

Apply to perform at the Nordic Jazz Comets showcase in 2023!

Deadline for applications is 30th September 2022. The selected participants will be announced in December 2022.

Does your music stand out from the rest of the jazz mass? Is your stage appeal ready to take over the international platforms? Are you interested in creating opportunities and new solutions with the Nordic jazz promoters and fellow musicians?

The national jazz organizations – FÍH - Iceland Jazz, JazzDanmark, Jazz Finland, Norsk jazzforum and Svensk Jazz – together with a network of 14 Nordic jazz festivals and clubs invite your band to apply for a showcase.

The selected bands will:

- Perform for the public and Nordic jazz professionals at the Nordic Jazz Comets showcase in Gävle, Sweden on 12th May 2023 (the showcase is paid according to the standard fees in the country of origin).
- Meet the Nordic promoters and participate in workshops and seminars in Stockholm on 11th May 2023.
- Get professional career coaching provided by their national jazz organization.

All the applications are reviewed by professional reference groups in each country, and further on all the bands are introduced to the inter-Nordic jury. So even if your band is not selected for the showcase, your music and promo material will get the attention of over 20 Nordic jazz professionals.

Who can apply?

Please read the eligibility criteria carefully before applying!

MOTIVATION FOR THIS PROJECT

The Nordic Jazz Comets project is much more than just a showcase. In addition to being motivated for breaking the international markets with your band and your music, the participation requires motivation for co-operation with different actors in the jazz field and re-thinking the traditional concepts of touring and promotion. We want to use the revolutionary power of jazz to change the world!

There will be seminars and discussions regarding the preconditions for musicians and the jazz industry. Gender equality, social justice and the environment are topics that we care especially for. As a fair trade for meeting new people, learning new skills and gaining knowledge, we will give the communities back a piece of our area of expertise: a beautiful jazz concert of five Nordic bands!

Please read the following introduction carefully and prepare to describe your motivation in a few key points in the application.

<https://www.nordicjazzcomets.com/introduction>

ENSEMBLE

Nordic Jazz Comets is a **small band showcase** and project, and therefore it's primarily meant for established chamber-size ensembles, and **not solo performers, temporary projects, or big bands**. One of the Nordic Jazz Comets' main functions is to create pathways to international careers of bands, which have committed to working together, and already have achieved recognition in their home country.

AGE

The showcase is for internationally emerging bands, with musicians under their mid-thirties. However, this is an aspiration of Nordic Jazz Comets, and not a strict age restriction. No applications will be rejected because of age.

NATIONALITY

If the majority of the musicians (2 out of 2, 2 out of 3, 3 out of 4, 3 out of 5 etc.) are from the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden) by citizenship or permanent residency, you are eligible to apply.

If the majority of the band's musicians are from one of the Nordic countries by citizenship or permanent residency, you are eligible to apply on that country's list.

If the majority of the band's musicians are from different Nordic countries by citizenship or permanent residency, you are eligible to apply on one of the home countries' list.

STYLE AND ORIGINALITY

The music and video performances will be evaluated by a jury consisting of club and festival promoters who represent and prefer various styles and aesthetics in jazz, so no style or genre will be rejected. If you feel comfortable presenting your music under the 'jazz' umbrella, that's enough. The final showcase line-up will be selected to represent the great diversity that the future, vital Nordic jazz scene is all about.

While the style and genre are not important, originality, creativity and passion are. The bands should present mostly original compositions, lyrics and/or arrangements. The music may also be fully improvised.

OTHER CONDITIONS

The band must release/have released one publication under their name and with mostly the same musicians in 2021 - 2022.

Some live performance experience outside of their home country/home countries is considered a benefit.

The band must deliver at least 1 performance/concert video and audio material of 3 full-length tracks. The material may be available online or the files may be transferred/shared.

The band must have their promotional kit online and up to date. This means at least a website/drive folder where you can find and download the following:

- band introduction text in English (preferably along with musicians' CV's)
- recent professional band photos in digital format
- upcoming (and past) performances
- recordings (and merchandise) and directions how to buy them
- free/promo material: videos, online streaming services, playlists where you can find the music

- social media platforms
- reviews
- contact info

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications that have been sent in time, contain all the necessary info, and fit the criteria, will be first processed in each country's national jazz organization's artistic board or reference group. The groups will form their national shortlists of 3 bands. The shortlists of the five countries go to the jury, which consists of the promotor network of 14 clubs and festivals, and the guests that they invite. It is in the jury's discretion to select the final line-up of five bands (one per each country) based on:

- a) creating a high-quality, diverse, and representative Nordic Jazz Comets showcase
- b) interest in booking the bands in the future

Apply with this form to perform at the Nordic Jazz Comets showcase in Sweden in May 2023:
<https://member.myclub.se/public/forms/10768/j2gLzVQ3TN/>