



RESOURCES FOR STUDENT MUSICIANS

Get to know your dream work

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Key into the information sources for the location/s in which you would like to live and work. Over a six-month period, track opportunities that interest you. Read the local headlines and find out what the market is like. Look up organisations with which you would like to work and check their websites on a regular basis. The following questions relate to a music performance goal, but you can tailor these questions for your own personal use.

- How many opportunities did you find over the six-month period?
- Where were they?
- What were the salary ranges?
- Now consider the two best opportunities, factoring in locations in which you would like to live and work.
- What is the average salary in each location?
- How much would it cost to live there? (Look up cost of living / city)
- What other expenses might there be? (For example, travel)
- How many people applied for the opportunity?
- Once each opportunity is taken, look at the website to find out what experience the successful applicants possessed.
- Be brave! Contact the person who secured the work and ask whether you could meet for a coffee. By asking about the person's experience and drive, seek advice about what you will need to do to reach your goal. Ask whether there are opportunities to volunteer, and whether a mentoring relationship is possible.
- Finally, map out what steps you need to take in order to reach your dream work. Consider each step as a rung on a ladder.



This tool comes from *Life in the Real World: How to Make Music Graduates Employable*, published by Common Ground in 2012. You can order it [here](#).

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