

gsmd.ac.uk/short-courses

Short Courses & Summer Schools 2024



GUILD
HALL
SCHOOL

Guildhall School is one of the world's leading conservatoires and drama schools. Located next to the Barbican Centre in the heart of the City of London, it has some of the best facilities in the UK.

We offer a wide range of short courses and summer schools across music, drama, creative writing, production arts and skills for the creative industries. These are offered across all levels of experience, from beginners to advanced.

Courses are led by experienced Guildhall School teachers and industry-leading guest tutors, offering an insight into Guildhall's world-class learning environment in a fun and supportive setting.

Pursue your passion, discover a new hobby, develop your skills and realise your potential with a Guildhall Short Course or Summer School.

gsmd.ac.uk/short-courses



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Our Facilities

Our in-person courses take place across the School's campus in central London, which includes state-of-the-art venue Milton Court and our iconic Silk Street building.

Alternatively, join us from wherever you are in the world with our online short courses, which take place across Zoom.

Key

- Easter Short Courses
- Summer Schools



DRAMA

Audition Technique: Acting

Ages 17+

Dates: Sat 6 – Sun 7 Apr
Times: 10am–5pm
Fee: £260

Whether you are interested in developing a speech for drama school or university or just generally improving your audition technique, this two-day course will give you an insight and introduction into the tools you need to succeed.

New for 2024

Introduction to Directing: First Steps

Ages 16–18

Dates: Sat 6 – Sun 7 Apr
Times: 10am–5pm
Fee: £260

This new two-day course will introduce you to the role of a director. Through practical exercises and discussions, you will work with a professional director, an actor and a designer to understand the processes and collaborative working required of this exciting role.

Two courses available

Introduction to Screen Acting

Ages 18+

Easter Course dates: Sat 6 – Sun 7 Apr
Summer School dates: Sat 13 – Sun 14 Jul
Times: 10am–5pm
Fee: £260

This two-day course will introduce you to the techniques and skills required for acting in film and television. Learn key techniques including how to prepare for a scene, be present and how to connect with your scene partner, to give authentic and truthful performances.

Acting in an Accent – General American

Ages 18+

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Jul
Times: 10am–5pm
Fee: £625

This five-day course will introduce you to the foundations and principles of working in an accent other than your own. Using practical exercises led by a professional dialect coach, you will learn the foundations of accent analysis and application, with a focus on a contemporary General American (Mid-Western) sound. You will also be coached to apply these new skills to texts drawn from contemporary American plays.

Speaking Shakespeare: Classical Monologue

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Jul
Times: 10am–5pm
Fee: £625

This intensive summer course, led by Mariah Gale, actor, director and Associate Artist at the Royal Shakespeare Company, is ideal for participants wanting to explore the texts of Shakespeare. The course will provide a toolkit in speaking and delivering Shakespeare monologues.



“This course was so valuable. I feel like I learnt so much and it has given me the motivation to continue working on acting in an accent.”

Participant on Acting in an Accent, 2023

Acting Summer School for Ages 18+

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 19 Jul
(excluding weekends)
Times: 10am–5.30pm
Fee: £1,365

This two-week course will give you an insight into acting training in a supportive and inclusive environment. Collaborating with a blend of Guildhall tutors and visiting industry professionals, you will take part in a series of craft-based masterclasses exploring movement, voice and a variety of acting techniques alongside intensive workshops exploring ways of creating work. Internal informal sharings of the work will be held throughout the two weeks.

New for 2024

Pitching and Treatments for Screen

Ages 18+

Dates: Sat 13 – Sun 14 Jul
Times: 10am–4pm
Fee: £260

This new two-day course aims to demystify the pitching process and help you find the confidence to sell your ideas for the screen. You will learn the difference between a pitch and a treatment and the important role these have in selling your script to production companies and agents, explore previous pitches for film and TV and create your very own treatment.

Acting Summer School for Ages 16–17

Dates: Mon 15 – Fri 26 Jul
(excluding weekends)
Times: 9.30am–5.30pm
Fee: £1,365

This two-week course offers an inspirational insight into contemporary acting training for young people aged 16–17. Throughout the two weeks, you will work with professional directors on a project, as well as workshops led by theatre and screen acting practitioners. Each day will introduce you to a multitude of new skills, from voice and movement, to self-taping, classical text and improvisation.

Two courses available

Acting Summer School for Ages 12–15

Dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul or
Mon 29 Jul – Fri 2 Aug
Times: 9.30am–5pm
Fee: £685

This five-day course will help you connect with your inner creativity, develop your skills, and offer an insight into professional acting training in a fun, inclusive, welcoming and creative environment. Through practical acting classes you will have the chance to try new things, meet like-minded people, and work with industry professionals.

Two courses available

Acting through Song Summer Course

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 29 – Wed 31 Jul or
Wed 31 Jul – Fri 2 Aug
Times: Timings vary on both courses,
please refer to the website
Fee: £365

This intensive summer course, designed for beginners and those with performance experience, will explore singing and acting through song. The course, which will see you delve into the world of musical theatre, pop and folk singing, will combine contemporary acting and singing techniques.

“The best acting program I’ve ever attended. I was pushed in areas I had never even thought about. The staff were all so lovely and I got so lucky to be put into a group with some of the most talented and kind people I’ve ever met.”

Participant on Acting Summer School for ages 16–17, 2023





MUSIC

Two courses available

Conducting & Ensemble Direction

Ages 18+

Easter Course dates: Mon 8 – Thu 11 Apr
Summer School dates: Tue 9 – Fri 12 Jul
Times: 10.30am–5.30pm
Fee: £450

This four-day course will give you a thorough grounding in the physical technique of conducting and will see you conduct a variety of repertoire. Whilst the focus of the course will be on the practical application of conducting technique, you will also receive training in ensemble direction, including score preparation, rehearsal technique and effective verbal communication.

Easter Music Course

Ages 8–14

Dates: Mon 8 – Thu 11 Apr
Times: 10am–4.30pm
Fee: £425

Participation Bursaries available

This four-day course is for young instrumentalists playing any bowed string, wind, brass or percussion instrument. It is led by our lively team of expert Guildhall tutors, and aims to support young musicians to nurture their creativity and develop their skills in a friendly environment.

Two courses available

Essential Music Theory: Grade 5

Ages 11+

Easter Course dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Apr
Summer School dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul
Times: 10am–4pm
Fee: £450

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course is ideal if you are preparing for the ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory exam and/or want to improve your knowledge of music theory. The course draws upon intuitive musical understanding and focuses on stave notation. The syllabus will also provide you with a foundation for more advanced music theory studies.

Music Production for Girls

Ages 13–17

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Apr
Times: 10am–5pm
Fee: Free (by application)

This course is aimed at girls and female identifying participants, wanting to make their own music and develop their understanding of music production. The course has been designed as a response to an underrepresented group within the industry. This five-day course will provide an opportunity for participants to develop their skills in composition and music technology through workshops covering a range of skills including sequencing, using synthesisers in Ableton, sampling, making beats and more.

New for 2024

Audition Preparation for Advanced Classical Singers

Ages 21+

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Jul
Times: 9am–5pm
Fee: £565

This new five-day course, led by senior staff from the Vocal Studies department, will offer advanced singers who are thinking of studying at a postgraduate level general audition preparation for conservatoire and beyond. With a joint focus on class teaching and extensive one-to-one tuition, course topics will include singing in different languages, communicating text into song, body awareness and performance skills. You will also work towards a mock audition at the end of the course and will receive comprehensive feedback.

“Thomas had a super time – he was utterly engaged and enthused by the teaching staff throughout. He made friends and loved the music that he played, finding it challenging and rewarding in equal measure.”

Parent of participant on Easter Music Course, 2023



Two courses available

Music Production in Logic Pro

Ages 13+**Dates:** Mon 8 – Fri 12 Jul (for ages 18+)

Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul (for ages 13–17)

Times: 10am–5pm**Fee:** £550**Participation Bursaries available for ages 13–17**

This five-day course will develop your skills in music technology, including composition, sound design and production. You will learn step-by-step how to compose and produce your own piece through classes focusing on technical and creative elements of production.

Introduction to Songwriting

Ages 18+**Dates:** Fri 12 – Sun 14 Jul**Times:** 10.30am–5pm**Fee:** £335

This three-day course will teach you the skills needed to write your own songs and develop your voice. You will explore a broad range of contemporary songwriting techniques and look at different songwriting components including melody, harmony, structure, lyrics, rhythm and instrumentation. There will be the chance to develop writing partnerships, giving you the ability to collaborate effectively, as well as learn more in-depth skills in harmonic theory, musical structure and pacing, and lyrical and poetic devices.

Introduction to Music Therapy

Ages 18+**Dates:** Sun 13 – Sun 14 Jul**Times:** 10am–5pm**Fee:** £260

This two-day course is delivered by tutors with wide-ranging experience in clinical and professional settings, via a combination of theoretical and practical sessions, case presentations and experiential learning. Participants will learn about the psychodynamically-informed approach to music therapy that is taught at Guildhall School, and what a music therapist's career might look like.

“The course was exactly what I hoped it would be, and more. It was arranged and executed really well and the speakers that gave presentations were all knowledgeable and engaging.”

Participant on Introduction to Music Therapy, 2023

Advanced Aural Skills

Ages 18+**Dates:** Mon 15 – Fri 19 Jul**Times:** 10am–4pm**Fee:** £450

This five-day music course will help develop your existing aural skills to the level required for ABRSM and Trinity Grade 8 and above. Suitable for singers, musicians and/or composers wanting to refine aural skills at a post Grade 5 level, topics will include harmony, melody and rhythm.

Two courses available

Conducting Summer Course

Ages 14–18**Dates:** Mon 15 – Fri 19 Jul or

Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm**Fee:** £565

This five-day course will give you a thorough grounding in the physical technique of conducting and will see you conduct a variety of repertoire. Whilst the focus of the course will be on the practical application of conducting technique, you will also receive training in ensemble direction, performance style and interpretation from the Classical period until today.



Vocal Summer School for Classical Singers

Ages 16–21

Dates: Mon 15 – Fri 19 Jul

Times: 9am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course led by senior staff from the Vocal Studies department will enable singers aged 16–21 to experience Guildhall School's world-leading vocal training. With a joint focus on class teaching and extensive one-to-one tuition, you will work towards an informal presentation at the end of the course. As well as an introduction to singing in Italian and communicating text into song, the course will cover body awareness and performance skills.

Composition Summer Course

Ages 14–21

Dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul

Times: 9.30am–5.30pm

Fee: £595

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course is a unique opportunity for you to develop your composition skills and write a piece for a small instrumental ensemble. You will work with a composition teacher and performers on your own music and learn about writing for instruments and developing ideas. The course, which is led by Guildhall Composition Professor Paul Whitmarsh, will culminate in a showcase where you will get to hear your work performed.

Wind, Brass & Percussion Summer Course

Ages 12–18

Dates: Wed 24 – Sat 27 Jul

Times: 10.30am–5.30pm

Fee: £475

Participation Bursaries available

This four-day course, taught by Junior Guildhall tutors, will develop your wind, brass and percussion skills in a friendly and supportive environment. You will explore a range of musical styles and genres and receive valuable support and advice, including a masterclass from a leading guest musician. The course will culminate in a concert for family and friends, where you can showcase the skills you gained.

Jazz & Rock Week

Ages 14+

Dates: Sun 28 Jul – Fri 2 Aug

Times: 2pm–6.30pm on Sun;
10am–5.30pm Mon – Fri

Fee: £635

Participation Bursaries available

This six-day course is ideal for instrumentalists and singers who want to develop their skills in jazz and rock music, feel inspired and have lots of fun. The course is directed by Scott Stroman, Jazz Professor at Guildhall School, alongside professional musicians and expert teachers from Guildhall School.

Singers' Weekend: Jazz, Gospel & World Music

Ages 16+

Dates: Sat 27 – Sun 28 Jul

Times: 10am–6pm

Fee: £260

This two-day course, led by Scott Stroman and Guildhall's Jazz vocal team, focuses on jazz, gospel, world and popular music. You will learn songs both as a large ensemble and in smaller vocal groups. There will also be an opportunity to perform individually should you wish to.

“The Jazz and Rock team went above and beyond to support David as a first-time attendee. He did not know anyone and was one of the youngest...The course facilitators and teachers gave him personal support and encouragement. He came home saying ‘his dreams had come true’.”

Parent of participant on Jazz & Rock Week, 2023



Film Music Composition for Beginners

Ages 14–17

Dates: Mon 8 – Thu 11 Apr

Times: 10am–12pm, BST (UTC+1)

Fee: £150

Participation Bursaries available

This four-day online music course will equip you with an understanding of how to write music for film. You can expect to analyse scenes from different films and explore how a particular genre of music complements a film visual. The topics addressed will include composition, orchestration, composing with instrument sample libraries in Logic Pro, and the composition of original music to given clips.

Mastering Aural Tests

Ages 11–17

Dates: Mon 8 – Thu 11 Apr

Times: 10.30am–12.30pm, BST (UTC+1)

Fee: £150

Participation Bursaries available

This four-day online music course will help you practise your aural skills, accelerate the learning process and increase your exam confidence. You will work on listening and memorising skills up to the level required for Grade 8 ABRSM.

Two courses available

Advanced Music Theory

Ages 14+

Dates: Mon 15 – Fri 19 Jul or

Mon 29 Jul – Fri 2 Aug

Times: 10am–5pm, BST (UTC+1)

Fee: £525

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day online music theory course, led by Guildhall Composition Professor Paul Whitmarsh, is ideal if you wish to prepare for music theory exams above ABRSM Grade 5 or equivalent, or if you want to improve your knowledge of music theory.

Advanced Aural Skills

Ages 11–17

Dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul

Times: 10am–4pm, BST (UTC+1)

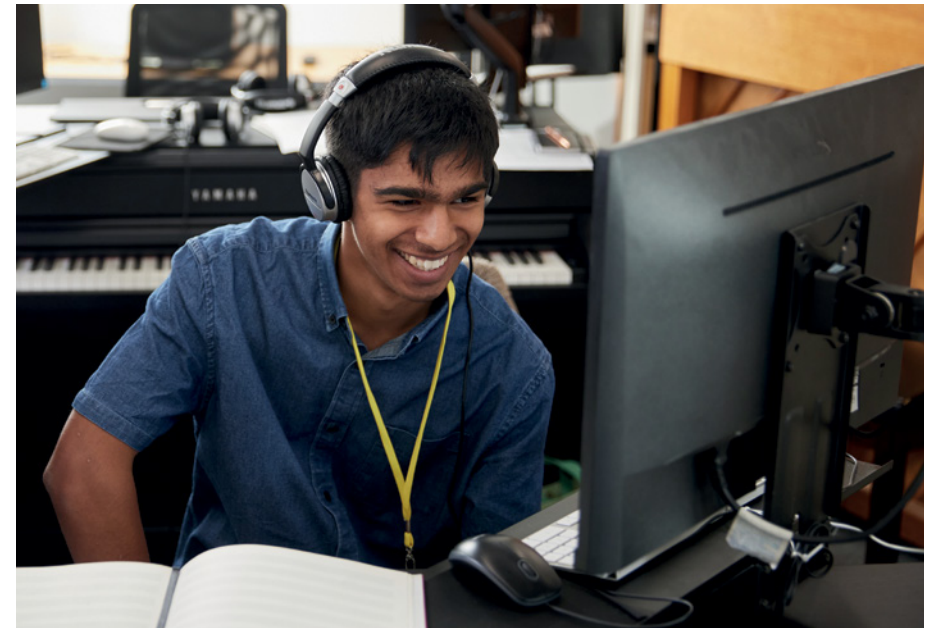
Fee: £450

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day music course will help develop your existing aural skills to the level required for ABRSM and Trinity Grade 8 and above. Suitable for singers, musicians and/or composers wanting to refine aural skills at a post Grade 5 level, topics will include harmony, melody and rhythm.

“Excellent course. Made me understand sound & theory together!”

Participant on Mastering Aural Tests, 2023





PRODUCTION ARTS

Prop Making

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course will introduce you to a wide range of techniques and materials used by a prop department for theatre, film or TV. Prop makers use a variety of materials, techniques and tools and work can range from making intricate period items to Iron Thrones (*Game of Thrones*), Harry Potter's Wand, a Stormtrooper Helmet (*Star Wars*) or a Dalek (*Dr Who*). Their skills range from mold-making, sculpture, life-casting, prosthetics, puppetry and armour, to woodwork, upholstery and restoration.

Scenic Art

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 8 – Fri 12 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course in scenic art led by Vanessa Cass, Head of Design Realisation at Guildhall School, will introduce you to scenic painting techniques used to create realistic backdrops and set pieces for theatre, events and TV.

Introduction to Theatre Sound Engineering

Ages 16+

Dates: Fri 12 – Sun 14 Jul

Times: 10am–6pm

Fee: £375

Participation Bursaries available

This three-day course will provide the perfect introduction to sound engineering for the theatre. You will learn the fundamental skills required to use digital sound consoles, PA systems and microphones. During the course you will have access to a wide array of high-end, industry standard equipment at Guildhall School, where you will put your newly learnt skills into practice in our large, modern and fully equipped theatre.

Introduction to Video Projection Mapping

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 15 – Fri 19 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course aimed at beginners will give you a unique opportunity to learn and develop the skills to prepare and project video onto a 3D structure, using industry standard video projection software Resolume Arena 7 and Adobe CC.

“This was a fantastic course. I haven't felt this creative in a long time.”

Participant on Introduction to Video Projection Mapping, 2023

Sound Design for Theatre

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day hands-on course will introduce you to the practical, creative and technological aspects of sound design and management for the stage.

Stage Lighting

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course will introduce you to the work of an electrics department in the theatre industry and its accessories, including lamps, lenses, lanterns and luminaires. You will get hands-on experience rigging and focusing lanterns, as well as guidance on how to interpret a lighting plan.

Stage Management

Ages 16+

Dates: Mon 22 – Fri 26 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £565

Participation Bursaries available

This five-day course will give you an introduction to the world of stage management and the skills required, including the art of blocking and cueing to music. Stage Management teams are at the centre of any production or event.

Sewing for Beginners

Ages 16+

Dates: Sat 27 – Sun 28 Jul

Times: 10am–5pm

Fee: £260

This new two-day course will teach you core sewing techniques and will equip you with confidence to use a sewing machine. Whether you are looking to get into costume design, create your own fashion garments, or are just looking to make more sustainable choices by creating or repairing existing clothes within your wardrobe, this course is for you.



We offer a wide range of in-person and online evening courses in music, drama, creative writing and skills for the creative industries.

Evening courses run three times a year in the spring, summer and autumn terms. These are suited to adults aged 18 and over, who may have other commitments throughout the day. Courses are aimed at a range of levels – from beginners to industry professionals – and offer the opportunity to learn new skills or develop an existing passion over a number of weeks.

Online courses are accessible wherever you are in the world and in-person courses take place across the School's campus in central London, which includes state-of-the-art venue Milton Court and our iconic Silk Street building.

Visit gsmd.ac.uk/short-courses to find out more.

“These evening courses enable students who must work a day job, the flexibility to study at Guildhall. I never imagined myself being a student here.”

Evening Course participant

Guildhall Young Artists



Guildhall Young Artists

Guildhall Young Artists (GYA) is Guildhall School's network of centres providing sustained performing and production arts training and one-to-one lessons for children and young people up to the age of 18.

Centre locations include London, Norwich and Taunton, with an online centre for those who prefer to study from home.

However you attend a centre, you'll be able to benefit from exclusive opportunities, performances and workshops, including competitions, invites to concerts, gigs and performances from students at Guildhall School.

Visit gsmd.ac.uk/guildhall-young-artists for more information.

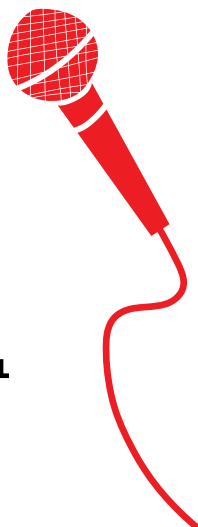
Guildhall Young Artists Centres

	Application deadline (where applicable):
Music training	
Centre for Young Musicians	11pm, 1 March 2024
Music and drama training	
Junior Guildhall	Midnight, 1 March 2024
GYA Norwich	Apply at any time
GYA Taunton	Apply at any time
GYA Online	See website for details
Music, drama and production arts training	
GYA King's Cross	Apply at any time

"GYA gives me a sense of belonging. The experiences I have gained are phenomenal."

Student at GYA Taunton

**GUILD
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Looking to ignite your performance?

Guildhall Ignite is Guildhall School's newly launched executive and professional training consultancy coaching in and through the performing arts.

Guildhall Ignite's unique programmes enable leaders from sectors including the arts, education and business to respond to the challenges of today. This includes one-to-one executive coaching, bespoke partnerships and leadership courses accredited by the European Mentoring and Coaching Council.

Upcoming Courses*

- Executive Coaching – Foundation Level from 7 May 2024
- Leaders and Managers from 18 June 2024

What will you spark?

Connect with us ignite@gsmd.ac.uk
Explore our offer ignite.gsmd.ac.uk

"The most practical management and leadership training I have had."

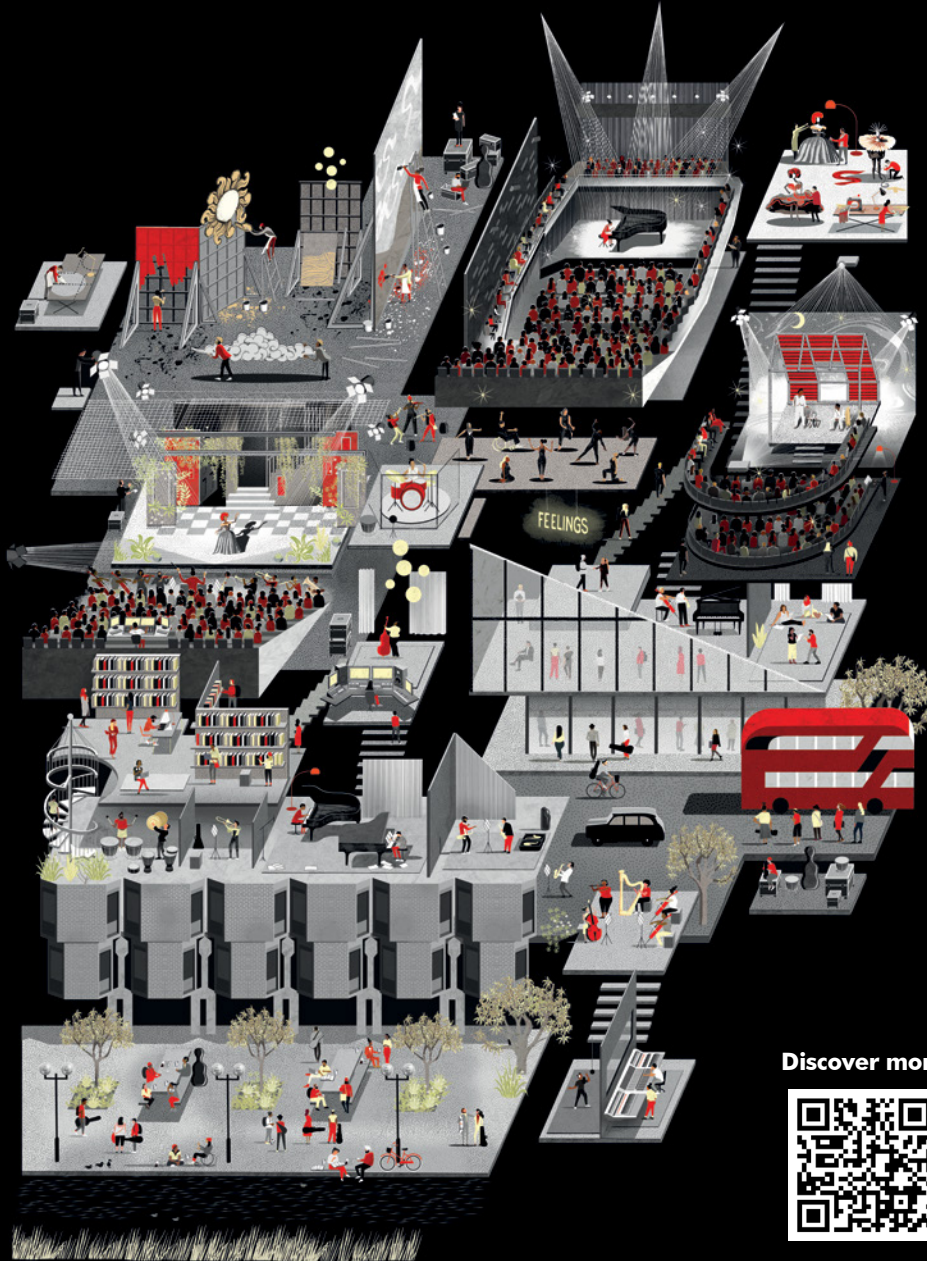
Course participant

*Discounted places are available for those working in the arts, education and charity sectors.



Study a creative degree at Guildhall School

Ranked number one in Arts, Drama & Music by the Complete University Guide 2024, discover how Guildhall is training the next wave of industry professionals through degree courses in Music, Drama and Production Arts.



Discover more



How to book

To book on a short course or a summer school and for further information please visit our website:
gsmd.ac.uk/short-courses

Early booking is recommended due to limited course capacities.

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7382 2310
Email: shortcourses@gsmd.ac.uk

Participation Bursaries

Participation Bursaries – offered as part of our Access and Participation Plan – provide financial support to those living in low-income households, enabling participation in selected short courses and summer schools by providing a full or half bursary to cover the course costs. This is a fantastic opportunity to get a taste of conservatoire-style training and to find out what it is like to study at Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

All courses and summer schools with Participation Bursaries are indicated within this brochure or on the School website.

If you have any questions about the Participation Bursaries please contact the School's Access and Participation Team at wp@gsmd.ac.uk.

Our location

Guildhall School of Music & Drama
Silk Street, Barbican
London EC2Y 8DT
Telephone + 44 (0)20 7628 2571
gsmd.ac.uk

By underground/train

Barbican, Moorgate, Liverpool Street, St Paul's and Bank stations are all nearby.

By bus

Bus numbers 4, 43, 55, 76, 100 and 153 stop nearby.

By road

The School falls within the Congestion Charge zone. Visit cclondon.com or telephone 0845 900 1234 for further information.



“Thanks to the participation bursary scheme my daughter was able to attend and be so massively inspired. Really grateful that Guildhall aims to make music accessible by everyone regardless of financial backgrounds.”

Parent of participant on Jazz & Rock Week, 2023

Photography Credits

Dave Buttle (page 26–27)

Paul Cochrane (all other images)

Disclaimer

This brochure was published in January 2024 and every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided is accurate at the time of publication. Please note that timings are subject to change. Please check our website for the most up to date information

gsmd.ac.uk/short-courses



Guildhall School is provided
by the City of London as part
of its contribution to the cultural life
of London and the nation.