

The Music Therapy Charity

MA Bursaries for Music Therapy trainees

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Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy Masters Course: Music, Health and Society

Receiving the bursary has been truly helpful and a great support.

The bursary has allowed me to feel less financial pressure, which helped me focus more on the coursework. Thanks to the bursary, I could reduce the amount of hours I worked outside of the course, which enabled me to put more time and energy into reading a wide range of Nordoff Robbins music therapy literature and practicing creative music therapy and improvisation skills. Furthermore, it helped greatly towards sustaining the costs of my personal psychotherapy. This allowed me to have regular therapy sessions which have been a fantastic support throughout this first year of the course.

The bursary also helped me with the travel costs during my first placement, which took place once a week in a SEN school, and my second placement, which is taking place in a mental health unit for children and adolescents. Both placements have been incredibly rich and stimulating experiences through which I have been able to dive deep in the Nordoff Robbins tradition of music therapy and gain a lot of practical experience by working with a diverse range of people.

By attending placement and by reflecting, workshopping and learning during supervision, I have observed I am undergoing a steep learning curve since the start of the course. The personally and professionally challenging nature of the course has catalyzed many changes in the way I approach the service users I am working with, in the way I observe, think and reflect about power dynamics and my own work, and in the way I make music with people. The financial support given by the bursary has allowed me to have more time to allocate to these personal and professional transformations.

I really look forward to the second and final year of the masters course and to keep developing, growing and challenging myself and my music-therapeutic skills. I am really excited to become a Nordoff Robbins music therapist and I hope to then be able to become part of the Nordoff Robbins organization.

Overall, this bursary really helped me dedicate more energy, time and effort into the course and really contributed to my ability to fully commit to the course.