Help Musicians

IVORS ACADEMY

Co-Pilot:

the Musicians' Mentoring Network

Applying to be mentored

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Who are we?

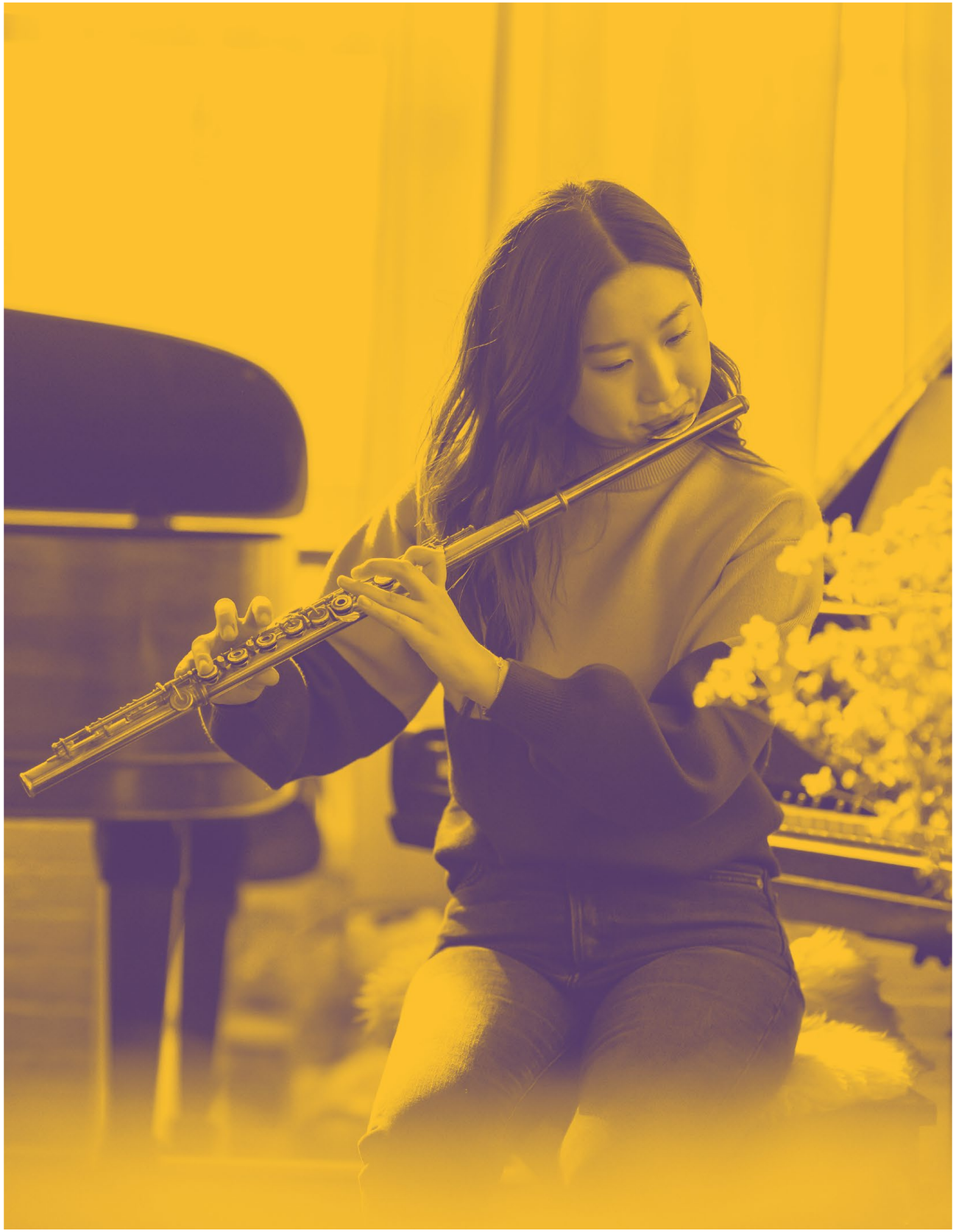
Help Musicians is a charity that loves music and for 100 years has been working hard to make a meaningful difference to the lives of musicians across the UK. We want to create a world where musicians thrive.

The Ivors Academy is the UK's independent professional association for music creators. The Academy represents and champions a diverse, talented community of songwriters and composers, and is known internationally for The Ivors. An Ivor Novello Award is the pinnacle in the career of many songwriters and composers.

The Ivors Academy Trust empowers and inspires music creators to start and build their careers, develop their craft and reach their full potential. We're here for all songwriters and composers because your ambition should be limitless.

What is Mentoring

and what can it do for you?



- Do you have a specific task that you need help with to further your career right now?
- Are you looking to develop your knowledge and skills in a certain area?
- Could guidance from an experienced musical or industry mentor help determine where you go next?
- Do you need someone with professional understanding to guide your ideas?

There's no blueprint to being a musician or music creator, so the guidance you might need to move your career forward, at any stage, will be unique to you and your journey. Being mentored gives you personalised support that can be invaluable throughout your career. It offers access to a wider community of music creators, performers and industry professionals, providing a space for informal learning - encouraging conversations, access to networks, opportunities and advice.

You might be looking for guidance on:

- Developing your personal brand
- Diversifying your income
- Understanding the next steps for recording and releasing
- Building a stronger network
- Building a professional support team
- Improving musical skills

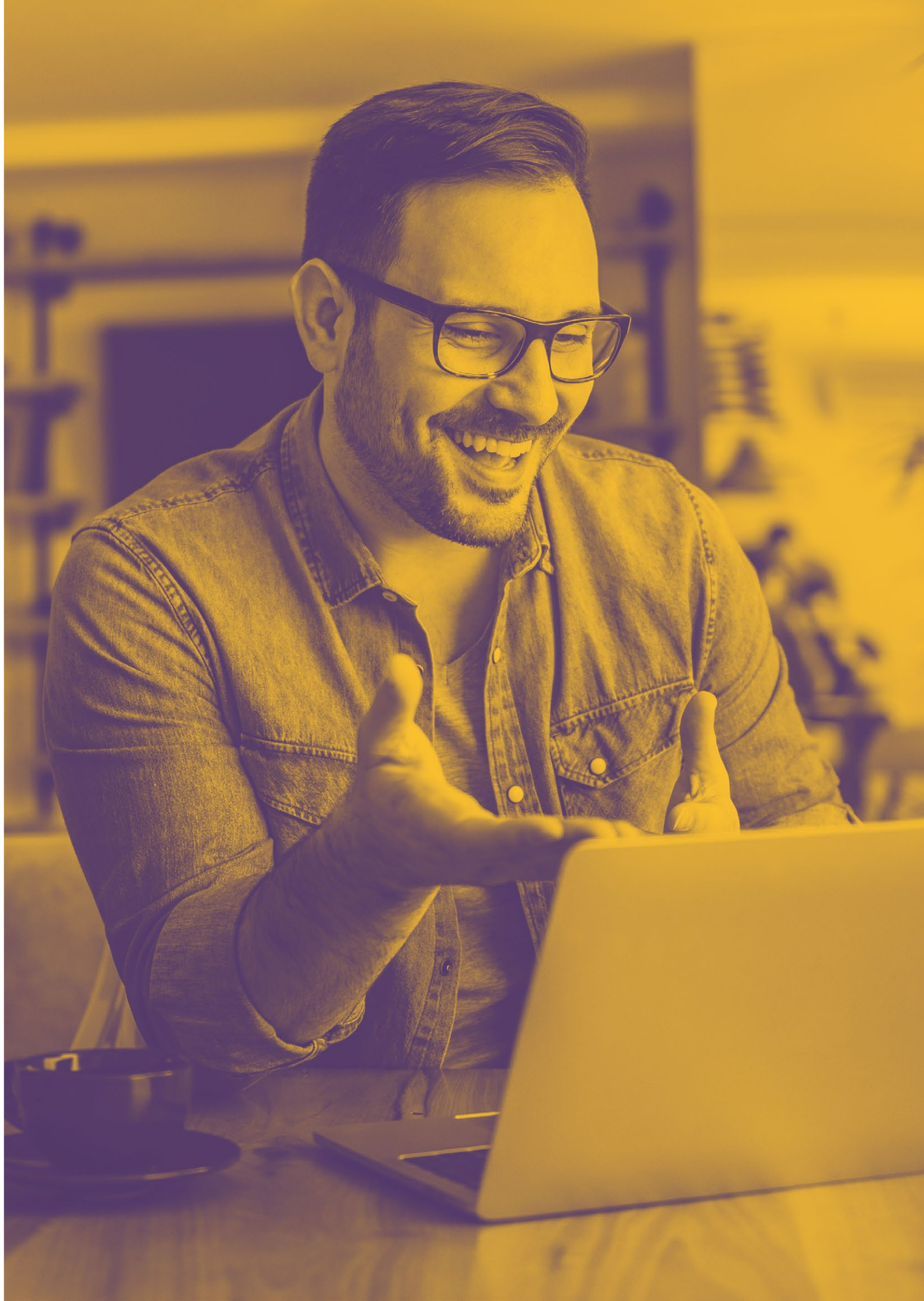
So, if you're looking to:

- Receive practical advice, encouragement, and support to take your career to the next level
- Identify your goals and move your career forward
- Build confidence and feel empowered to make decisions
- Gain insights, develop your communication skills and expand your networks
- Develop a mentoring relationship with enthusiasm and a willingness to focus, learn and grow

Then you could benefit from being **mentored**!

“It’s given me a foundation strategy. I now have more knowledge in my arsenal going forward. I can look back and think, ‘what did I do last time and how do I build on that again?’ and that’s so valuable.

Alex Luke | Self-releasing Singer, Songwriter and Producer



What is Co Pilot: the Musicians' Mentoring Network?

Co-Pilot: the Musicians' Mentoring Network **is an initiative from Help Musicians, delivered in partnership with our founding professional association partner The Ivors Academy with support from The Ivors Academy Trust.**

It is designed to empower musicians and music creators to take the next step in their careers, supported by an experienced co-pilot they can learn from.

The network is as accessible and as geographically inclusive as possible and is open to mentors and mentees from across the UK music sector, with mentees being professional musicians and music creators at any stage of their career, representative of all demographics and the full range of musical genres.

Musicians and mentors come together through an online portal where the skills and experience of the mentor are matched with the needs of the musician and music creator. This process is supported by a project manager to ensure each mentor offers the right mix of skills and experience and that the relationship works for both parties.

All mentors and mentees are expected to complete a compulsory online induction comprising of a series of five mentoring videos with an accompanying digital guidebook. The videos run for an approximate duration of 45 minutes and the online induction should be completed before the mentoring relationship begins. All participants must attend a compulsory 60-minute Welcome Webinar and can voluntarily access an expert practitioner webinar and peer-to-peer support sessions, specially designed for those mentors wanting to consolidate their learning. Mentors are asked to commit eight hours of their time over a six-month period to the mentee (via one-to-one phone calls or video conferencing).

The ambition is for the network to remain free for mentees, removing any potential financial barriers and making it accessible to all.

It is a voluntary network, and no fees or expenses will be paid to those taking part.

Where will it take place?

All aspects of the mentoring network will be done online, so mentors and mentees can be located anywhere in the UK.

As this is an online network, participants must have access to the internet to apply and to participate.

“Being a musician and writer can be a lonely game generally, so, to have someone of John’s level who has found time for you, is a very supportive feeling; you know you’re not on your own.

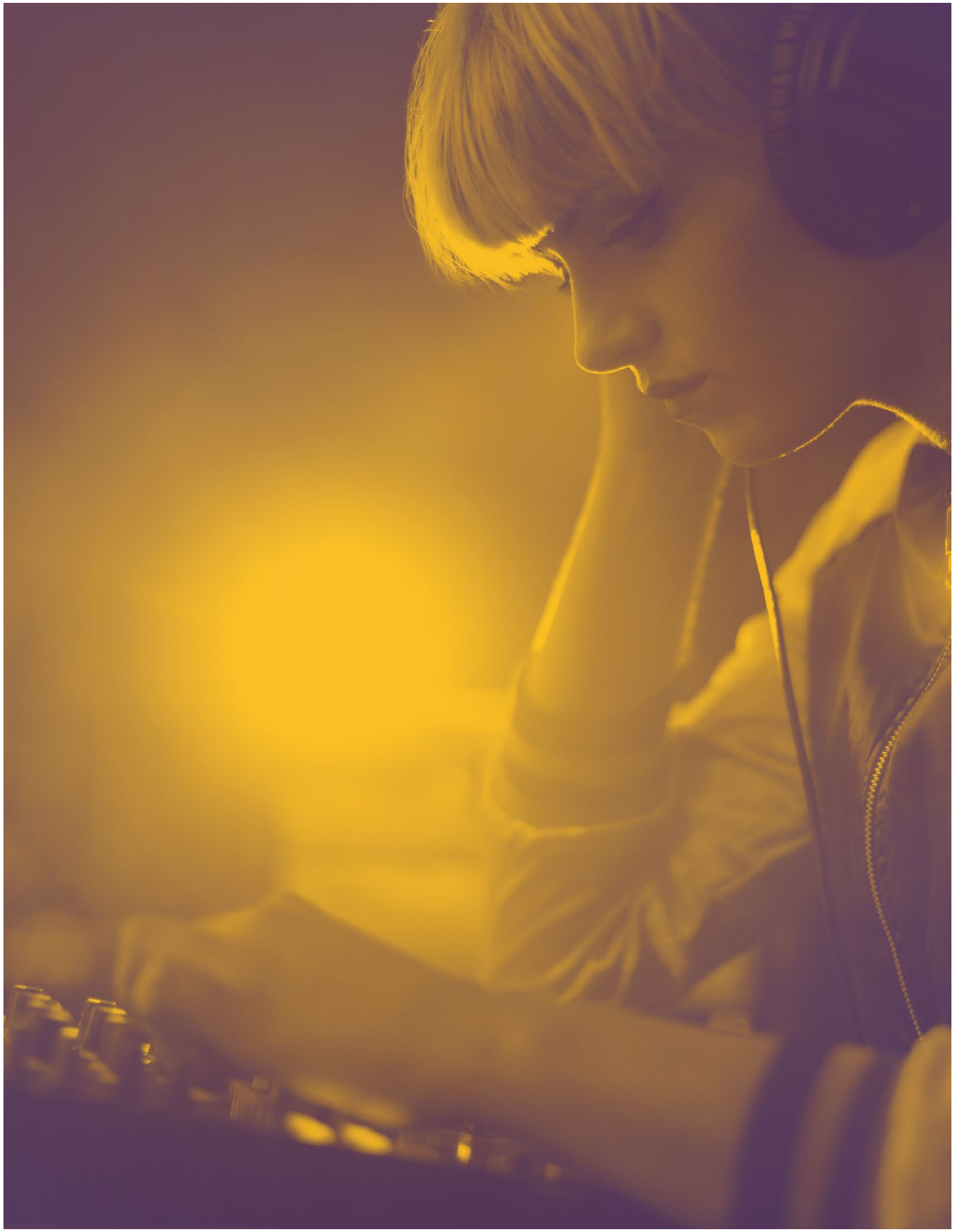
Dominique Levack | Composer and Singer-Songwriter

What are the benefits of being mentored?

- Free access to a one-to-one specialist music industry mentor
- Guaranteed eight hours of online mentoring
- Access to online resources (i.e. digital guidebook and five mentoring videos, expert practitioner webinars and peer-to-peer support sessions)
- Up-to-date access to resources and support from Help Musicians and the Ivors Academy.

> “I learnt a lot, some things subtle, some obvious, even some things that reinforced what I already thought. Hearing it from a veteran makes you feel empowered.

aka Rey | Rapper, Producer and Composer



Who can Apply?

To apply to be mentored in Co-Pilot: the Musicians' Mentoring Network, you must be a member of The Ivors Academy.

If you have a financial barrier preventing you from joining The Ivors Academy, you can access a membership bursary.

For questions relating to The Ivors Academy membership, please contact Nicky Carder, Membership Manager: nicky@ivorsacademy.com.

To be mentored you must:

- Be a professional musician as defined by Help Musicians (i.e. a performing musician, a music creator or in a role requiring a high level of technical skill)
- Be 18 years or above at the time of application
- Be a member of the Ivors Academy **OR** be an invited Help Musicians beneficiary (this is a personal offer and non-transferable)
- Must not have more than £16,000 in savings
- Must be a UK resident and have spent 183 or more days in the UK in the last 12 months

To be mentored you must be able to commit to:

- Checking and updating your profile on the online mentoring platform MentorNet and using this platform throughout the process to communicate with your mentee and with the Co-Pilot project manager
- Completing the compulsory online induction by reading the digital guidebook and watching the five mentoring videos. This must be done before the mentoring relationship begins
- Attending the required Welcome Webinar (see dates on page 27)
- Attending eight hours of one-to-one mentoring across a six-month period with your mentor via phone calls or video conferencing
- Engaging with a range of voluntary activities provided to support your mentoring journey, including an expert practitioner webinar, and online peer-to-peer group sessions.
- Taking part in the evaluation of the mentoring process through the completion of two online surveys (mid-point and end of mentoring relationship). There will be voluntary options to be involved in evaluation interviews and case studies.

“I thought, ‘someone does believe in me, so I must be doing something right’.

Alex Luke | *Self-releasing singer, songwriter and producer*

Everybody should have a mentor, regardless of their career level.”

Justine Barker | *TV/Film Composer*

Making an Application

Co-Pilot will run from Autumn 2021 to Summer 2022 and will be conducted in two groups.

You can apply to be part of Group 1 or Group 2. Applications open for both groups on 13 September closing on 15 October at 5pm.

Each group will have different start and end dates for the mentoring process, as well as different dates for participation – please choose the group the suits your schedule.

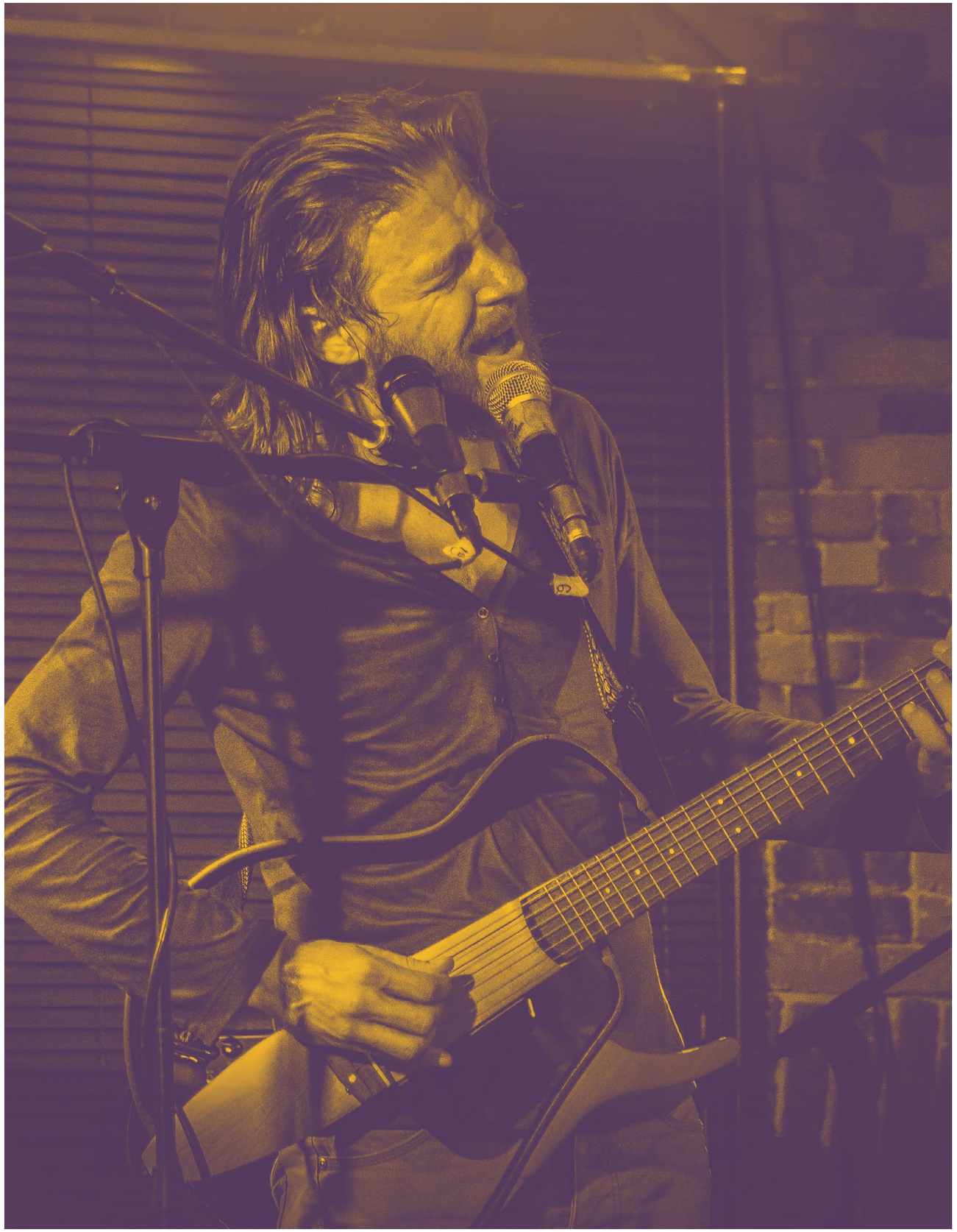
	Group 1	Group 2
Applications Open	13 September 2021	13 September 2021
Applications Deadline	15 October 2021 by 5pm	15 October 2021 by 5pm
Online Induction Completed	8 November 2021	7 January 2022
Welcome Webinar	W/C 8-12 November 2021	W/C 10-14 January 2022
Mentoring Start Date	15 December 2021	14 February 2022
Mentoring End Date	15 June 2022	12 August 2022

To apply, login to the **Members Area** of The Ivors Academy website. If you have any membership queries email **membership@ivorsacademy.com**. If you cannot afford a membership, please consider applying for a **bursary**.

If you are unable to fill in the application form, please contact the team at Help Musicians by emailing mentoring@helpmusicians.org.uk with the subject 'access enquiry'.

Disclaimer: Please note that spaces on Co-Pilot: the Musicians' Mentoring Network are limited and we will endeavour to match mentees with a mentor that is the most appropriate match but we may not be able to find a suitable match on every occasion.

After Applying



You will receive a confirmation email once you submit your application. If you haven't received this, please get in touch with mentoring@helpmusicians.org.uk and we will check for you.

You will be notified of your acceptance into the network within six to eight weeks of submitting your application.

If something has changed in your plans after having submitted your application, please email the Co-Pilot project manager at **mentoring@helpmusicians.org.uk**.

Please ensure that you have read the guidance in full and that you are eligible and able to commit fully to this mentoring network before applying. Only applicants who can demonstrate a need for advice and guidance with their creative projects and/or with the business associated with their career will be considered.