

YNI Application Questions

PART 1: Reflection

Inquiry is an essential tool for artists. Through inquiry, we cultivate self-awareness and the ability to think critically. Who am I? Who are my people? What do I want? YNI Fellows are always asking questions, always investigating, always uncovering layers of meaning and sharing what they find with others.

Engage with **any three (3)** of the following questions. **One of the 3 *must* be a video or audio recording, and must be at least 1 minute in length.** In your document, please indicate which questions you are answering. **While we'd like you to reflect sincerely, your answers can be short - two or three sentences could suffice, not more than a paragraph.** After you've finished, upload your document (PDF) through the Accepted platform.

From the options below, choose three (3) of the following questions that appeal or are interesting to you:

1. Tell us about a time when you really connected with someone or with an experience (musical or non-musical). What made that connection and experience exceptional?
2. Describe a moment in learning how to play your instrument when you felt most alive, engaged or proud. What do you think it was about you, the situation, the context or guidance you were getting that allowed that peak experience to emerge?
3. What do you value most about yourself that contributes positively to your relationships with your peers?
4. What would you want to see more of in your music making organizations (e.g., school, youth orchestra, home program) that would support or improve your music making experience?
5. What activities/replenish/refresh/refuel you?
6. If you could wave a magic wand and change something about the way you're learning music, what would you change (or add) and why?
7. What is a commitment or decision you have made that you've changed your mind about?
8. How could practicing, sharing, or performing music be more fun?
9. To you, what does a good musical experience look like, sound like, feel like?
10. Tell a story about a time when you really listened to someone else.

PART 2: Questions

YNI Fellows are always asking questions, always investigating, always uncovering layers of meaning and sharing what they find with others. **For this reflection, we don't want you to give us an answer, we want you to ask us a question!**

What is a question (or two) that, if answered, could make a great impact on the lives of young musicians like yourself? This question could be related to your current musical life, something you're interested in as you pursue a career as a musician, or generally for the field of music?

PART 3: Personal Statement

Create a personal statement to share with us - **you can use all or part of your reflection from above as a basis if you'd like.** Through this statement we'd like to understand more about who you are, what's important to you, and what you're curious or wondering about. For your personal statement you could:

- Make something with words - (optional starter questions: Who am I? What's important to me? What am I curious or wondering about?)
 - Write a short essay (400 words max)
 - Record a video statement (not more than 5 minutes)
 - Record an audio statement (not more than 5 minutes)
- Make a musical response
 - Record an original composition/improvisation that represents you
 - Share some music that you've learned/created and share some words as to why you're choosing to share this piece, why it is a personal statement
- Choose your own adventure - come up with your own way of creating and sharing a personal statement. Examples may include drawing, animation, or a combination of artistic expressions.