

# PRESS RELEASE

12/03/2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## DON'T MISS OUT!

### LIMITED SPACES AT FREE FOLK EVENT FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS IN KENT

The [English Folk Dance and Song Society](#), in partnership with [Kent Music](#) and [Tenterden Folk Festival](#), are proud to present one of only eight free sampler days throughout England this year, to take place in Ashford on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

The creative, challenging workshop is designed to give young musicians a chance to find out more about English folk music, and specifically the [National Youth Folk Ensemble](#). The ensemble celebrates excellence in youth folk music, bringing together talented young folk musicians from across England to create and perform inspiring new arrangements of folk music and work with leading folk artists.

Despite having a rich history of folk traditions in the county, young people in Kent have limited access to engage and experiment with the traditional music which has been so much a part of the fabric of our land. Led by master musicians in a relaxed and supportive environment, we're so excited to be a part of opening the doors of opportunity for confident and curious young players, some for the very first time.

All keen young musicians from across Kent aged 12 – 18 who are eager to explore new arrangements and styles of music are invited to take part in the creative and challenging workshop this May.

No previous experience with folk music is necessary and, unlike a classical orchestra, there are no restrictions on the type of instrument you play – just that you play it with confidence!\*

Each Sampler Day of creative music-making features:

- workshops with superb musicians who are also highly experienced educators
  - Q&A with Ensemble staff
  - an optional short audition, if you are aged 14+ and want to apply for the [National Youth Folk Ensemble](#)

All playing and learning will be done by ear, offering young musicians the opportunity to develop an area of their musical portfolio by engaging with new forms and styles of music in the rich and complex English folk tradition.

Spaces are extremely limited, with only 20 available at each session. This and booking is essential, so we would encourage any interested parties to sign up for their free place as soon as possible at [efdss.org/youthfolk](http://efdss.org/youthfolk).

**Kent Music, 24 Turkey Court, Turkey Mill, Ashford Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5PP**

Chief Executive Peter Bolton • Patron Jools Holland OBE • Registered Charity No. 1110639 • Company No. 5464855

[www.kent-music.com](http://www.kent-music.com)

**Date and Time:**

Sun, 31st May 2020

11:00 – 16:00

**Address:**

[Ashford School](#)

East Hill

Ashford

TN24 8PB

\*NB: Musicians with electric instruments must bring their own amps and leads. The National Youth Folk Ensemble's repertoire is currently instrumental only, so the Sampler Day is not suitable for singers.

Kent Music News: [Youth Folk Comes to Kent](#)

Kent Music Event: [Free Youth Folk Sampler Day](#)

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors:**

**Kent Music**, founded in 1948, is a registered education charity and lead partner for the music education hub in Kent. It employs teachers to deliver instrumental and vocal teaching across the county through individual lessons, small groups and through whole class teaching in schools, supported by a programme of CPD and quality assurance. The charity runs county groups and local ensembles, and the Kent Music Summer School has been held at Benenden for 70 years. Kent Music is a partner in music education with Kent County Council and the hub is funded by the Department for Education through Arts Council England. For more information, visit [www.kent-music.com](http://www.kent-music.com).

**Press Enquiries:**

**For more information, images and interviews, please contact:**

Grace Irvine, Communications Coordinator: [girvine@kent-music.com](mailto:girvine@kent-music.com), 01622 358408

Promotional photographs and videos, a poster and logos can be found in [this Google Drive folder](#). All photos must be credited to the [English Folk Dance & Song Society](#).

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