

WHAT IS MUSIC GENERATION? MUSIC GENERATION IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO ENSURE THAT THE NEXT GENERATION IS A MUSICAL GENERATION. IRELAND'S NATIONAL MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME, INITIATED BY MUSIC NETWORK AND FUNDED BY U2 AND THE IRELAND FUNDS TOGETHER WITH LOCAL MUSIC EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IS HELPING OVER 15,000 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESS PERFORMANCE MUSIC EDUCATION IN THEIR OWN LOCALITY. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN CREATED FOR OVER 120 PEOPLE.

U2 HAS DONATED €5 MILLION AND THE IRELAND FUNDS HAVE RAISED ANOTHER €2 MILLION IN SUPPORT OF MUSIC GENERATION. IRELAND'S DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS HAS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING MUSIC EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS IN FUTURE YEARS ONCE THE FIVE-YEAR PHILANTHROPIC COMMITMENT OF U2 AND THE IRELAND FUNDS COMES TO ITS CONCLUSION. THIS COMMITMENT IS A TERRIFIC EXAMPLE OF THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY DELIVERING A PROGRAM FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD.



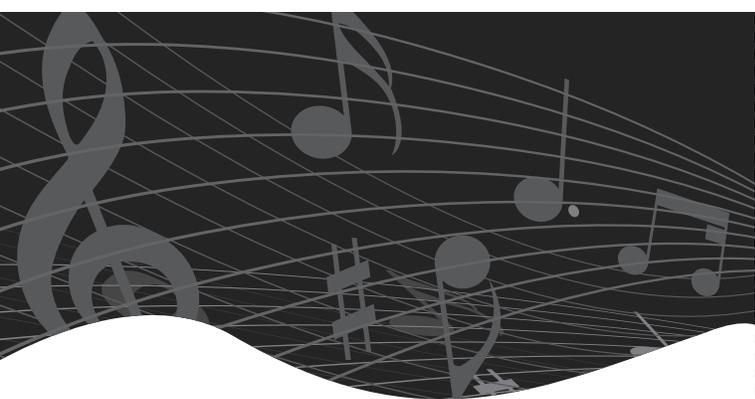
Ireland's National Music Education Programme
A Music Network initiative, funded by U2 & The Ireland Funds

MUSIC EDUCATION FOR
CHILDREN ACROSS IRELAND

U2's The Edge and Bono with Music Generation students.







Carlow Barely a year in operation and already delivering music tuition to 2,850 children and young people through a range of new tuition programmes for pre-schoolers through to second-level students. A traditional Irish music programme and Rock School have also been launched. A recent highlight was the performance by Music Generation Young Ambassadors Carlow choir Aspiro at the 2013 Amnesty International Ambassador of Conscience Award in the Mansion House, Dublin, meeting U2's Bono and The Edge at the event, which honoured Malala Yousafzai and Harry Belafonte—the recipients of this year's prestigious award.

Cork City A variety of vocal and instrumental programmes have been developed through local providers including weekly classes and ensembles delivered by Cork Academy of Music and Barrack Street Band. Cork's rappers continue to enthrall with a performance at the Society of Music Education in Ireland conference while the 10-year old rappers from Scoil Íosagáin performed the Santa Anthem on the legendary The Late Late Toy Show on RTÉ TV before Christmas.

Laois Over 700 children a week are benefiting from a variety of tuition in Co. Laois in choral, harp, uilleann pipe (in partnership with Na Píobairí Uilleann), brass, the inclusive Music Box programme for children with special needs and the recently launched School of Rock & Pop. A spectacular showcase before Christmas featuring almost 100 children and young people gave a snapshot of all the exciting activity happening.

Limerick City School children in Limerick City have been treated to performances by the Music Generation Limerick City Band including a whistle stop tour of the history of 120 years of music in 12 minutes! Nurturing the next generation of young musicians a new choir for children aged 5-10 has been established. With Limerick designated as Ireland's first City of Culture in 2014 a busy year of performance opportunities lies ahead for the city's young musicians.

Louth Building on the success of the Let's Sing choral programme in primary schools, two new children's county choirs for 7-12 year olds have been established in Drogheda and Dundalk, providing many performance opportunities. Classes continue in five tuition centres across the county while the junior string orchestra and traditional and brass ensembles continue to flourish.





Mayo An exciting new musician-in-residence programme is being rolled out in Mayo in 2014. The Kaleidoscope Big Band programme will enable participants aged 12-18 to learn about composition, improvisation and performance and have the opportunity to work together closely with a professional ensemble to hear their own music come to life.

Offaly/Westmeath An early years' programme for primary schools has been kick-started in Offaly/Westmeath following a comprehensive training programme for its musician tutors. Young children are getting the opportunity to develop their musical skills in a fun way and are enjoying their first musical performances.

Sligo Over 200 young people from Sligo performed in the premiere of Big Bang by composer-in-residence Brian Irvine and 5 young Sligo composers—an amazing opportunity for the young musicians who experienced their compositions being performed to a delighted and appreciative capacity audience.

Wicklow Another world premiere, this time by Wicklow, celebrating the acknowledged relationship between Music and Maths: Rhythm + Algorithm written collaboratively by composer Andrew Synnott and 40 young people from Scoil Chonglais, Baltinglass, was performed by the young people at a Maths conference in NUI, Maynooth.

South Dublin and Clare are the most recent areas of the country to have joined Music Generation. Among the exciting programmes to be developed over the next three years are music technology programmes, county choirs and orchestras, instrument banks and lots more.

Music Generation 'Big Sing'—an inaugural national performance event is planned for spring of 2014 which will bring together 500 children and young people from all Local Music Education Partnerships under the direction of internationally renowned choral leader Dr. Doreen Rao.

As Music Generation Round 1 Music Education Partnerships transition to Department of Education and Skills Funding in July 2014, a showcase of the wonderful work from Louth, Mayo and Sligo is being planned for 2014 featuring Louth's Junior String Orchestra, Mayo's traditional ensemble Gealóga and another performance of Sligo's Big Bang—all made possible through Music Generation.

For more information visit www.musicgeneration.ie

