made to several funding sources for a contribution towards the net cost of this year's Festival. No decisions have so far been notified. In the meantime fund raising is also being carried out locally by our volunteers.</p>

<p><u>Other information</u> If you have other information which you feel is relevant to this application please provide details including details of any previous assistance given:</p>	<p>Last year William Hill Trust most generously provided a grant of £2,500 to Melrose Music Festival. This and other donations made it possible for 2022 Festival to take place. Accompanying this application are Melrose Music Festival's latest accounts set out as required by OSCR and certified by our Independent Examiner.</p>
<p><u>Declaration</u> I hereby make application for assistance as set out above and certify that the information I have provided is accurate</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>Position Held: Trustee Convenor</p> <p>Date: 20/1/2023</p>	
<p>Note: All applications from organisations MUST be accompanied by a copy of the latest audited accounts</p>	
<p>This completed form, accounts and any supporting details should be submitted to Democratic Services, Scottish Borders Council, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, TD6 0SA. ComPap@scotborders.gov.uk Telephone 01835 826585</p>	