

HippFest Young Programmers

Recruitment Pack

About HippFest:

HippFest (the Hippodrome Silent Film Festival) (est'd 2011) is Scotland's first and only festival of silent film with live music, centred in and inspired by Scotland's first and oldest cinema, featuring exceptional screenings, commissions, workshops, community events and touring.

We are a project of Falkirk Council and deliver on its priorities of:

- Supporting stronger and healthier communities
- Promoting opportunities and educational attainment and reducing inequalities
- Supporting a thriving economy and green transition

HippFest celebrates silent film – films made without synchronised sound, roughly from the first four decades of film production. This focus marries the heritage of the Hippodrome as Scotland's first, purpose-built cinema with that of the medium itself. Broadly we seek to produce an imaginative, balanced programme that is revelatory by virtue of being inventive, participatory, relevant, unfamiliar, newly restored, educational or presented with fresh musical interpretation. This approach is informed by our values to be inclusive, exceptional, collaborative and sustainable.

What Young Programmers Will Gain:

Young Programmers will collaborate with the Festival team to curate screenings with live music as part of our Autumn 'Taste of Silents' season, and oversee wraparound events such as Q&As, exhibitions, socials and workshops. There will be scope to contribute to the HippCast podcast, blogs and other HippFest at Home content and to have your opinions heard in the overall planning of the Festival, where you will gain hands-on experience of designing and delivering social events. HippFest is excited to learn from young perspectives and voices. Each Young Programmer will also be offered a complimentary pass to HippFest 2027 and a professional development bursary.

This opportunity is open to **16-25 year-olds**. It not only offers direct access to one of Scotland's best-loved film festivals, but also provides:

- **Mentoring and Training:** Receive mentoring and training sessions from the HippFest team and collaborators.
- **Introduction to Cinema Programming:** Engage in programming for film festival events with wraparound experiences and live music performances. Contribute to programming a multi-arts experience.
- **New and Transferable Skills:** Develop skills in audience-targeted film programming, researching film rights, marketing, PR, audience development, and event management.
- **Collaboration with Peers:** Collaborate with like-minded young people, and access a network of other people working in independent cinema programming.

Commitment:

Each monthly meeting will be around 2 hours long and will take place in a hybrid of Teams meetings and in-person meet-ups in Bo'ness. The ability to travel to Bo'ness is essential, but there will be travel reimbursements to cover the costs of your journeys on public transport or car/car sharing. In February, May, June and October, there may be an additional meeting, screening or event to attend. The monthly meetings will be scheduled at a time that suits the group.

Our first gathering will take place at the Hippodrome, with free tickets offered to the Young Programmers to attend our 'Queen Kelly' screening (26.09.26) as part of the 'Taste of Silents 2026' programme curated by the current Young Programmers cohort.

How to Apply:

Please fill out an application form, which you can [download here](#), or send a short video answering the same questions to HippFest Young Programmer Co-ordinator Helen Jockel at helenjock7@gmail.com with the email subject 'Young Programmers Application'.

Applications close on September 1st (01.09.26)