

## Tips for Funding Applications

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Hello! My name is Christopher Michie, a Scottish flute player and Transitions alumni and now mentor specialising in funding applications.

As a student from an SIMD1 postcode and low-income household, one significant barrier I faced and continue to do is money. As artists, we don't study and create masterpieces for financial gain but instead to reach out to audiences and celebrate what we love to do, a powerful thing in itself.

However, we do have to live and that costs money, and hopefully that's where I can help.

During my Undergraduate studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and especially my Masters at Royal College of Music in London, I applied to as many funding grants and organisations as possible that could support me in achieving my goals.

Over the years I have been successful in gaining financial assistance from Dewar Art Award, Help Musicians UK, Sir James Caird Travelling Scholarship, Countess of Munster, Drake Calleja Trust, John Lewis Partnership Scholarship and The Cross Trust.

For me and many others, financial uncertainty is a worrying thing and I hope that reading my Top Tips for Funding Applications will give you a sense of relief and a plan of action to apply for grants and funding organisations.

Applying for grants and funding does take time but if you follow my tips and be organised and dedicated then you have done everything you can to be successful. Yes, sometimes you do get knock backs but know that you did everything in your power and sometimes it just doesn't work out. Don't be disheartened, sometimes failures show you more in life than successes do.

I wish you all the best for your future and good luck with your funding applications.

