
Call for Proposals - 2020

York University and Regent Park School of Music (RPSM) are continuing to collaborate on special projects aimed at researching and bolstering community music in the Jane & Finch neighbourhood and beyond.

RPSM provides access to subsidized private, group and ensemble music lessons to over 200 students (ages 3 to 18 yrs) in the Jane & Finch community. Students may choose from a variety of instruments and genres, which includes guitar, piano lessons, choir, steel pan and new technology in Jane-Finch through 3 locations:

- Firgrove Public School
- Westview Centennial Secondary School
- Monsignor Fraser College

For a complete list of their classes, go to [RPSM online program guide \(p.10\)](#)



The aim of the partnership between RPSM, the Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in the Arts, members of its advisory working group, and York University's Knowledge Mobilization team, is to support and encourage a growing cohort of graduate and faculty researchers whose collective multi-disciplinary research projects will benefit children and youth from Jane-Finch in the following ways:

- Increase the number of children reached by RPSM-Jane and Finch while improving the impact it has on children from marginalized neighbourhoods.
- Conduct rigorous academic research exploring the many benefits of community music programs and the links between music and learning.
- Significantly benefit children from high-risk neighbourhoods and fortify community music programs globally by informing their programming through publications, conferences and other forms of knowledge mobilization.

For more information on our past projects and activities, go to the Helen Carswell Chair's [webpage in Yorkspace](#).

The Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in the Arts

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- Jane and Finch

Karen Burke, the Helen Carswell Fellow in Community Engaged Research in the Arts, together with the advisory working group, are pleased to welcome the submission of research proposals that can inform the practice, programming, or curricula of the community music school. All faculty and graduate students from AMPD, Health, Engineering, Environmental Studies, Education, Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, Law, Business, and Science may apply. **Suggested topics for research may include, but are not restricted to:**

Pedagogy/ curricula/ guides and pilots

- Culturally relevant arts/music pedagogy to help design new programs; this should include resources for teachers.
- Resources / training plans / best practices for teaching students with special needs.

Curriculum Evaluation/Assessment

- Exploring the appropriate balance/percentage of private, group and ensemble classes in community music programming.
- Assessment of our drop-in program models and their efficacy.
- Assessment of new programs such as “Music Fundamentals” and others in music and technology.

Professional Development

- Faculty surveys related to professional development needs and other relevant topics.

Action research on youth engagement within a community music school context

- Youth-driven programming models
 - How can RPSM increase the voices of students (such as “for-youth, by-youth” model and student led initiatives) in developing and implementing programs?
 - How to develop youth leadership within a community music school context?
- How can RPSM improve community health in Jane and Finch? How can it do more?
- Curriculum development, program design, and pilot of a Leaders in Training (LIT) program.
- How can we better engage youth, ages 12 to 18, and improve our retention rates in that demographic?

The above are suggestions from RPSM administrators. However, we welcome additional ideas for projects that will inform RPSM’s curriculum and programming.

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Eligible Applicants

- All graduate students and faculty members of York University are invited to submit proposals.
- Recipients of funding from previous years are eligible to re-apply in order to continue or extend ongoing research.

Details for the proposal

- Proposals should be 300-500 words.
- Proposals should include a budget and a project timeline (not included in the word limit).
- The budget maximum for each project is \$20,000.
- The timeline for projects can range from 6 months to 18 months, beginning as early as April 2020 and ending no later than November 2021.
- All proposals *must* include a bibliography (not included in the word limit).
- Deliverables of the project should be clearly indicated in your proposal.
- *The deadline for the submission of proposals is March 5, 2020.*
- Applicants will be informed of decisions in late March, 2020.
- Proposals are to be submitted to Karen Burke (burkek@yorku.ca).
- A guideline for writing your proposal is available on our [webpage in YorkSpace](#).

General Terms

- Projects involving human participants will require ethics review and funds are disbursed only AFTER ethics clearance.
- Researchers will be required to write and present an interim and final report.
- Researchers will be required to prepare a literature review.
- Researchers will be required to participate in dissemination activities in the following ways:
 - Share their findings at RPSM Professional Development workshops in September
 - Present a paper and/or participate in seminars/workshops for at least two dissemination events that will be organized by the chair

We would be happy to discuss your ideas with you before you submit your proposal.

For more information please contact:

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Scan for more information on
the Helen Carswell Chair