

**MUSIC GENERATION** IS IRELAND'S NATIONAL MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT HELPS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESS A RANGE OF HIGH QUALITY VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL TUITION IN THEIR LOCAL AREA. TO DATE, THE PROGRAM HAS REACHED OVER **20,000** CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS **12** AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. JOB OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN CREATED FOR **250** MUSICIANS. OVER **60** DIVERSE AND EXCITING MUSIC PROGRAMS ARE BEING DELIVERED IN **300** DIFFERENT TUITION CENTRES AROUND THE COUNTRY.

INITIATED BY MUSIC NETWORK, MUSIC GENERATION HAS BEEN SEED FUNDED BY A €7M PHILANTHROPIC DONATION BY U2 (€5M) AND THE IRELAND FUNDS (€2M) FROM 2010-2015. BUILDING UPON THE PRINCIPLES OF PHILANTHROPY WHICH SEEK TO ACHIEVE LONG TERM SUSTAINABLE OUTCOMES, MUSIC GENERATION HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH LOCAL MUSIC EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS AND GOVERNMENT SINCE ITS INITIATION. IN JULY 2014, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS JOINED WITH THE LOCAL MUSIC EDUCATION PARTNERS TO CO-FUND THE PROGRAM. MUSIC GENERATION IS AN EXTRAORDINARY EXAMPLE OF A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE IRISH GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL FUNDING PARTNERS, WHICH IS BRINGING ABOUT MOMENTOUS CHANGE IN MUSIC EDUCATION IN IRELAND.



Ireland's National Music Education Programme  
A Music Network initiative, co-funded by U2, The Ireland Funds,  
The Department of Education and Skills  
and Local Music Education Partnerships

MUSIC EDUCATION FOR  
CHILDREN ACROSS IRELAND



## 2014 HAS BEEN AN AMAZING YEAR FOR MUSIC GENERATION

Music Generation recently hosted over 200 delegates in Dublin for a special Music Education Conference and a packed Gala Concert, with over 400 young people performing in the presence of President Michael D. Higgins at the National Concert Hall.

Music Generation is going from strength to strength, with two new additions to the local partnerships in Clare and South County Dublin. Here is a selection of some of the latest initiatives and highlights from the local Music Education Partnerships:

**MUSIC GENERATION LOUTH** has launched the publication *Songlines*, a new collection of ten children's songs celebrating the growing cultural diversity of the county, while the 'Pipe Up' roadshow, a county-wide initiative of MG Louth in association with Na Píobairí Uilleann, has been established to promote uilleann pipe teaching.

**MUSIC GENERATION MAYO'S** partner Mayo County Library, won the prestigious Best Library Service 2014 Award for the Music Instrument Lending Scheme. 20 awards were granted to young musicians under the Exceptional Music Student Bursary Scheme.

**MUSIC GENERATION SLIGO** presented two cosmic performances of *Big Bang* to packed houses at the Hawk's Well Theatre, Sligo and as part of the Gala Concert at the National Concert Hall in October.

Composed by Brian Irvine and five young Sligo composers, the concerts featured over 200 young musicians and singers in a wonderful ensemble performance.

**MUSIC GENERATION CORK CITY** operates 14 programs across 32 citywide urban centers, offering a variety of workshops and performances to over 1,400 participants. A 2014 highlight was the performance by the Barrack St. Youth Band of a Presidential Salute for the entrance of President Michael D. Higgins at the Gala Concert in the National Concert Hall Dublin.

**MUSIC GENERATION LAOIS'** Uilleann Pipers, Stampede Drummers and School of Rock and Pop impressed visitors at the packed National Ploughing Championships in September. Music Generation Laois' innovative music tuition program for children and young people with special needs has proven to be hugely successful with programs operating in schools across the county.

**MUSIC GENERATION WICKLOW'S** extraordinary Choral Music Program joined forces with the RTÉ Symphony Orchestra to perform *Blue Bottle*, a specially commissioned piece by Brian Irvine, featuring over 500 young singers, animation and spoken word, to a packed Bord Gáis Energy Theatre in November. 20 young Wicklow Music Generation participants also performed Neil Martin's *Vanished Lands* in the National Concert Hall in October as part of the National Conference.





**MUSIC GENERATION CARLOW** has just launched its first county-wide Instrument Bank. With the assistance of three local libraries (Carlow, Borris and Tullow), children and young people can borrow a musical instrument. The instruments on offer include cello, double bass, trombone, trumpet, violin, viola, concert flute, saxophone, clarinet, ukulele, guitar, bodhrán, concertina and accordion.

**MUSIC GENERATION LIMERICK CITY** has had a particularly busy year with a special program to mark Limerick's designation as Ireland's first National City of Culture. The Mus Gen Express Bus, a mobile performance space, recording studio and outside festival stage, has generated huge attention and provided an opportunity for thousands of young people to perform and record their own music. Limerick Voices, a special Music Generation and Arts Council Partnership Programme featuring young songwriters working with established artists including Delorentos and Noel Hogan (guitarist and songwriter of The Cranberries), culminated in a special live event at the Limerick School of Art and Design.

Over 2,000 children and young people are currently participating in **MUSIC GENERATION OFFALY/WESTMEATH'S** programs and initiatives across the midlands. One of this year's highlights were performances by participants at the sold out Electric Picnic music festival in Stradbally.

**MUSIC GENERATION CLARE** was officially launched in November last year, with a special concert of young musicians performing alongside Music Generation Clare's patron, Maura O'Connell. Over 700 children are already participating in the Escalation singing program with a series of concerts and performances scheduled over the coming months.

One of the more recent Partnerships, **MUSIC GENERATION SOUTH DUBLIN** already has over 500 children and young people participating through a program of band/ensemble, choral development and music technology workshops. Music Generation South Dublin also launched its Instrument Purchase Scheme to enable young ensembles, school bands, youth groups/clubs and youth bands to purchase a wide range of musical instruments.

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**MUSIC GENERATION**  
BY FOLLOWING US ON TWITTER (@MUS\_GEN)  
OR FACEBOOK. [WWW.MUSICGENERATION.IE](http://WWW.MUSICGENERATION.IE)



CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN IRELAND FUND JOHN FITZPATRICK AND PRESIDENT & CEO OF THE WORLDWIDE IRELAND FUNDS KIERAN MCLOUGHLIN, ATTENDED THE MUSIC GENERATION GALA CONCERT IN DUBLIN AT WHICH OVER 400 YOUNG PARTICIPANTS PERFORMED.

