## Music Therapy Charity MA Bursary

In my second academic year as a Trainee Music Therapist, the Music Therapy Charity MA Bursary has helped me hugely to achieve my academic goals and ultimately to qualify as a Music Therapist.

The bursary has supported me travelling each week from London, making it possible for me to complete the course and live at home with my fiancé in South West London where I worked part time as a nanny and piano teacher, as well as at Christmas at Kew. All these part time work opportunities also helped me to live in London independently and complete the MA.

I embarked on an extremely rewarding, yet challenging placement in a field I had not had experience in before in second year. This was at an adult NHS mental health trust, in which I ran an open music therapy group on a psychiatric ward and led individual sessions too. Placement was an extremely valuable part of the course for me as it helped me to gain experience, develop my individual approach as a Music Therapy clinician within a professional setting (and multi-disciplinary team) and build my confidence as a therapist. It was particularly useful and enriching to have such contrasting placements over the two years of the course.

In addition to this, I have particularly enjoyed and gained a lot of useful insights from learning about cross-cultural music therapy and learning about music from other cultures in workshops with fellow students. This, combined with experiential group, lectures/seminars and tutor support provided me with an enriching and unforgettable experience on my masters course.

Thank you for your support! It means so much to me.