



## Information for Applicants

### About Samyo

Samyo is the UK's National Youth Orchestra for Indian Music. Formed in 2002, the orchestra has consistently pushed the boundaries of Indian music, experimenting with both instrumental combinations and genre fusions. The resulting sound is classical, contemporary, beautiful and unique.

Creating and facilitating opportunities for talented young musicians to realise their potential is at the heart of Samyo's mission. This is done through a combination of specialised intensive training and performance opportunities which offer motivation and inspiration.

The orchestra is one of eight National Youth Music Organisations funded by Arts Council England.

### Samyo Membership

Membership of Samyo gives you a host of other benefits, including the opportunity to attend other concerts of interest, limited complementary tickets for your family to attend Samyo performances and a place on the Summer Retreat.

As a member of Samyo you'll also benefit from being a member of a National Youth Music Organisation! This can help you to gain certain UCAS points.

### How does the Samyo programme work?

The orchestra meets regularly on the **last Sunday of each month** throughout the year for training, rehearsals and performances with extra rehearsals leading up to the showcase concerts in the North West in autumn, and London in spring.. Each summer this programme is enriched by a week long summer school, **Music India**, where the conductors of Samyo are joined by guest tutors from around the world who add unique skills and expertise to the programme. You receive individual and orchestra training, and the opportunity to witness live performances by your tutors.

### Why should you join Samyo?

**Apart from the clear musical benefits it brings our members, Samyo provides opportunities to improve life skills, education and future career development too.**

- Inspirational training sessions focusing on individual skills, accompaniment, ensemble playing and improvisation.
- Learn about Hindustani, Carnatic, Percussion and World music styles through our concerts, collaborations and training.
- Work with top musical directors and composers of international repute.

### Major Benefits:

- Training from world-class teachers
- Performance opportunities at mainstream venues like Queen Elizabeth Hall
- Opportunity to apply for Milapfest Fellowship Awards for Music
- The chance to become an Orchestra Leader, with training and opportunities for composition, solos and targeted training.

**How have our members benefited from Samyo?**

Samyo members and parents have told us that they have benefited by gaining some important life skills and experiences through Samyo membership, including:

- Improved confidence and social skills, through interaction with other young musicians from diverse backgrounds
- Opportunity to develop performance skills, through several mini performances, and the high profile showcases each year
- Leadership skills, when working in small groups, or as one of the official Orchestra Leaders
- Public speaking opportunities, team building skills and the chance to learn about other musical cultures
- Learning about different instruments, styles and genres in Indian music including improvisation and rhythm

Samyo members have gone on to be successful members of Tarang, the National Ensemble for Indian Music, graduates from top universities, professional musicians, or successful in many other careers that have been influenced directly from their experience in Samyo.

**Your commitment to us**

- 12 month commitment for all training sessions, rehearsals, reunions and concerts.
- Attendance at the Music India Summer School; a week long residential musical course.
- Attendance at all workshops and rehearsal sessions.
- Annual membership review

**Who should apply?**

- Musicians between the ages of 10 and 18
- UK residents
- Musicians trained in the Carnatic or Hindustani musical traditions

If you are a Carnatic musician, you normally should have achieved, or be close to achieving your Arangetram. Hindustani musicians should roughly be at the equivalent of Grade 5 in Sangeet examinations. These are guidelines only, however, and musicians developing an equivalent level of experience through performances or other achievements will also be eligible.

**How do you apply?**

Application to join Samyo is simple & straightforward. All you have to do is complete the application form and return it with an example of your music by the deadline. Please provide as much information as you can, and feel free to attach additional information if you wish. Don't forget to get the form signed by your parent/guardian and your teacher too.

**The application process**

Step 1 - Fill in an application form, and return it no later than the specified dates for the audition

Step 2 - Find out if you have been invited to audition.

Step 3 - Sign up for Music India Summer School, from July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014

### Application guidance notes

- Your application form determines whether you are invited to auditions. Samyo membership is awarded by audition.
- You will be assessed on **potential** and **not just on current achievements**.
- Applications should be supported by your music teacher or tutor, so we require their signature too.

### With your application, please also enclose the following:

- Please send us an audio sample of your music between 6 and 8 minutes in length.
- Send your completed applications to: Chethana Siddappa, Milapfest, Liverpool Hope University Creative Campus, 17 Shaw Street, Liverpool L6 1HP, Tel: 0151291 3649 Or e-mail us in case of any queries at [chethana@milapfest.com](mailto:chethana@milapfest.com)

### Samyo Fee

An annual one-off membership fee of £500 covers administration costs of 1 year's rehearsals, reunions, workshop and a week-long residential training from renowned musicians, which also cover travel from and to your residential address.

However, it is always less than one third of the actual cost to Samyo of providing you with the exciting musical opportunities outlined above plus

1. Year round training from accomplished musicians
2. Seven day residential training which includes
  - Seven days of intensive tutoring, workshops and visits from a range of professional musicians
  - Covers to and from travel to Liverpool to your residential address
  - 7 nights' accommodation
  - Meals and refreshments
  - Pastoral support from a dedicated team
  - Indika festival performance pass

Fees can be paid in instalments that can be spread through the year on mutually agreed dates.

Please don't let the cost of membership deter you from applying: if you are chosen to join Samyo, you will be sent details of our Financial Support Scheme which can cover your costs in full if necessary.

### Bursaries

It is Samyo's aim that no-one should be deterred from applying to join because of financial hardship; musical ability alone dictates entrance to the ensemble. A limited number of members' bursaries are available, awarded by merit and means-tested; if you are in need of financial assistance and would be unable to accept a place on the orchestra otherwise, please request for a bursary application form and why you require assistance after you have been selected to the orchestra.



### Samyo Music

Presenting specially commissioned and arranged pieces of music, by world renowned tutors like Bombay Jayashri, Shashank Subramanyam, Ajay Chakraborty, Ranajit Sengupta and Rajeeb Chakraborty to name a few. Samyo's unique blend of traditional and contemporary melodies captivated audiences on its debut tour in 2002. Richly layered and melodious, Samyo's repertoire covers traditional North and South Indian music styles, but also exciting pieces influenced by World music. Under accomplished and inspiring leadership by internationally renowned Gaurav Mazumdar (disciple of Pt Ravi Shankar ji), resident and visiting tutors, and through specialist compositions and training, Samyo is fast gaining a reputation as an innovative and imaginative artistic creation, and the perfect environment to develop your talent.

### The story so far...

Samyo was created in 2002 with partnership programme with the National Foundation for Youth Music. Founded and managed by national charity Milapfest, Samyo made waves across the country in 2002, and with invitations coming in from venues all over the country (such as The Bridgewater Hall and The Lowry) it is now one of only eight orchestras to benefit from the National Youth Music Organisations' fund administered by Arts Council England.

2012/13 was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for Samyo, and over the last 12 months, the orchestra has presented some iconic performances and activities to celebrate, including:

- April 2012 Performance at the Royal Albert Hall as a part of the 'Worldsong! An Olympic Gala' with The National Youth Choirs of Great Britain - with over 700 participants!
- April 2012 Performance at the Southbank Centre's prestigious Alchemy Festival
- Individual SAMYO member performances at Milapfest's Liverpool concert series.
- ANAND UTSAV performance in London in August 2012, for the Mehta Group, Juhi Chawla and the Gurukul School, Gujarat.
- Participation in the Music for Youth Festival, Birmingham
- A new Documentary Film – "A SAMYO STORY"
- A new CD title: "TEN" by Samyo.

**Samyo was created to provide an opportunity to the many talented musicians in our country to showcase their talents nationally. Samyo provides a platform for young musicians to perform to wide ranging audiences, gaining the exposure that can take them to new levels of achievement. As an orchestra, Samyo is fast becoming a spectacular musical phenomenon.**

### What they say about Samyo:

#### Members:

"The aspect of the summer school that I mostly liked was the quality of tuitions with the world renowned guru Bombay Jayashree ji, also enjoyed the Music India festival performances in the evenings".

"Rehearsals with Ranajit ji were great, he is full of energy and his compositions are very interesting. I also enjoyed the concerts everyday in the evenings, especially the one by Anil Srinivasan".



"Being part of Samyo has made me more confident as a musician, compared to how I felt about myself when I initially started off".

"Working with NYBBGB and NYJC was challenging and also exciting as this was the first time I was doing something so unique! Particularly working with NYJC was wonderful".

**Conductor:**

"The highlight of Music India 2011 for me was the fact that we all were living in the same campus and were part of the same routine, thought and activities for a whole week, something so rare and unique!!!"

**Guest tutor:**

"Teaching the students my compositions and to hear them practice and perform it was the highlight of the week for me. I enjoyed working with the Milap Team and all Samyo and Tarang members. It was great but very short at the end for me as musically I could not share all what I wanted to. I hoped to work more with the Tarang members as well as the Jazz Collective as I have done so much in that field in Europe for many years. Would love to come back soon to share my music with the audience and the students".

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**Send your completed applications to:**

Chethana Siddappa, Administrative and Events Officer, Milapfest, Liverpool Hope University Creative Campus, 17 Shaw Street, Liverpool L6 1HP, Tel: 0151291 3649

Or e-mail us in case of any queries at [chethana@milapfest.com](mailto:chethana@milapfest.com)

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