



Press Release.

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INEXETER UNVEILS EXCITING PARTNERSHIP WITH MUSIC IN DEVON INITIATIVE TO LAUNCH 'MIDI STAGES' & EMPOWER YOUNG ARTISTS THROUGH YOUTH MUSIC TRAILBLAZER FUND

InExeter, in collaboration with Music In Devon Initiative (MIDI), proudly announces the launch of 'MIDI Stages,' an innovative project aimed at providing a dynamic platform for young musicians in Devon. This groundbreaking initiative is made possible through funding from Youth Music's Trailblazer fund.

'MIDI Stages' is set to transform the live music scene in Exeter over the next six months by offering regular stage performance opportunities for emerging artists at markets, events, and festivals. In addition to showcasing young musical talent, the project includes training and work experience opportunities for aspiring sound technicians and promoters.

This collaborative effort between InExeter and MIDI seeks to support the professional development of young musicians by increasing their exposure to live performances. By engaging with diverse audiences, artists will have the chance to build confidence, establish meaningful connections, and take significant strides in their careers.

Nick Hall, Director of Music In Devon, expressed his enthusiasm for the collaboration, stating, *"MIDI Stages increases the opportunities for musicians and audiences alike. It will enable us to work with young artists and help develop emerging talent, fostering a vibrant and thriving music community."*

The initiative kicks off with a vibrant showcase of live music at the Christmashay Market, in partnership with Princesshay. The festive celebration marks the beginning of 'MIDI Stages,' promising an unforgettable musical experience for visitors. The project will extend its reach into 2024 with artists working on the MIDI TV awards in January, hosted at MIDI's new multi-function studio, rehearsal rooms and music hub space in Coombe Street as well as additional activations planned for the popular Fore Street Flea market.

Nicola Wheeler, CEO of InExeter, the Business Improvement District for Exeter, shared her delight for InExeter's role in the project, stating, *"We are thrilled to be*

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Soul of the City Choir performing as part of MIDI Stages at the Christmashay Market in Princesshay

a part of this initiative. It not only offers invaluable experience for emerging artists but also contributes to the enrichment of the city's cultural landscape. The integration of live music into events in the city creates a more immersive and enriching experience."

InExeter and Music In Devon Initiative invite the community to join them in celebrating the launch of 'MIDI Stages' and supporting the next generation of musical talent in Devon.



MIDI Stages will provide opportunities for young musicians to gain experience and provide a platform for their music.

About Music in Devon Initiative

MIDI is a non-profit-making organisation which has been founded by a group of local musicians and music industry professionals. MIDI aim to develop emerging talent, increase opportunities for musicians and audiences, and generate business for the music industry in Devon.



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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

About Youth Music

Youth Music is a national charity funded thanks to the National Lottery via Arts Council England, players of People's Postcode Lottery and support from partners, fundraisers and donors.

They believe that every young person should have the chance to change their life through music. Yet research shows that many can't because of who they are, where they're from or what they're going through.

Youth Music's insights, influence and investment in grassroots organisations and to young people themselves means that more 0-25-year-olds from can make, learn and earn in music.

