



Musical Abstracts – information

Ever wanted to hear your research in musical form?

You could help create historical hip hop, pharmaceutical folk rock or even evolutionary electro pop.

We're offering five researchers from across all disciplines the opportunity to work with the songwriter, [Jonny Berliner](#), to translate their research into songs for the University's biggest ever public engagement with research event, [Curiosity Carnival: European Researchers' Night](#).

You'll work directly with Jonny to brainstorm ideas and explain your research. Your 'musical abstracts' will then be performed on the night of the Carnival (29 September 2017) at various venues and will be made available as recordings for you to use in future engagement work.

To apply to take part [simply fill in this application form](#) by Friday 12 May, 5pm.

Five researchers will be selected based on how well they describe their research, their enthusiasm for the project and how they would use their song in the future. At least one researcher from each of the four academic divisions will be selected.

How will it work?

Researchers will be notified of the outcome by 26 May.

An initial training session will be held in mid-June where you'll have the chance to get creative, learn about the musical writing process and start brainstorming your ideas.

Jonny will then go away and start to develop out your plans before meeting again to further refine and finesse the ideas.

Finally, there will be a rehearsal in early September.

On the night, the songs will be performed by Jonny (and yourself if you'd like to) with short (3-5 minutes) introductions from yourself. Audiences will have the opportunity to talk to you and ask you questions afterwards.

You will need to confirm your ability to attend the initial half-day training session (date to be determined via Doodle poll to find the most convenient date), work with Jonny through July, attend a rehearsal in early September, and attend the Curiosity Carnival (Sept 29).

A recording of the performance or the song will be made available to you afterwards, and will be used by the University as part of social media coverage of the event.



Who can apply?

Any current researcher or DPhil student from any academic Division at the University of Oxford, who can confirm their ability to attend the Curiosity Carnival (Sept 29).

What's in it for me?

Besides having a song about your research that you can use as you wish, by working with a songwriter to distil your research into concise and accessible language you'll develop and refine your communication skills in a creative way. And hopefully you'll have a really enjoyable experience, too.

Do I have to be musical?

No – you don't need to be able to sing or play an instrument, or have any experience in writing songs. In fact, it doesn't even matter if you can't tell your hip hop from your folk.

Will I have to perform?

No – and whether you can't or don't want to perform won't affect your chances of being selected.

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Any questions? Please contact [Michaela Livingstone](#), 01865 282 595.