



# Stage Assistant (Freelance)

## Information Pack

### Play your part at the National Youth Orchestra

The National Youth Orchestra is the UK's leading organisation championing orchestral music as a powerful agent for teenage development. We give teenage musicians the greatest adventure they can have in orchestral music, helping them unlock their full potential.

We are an inclusive organisation that connects with 10,000+ teenagers each year, as well as many younger children. Our programmes offer young musicians an unparalleled opportunity to excel, pushing the boundaries of what they believe is possible, while inspiring others to do the same.

At the heart of our work is **NYO**, an internationally celebrated orchestra that brings together 160 of the UK's most talented teenage musicians, representing every region and diverse backgrounds. As active role models these musicians know the challenges their peers face, and their influence is a powerful force for change because it speaks directly to the shared experiences of adolescence, offering not just guidance but the belief that others like them can succeed.

Through **NYO Inspire**, we connect our musicians with state school musicians, mentoring them to raise their ambitions and improve their musicianship. NYO Inspire is free, for more than 800 young people from state schools in all corners of the UK, providing rare and much needed opportunities to make music a bigger part of their lives and learn from the best teenage musicians who share their experiences, struggles, and triumphs. NYO Inspire musicians build not just musical skills but also friendships, independence, and a sense of agency.

**NYO Open** takes the powerful buzz of orchestral music directly to the heart of young people's communities. By performing in youth centres, schools and non-traditional venues, NYO musicians bring orchestral music to youth audiences where it's often absent or out of reach. These performances aren't just concerts; they are immersive experiences designed to spark curiosity. NYO musicians interact with their audience, lead workshops, share their experiences, and make orchestral music feel relevant and accessible to everyone.

## Stage Assistant

We are looking to grow our pool of freelancers for various planning and delivery roles for our residencies, concert tours and projects.

The Stage Assistant works closely with the NYO Programmes team to support the delivery of NYO and NYO Inspire projects throughout the year. This includes both residential settings and concert tours, with projects typically lasting between 7 and 14 days.

We are currently seeking Stage Assistants who are available to support activity in August 2025.

### Key Responsibilities:

- Work with the Programmes team and venue staff to load and unload instruments from the NYO truck during residencies and concert tours
- Assist the stage team in setting up instruments and equipment for rehearsals and concerts, following stage plans and logistical requirements
- Help prepare rehearsal and performance spaces, including handling equipment such as chairs, music stands, conductor's podium, lighting, and electrical items
- Contribute to risk assessment planning, ensuring all setups are safe and compliant with Health and Safety protocols
- Support musicians with the handling and movement of large instruments, including double basses, harps, and percussion
- Respond to musician requests for assistance with equipment during rehearsals and performances

## How to apply

If you're passionate about the arts, enjoy working with young people, and are looking for flexible work throughout the year, we'd love to hear from you.

Please send your CV and a cover letter outlining your relevant experience to [recruitment@nyo.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@nyo.org.uk). In your letter please indicate which role(s) you're interested in.

We are happy to receive CVs until **Friday 30 May 2025**, but will begin meeting potential candidates from **Monday 21 April** onwards. If you would like to be considered for summer 2025 roles, we would encourage you to get in touch by that date.

The roles are offered on a freelance, self-employed basis, with daily rates agreed according to experience and the nature of the project. As a guide, the typical fee is £140 per day, with all expenses covered.

All roles involve working closely with teenagers, so successful applicants will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check, if not already in place.

If you have any questions about the roles, please write to [recruitment@nyo.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@nyo.org.uk).