

**EMERGING TEACHING ARTIST – INSTRUMENTAL
(UPPER STRINGS OR LOWER STRINGS)
(PART TIME & TEMPORARY UNTIL 30th JUNE 2028)
BIG NOISE WESTER HAILES**

BASED: Wester Hailes (Edinburgh)

APPLY BY: Friday 19th June 2026 at 10am

SISTEMA SCOTLAND INFORMATION

Sistema Scotland delivers its work through the delivery of Big Noise programmes across six communities in Scotland. These communities are Wester Hailes in Edinburgh, Torry in Aberdeen, Raploch & Fallin in Stirling, Govanhill in Glasgow and Douglas in Dundee.

Our current strategy:

This year, we are launching a refreshed strategy that will guide our work through to 2030. Our focus is on deepening our impact while reaching as many children and young people as we can through Big Noise. We are committed to listening to the voices of children, young people and communities, ensuring they shape how we move forward.

Our values underpin how we work – with children and young people and their families, and with each other. Our values are:

- Ambitious: we build on our strengths and aim high
- Creative: we bring innovation and possibility to everything we do
- Compassionate: we work with kindness to build supportive environments where everyone feels valued
- Committed: we work with children and young people over the long-term and in a flexible way

What we do:

Our Big Noise programmes use music and nurturing relationships to support children and young people to realise their potential as well as improving lives and strengthening the communities we work alongside. Our programme is focused on early intervention and stimulating generational social change, increasing confidence, aspiration, community cohesion, pride and developing high level skills in the young people involved.

Who we work with:

We work with children and young people from babies to school-leavers, their families and the wider community.

How we do this:

Our Big Noise programmes include instrumental lessons, general musicianship sessions, and group teaching in our afterschool & holiday clubs, as well as home visits and community choirs/ensembles/performances.

For more information, please see our website:

<http://www.makeabignoise.org.uk/work-with-us>

THE TEAM

We currently employ approximately 195 staff across our six centres and Sistema Scotland's central team. Each Big Noise Centre team consists of the following posts: Head of Centre, Operations Manager, Administrator(s), a team of Senior Musicians, Musicians and Support Workers, and a team of volunteers and cover musicians (freelance). Musicians work as part of a team, have scheduled time for planning lessons and access to our curriculum of materials.

JOB INFORMATION

- POST:** Emerging Teaching Artist – Instrumental
- Your principal instrument will be Upper Strings or Lower Strings.
- REPORTS TO:** Senior Musician
- DAYS OF WORK:** 2 days a week (14 hours) between Tuesday and Friday (days to be agreed) term time only (40 weeks of the year)
- BASED:** Wester Hailes (Edinburgh)
- TENURE:** Temporary until 30th June 2028
- SALARY:** £29,613 pa pro rata in year one (£16.27 per hour)
£30,949 pa pro rata in year two (£17.00 per hour)
Pay award from 1st July 2026 pending
- SUPPORT & SUPERVISION:** You will have a 3-month probationary and initial induction period where you will be supported to evidence a range of assessment criteria and outcomes. All staff also have regular protected time with their line manager (Support and Supervision) as well as the opportunity for an annual review to discuss performance, development and to set out annual goals (Performance and Development Review). These structures are in place to ensure that staff feel supported, equipped and confident in their roles. Support Musicians will have Support and Supervision sessions every 3 to 4 weeks during their probationary and initial induction period and once a term thereafter.
- LEAVE:** We offer the equivalent of 37 days paid holiday per year (pro rata for part time staff). For term time only contracts, your leave is set during school holidays.
- We also offer the equivalent of up to 2 weeks unpaid leave per year (pro rata for part time staff) to allow staff to benefit from other work and commitments throughout the year should they choose to do so.
- PENSION:** After you have completed 3 months service with Sistema Scotland, staff are auto enrolled into a contributory pension scheme where Sistema Scotland match employee's contributions at 5%. Staff can choose to opt out of the scheme.
- RIGHT TO WORK:** We welcome applications from all nationalities; however, we are unable to offer visa sponsorship for this role, so before you apply for this post, please ensure that you have the right to work in the UK. For more details on eligibility to work in the UK, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>. We will ask you to bring proof of your eligibility to work in the UK with you to interview.
- START DATE:** Ideally week beginning 10th August 2026



HOW TO APPLY:

To apply for this role you must complete our online application form at <http://www.makeabignoise.org.uk/work-with-us/> where you will also find the full job and person specification (no CVs please). As well as detailing your qualifications and work experience, you will also have the opportunity to explain why you are interested in working for Sistema Scotland at Big Noise Wester Hailes and how you meet our requirements as detailed in the job/person specification. On the application form we will also ask you to give us the names and contact details for two referees, one of these should be your current or most recent employer (please state if you would prefer us not to contact your current employer until you are provisionally offered the role).

Closing date for applications is Monday 19th June 2026 at 10am.

The selection process will take place in Wester Hailes in Edinburgh week beginning 6th July 2026 and will involve a panel interview, a short audition and a short demonstration lesson with a group of young people.

We believe our people should represent the communities we work with. That's why we are committed to being an inclusive employer and a great place to work. We recognise and celebrate the fact that our people come from diverse backgrounds. We positively welcome applications from people from ethnic minority backgrounds, people with disabilities or longstanding health conditions, people who are LGBTQ+, and people from different socio-economic and educational backgrounds, as well as people of all ages.

The successful applicant will be subject to PVG check although having a criminal record will not necessarily be a bar to working with Sistema Scotland.

If you would like an informal chat, please contact Kirsty Oates (Operations Manager) on 0131 287 0531. For any additional information please e-mail recruitment@sistemascotland.org.uk or telephone 01786 236914.

**EMERGING TEACHING ARTIST – INSTRUMENTAL
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JOB DESCRIPTION**

1. ROLE OVERVIEW

A graduate/early career role, designed to build experience and teaching skills whilst supporting the Big Noise team to deliver the Big Noise programme in the Wester Hailes community of Edinburgh.

2. PRINCIPAL DUTIES

The following gives an indication of the duties and responsibilities that the post may involve. The exact nature of these duties and responsibilities will change over time and the post holder will be expected to work flexibly and carry out any work that is reasonably required.

- Supporting & delivering Big Noise sessions and instrumental lessons, as directed by your line manager.
- Supporting learning, such as setting up instruments, modelling, listening and focus skills, and helping children & young people to follow music.
- Supporting, shadowing and mentoring from experienced members of the team.
- Participating in all elements of our after-school (and in school) programme, including set up, classroom pick-up, supervision of snack and packing up.
- Supporting lessons by modelling on instruments or with voices, and assisting the children and young people e.g. helping them to adjust their posture or hand shape
- Assisting in the supervision of the children and young people at the start and end of group sessions.
- From time to time, participating in additional outings and concerts.
- Attending training related to Big Noise delivery, followed by evidencing how you implement learning from this training.
- Completing a reflective journal based on observations of others, as well as reflections on your own delivery.

3. All Posts in Sistema Scotland:

- To contribute to the development of a professional working and learning environment in the organisation.
- To contribute to the organisation's understanding of diversity and its implications for the arts, education and community and to ensure this understanding informs all the organisation's activities.
- To ensure adherence to the organisation's policies and procedures with particular reference to safeguarding/child protection, equality, diversity and health & safety.
- Supporting the organisation in its journey to becoming a net zero organisation.
- To work in a flexible manner in line with the organisation's social and corporate objectives and to be willing to undertake other duties as reasonably requested.



**EMERGING TEACHING ARTIST – INSTRUMENTAL
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PERSON SPECIFICATION**

We are looking for someone who is/has:

- Ability to demonstrate how you will benefit from this graduate/early career role
- Ability to demonstrate knowledge of the Big Noise programme
- A belief in the benefits that a social programme such as Big Noise / Sistema Scotland can have
- Music degree
- Professional standard of playing (at least grade 8 or equivalent) on your principal instrument (Upper Strings or Lower Strings)
- A passion working in a community setting with music
- Confidence in using the singing voice
- Ability to communicate effectively with children, young people & adults
- An interest in different approaches to music education.
- An interest in developing skills in working with early years (pre-school and primary stages)

You also will gain/receive/develop the following skills and experience:

- General musicianship workshop skills.
- Experience of working with large and varied groups of children.
- Understanding of a progressive music education curriculum.
- Training opportunities on topics such as positive behaviour, lesson planning, and the Big Noise curriculum.
- Experience leading partial and full sessions, and instrumental or general musicianship lessons, with opportunities for constructive feedback.