

# mjf2026 piano trail competition

manchester jazz festival, in partnership with Forsyth Music Shop and Yamaha, is bringing the region alive with the mjf piano trail competition 2026! From **29 March – 31 May**, a trail of over 18 pianos will be placed across Greater Manchester for anyone to join in and have fun: you can even win a Yamaha digital piano or a host of other prizes.

After three years of sold-out tours, the piano trail walking tours are back! Join Josh and his band, Sherpa K, as they follow manchester jazz festival's famous piano trail across the city centre on **Sunday 17 and Sunday 24 May** (tickets £12 per adult, free for children).

To find out more about the piano trail competition and locations, the walking tours and how to take part, visit [manchesterjazz.com/pianotrail](https://manchesterjazz.com/pianotrail) #mjfpianotrail

#### *Piano locations include:*

Piccadilly Station, Manchester Arndale, HOME, Victoria Station, Great Northern, Spinningfields, Royal Exchange Arcade, Central Library, Forsyth Music Shop, Aviva Studios, Manchester Art Gallery, Salford Shopping Centre, Trafford Palazzo, Grand Arcade (Wigan), The Market at Spindles Shopping Centre (Oldham), Portland Basin Museum (Ashton-under-Lyne), Heywood Market (Rochdale) and Middleton Arena (Rochdale).

## play it forward: street piano fund

manchester jazz festival has joined forces with Forsyth Music Shop to fundraise for a bigger and better piano trail with our **Play it Forward: Street Piano Fund**. Our mission is to expand the current network of street pianos, enabling us to reach new venues, boroughs and communities across Greater Manchester all year round. This will ensure more people have the opportunity to play and enjoy music-making, no matter their age or ability.

Find out more at: [manchesterjazz.com/playitforward](https://manchesterjazz.com/playitforward) #playitforward



### Can we be friends?

Join the mjf friends' scheme for just **£35 per year** and become part of the mjf story. You'll receive a range of benefits including ticket discounts and invites to exclusive events.

For more info visit: [manchesterjazz.com/friend](https://manchesterjazz.com/friend)

mjf

Forsyth

YAMAHA  
Make Waves



# manchester jazz festival 15-24 may 2026

mjf



free opening weekender @ first street • band on the wall • matt & phreds  
forsyth music shop • RNCM • the carlton club • stoller hall  
Aviva Studios, home of factory international • low four studio  
stage & radio • george street chapel (oldham) • whittles (oldham)  
and other locations across the city

Greater Manchester  
Arts Council  
England

GMCA  
Greater Manchester  
Combined  
Authority

MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL

1ST

Forsyth

YAMAHA  
Make Waves

[manchesterjazz.com](https://manchesterjazz.com)

#mjf2026

[Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/manchesterjazzfestival) [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/manchesterjazzfestival) [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/manchesterjazzfestival) manchesterjazzfestival

Throughout the festival  
**The Social at Aviva Studios**  
 Women in Jazz Media present  
**Women in Jazz Photography:  
 Her Frame. Her Sound**  
 see [factoryinternational.org](http://factoryinternational.org) for opening hours.

## Friday 15 May

mjf @ First Street Main Stage	Free
David Kayode	6-7.15pm
Charlie Cooper & The CCs	8.15-9.45pm
Ask Garden Stage	
Jazz is Everywhere: mjf Youth Advisory Board takeover	7.15-8.15pm
Stoller Hall	£25
Andy Sheppard Trio	8-10pm
Matt & Phreds	From £7
Hijack Horns	9.30pm-12.30am

## Saturday 16 May

mjf @ First Street Main Stage	Free
Unfurl	1-2.10pm
Ankora	3.15-4.25pm
Out Front	5.30-6.40pm
Orchestra Mambo International	7.45-9pm
Ask Garden Stage	
Family-friendly Activities	10am-1.45pm
Activities include face painting, family yoga, participatory music and singing and more...	
Thanda & Friends	2.15-3.10pm
Ellin Grace	4.30-5.25pm
MFF presents: Heather Ferrier Trio	6.45-7.40pm
RNCM Theatre	£25
Cassie Kinoshi's seed.	7.30-9pm
Matt & Phreds	From free to £10*
M&P's Big Band Brunch ft. DG Kollektive*	2-4pm
Kemani & Friends	5.30-6.30pm
Chinese Marbles*	9.30pm-12.30am

## Sunday 17 May

Across the city (starting at Victoria Station)	£12
Piano Trail Walking Tour with FMWT	11am-1pm
mjf @ First Street Main Stage	Free
Jazz North's Northern Line Showcase	
Rory A. Green	1-1.45pm
SwanNek	2.30-3.15pm
Hang Linton	4-4.45pm
Rivkala	5.30-6.15pm
Ancient Infinity Orchestra	7-7.45pm
Ask Garden Stage	
Femme De La Femme	1.45-2.30pm
Veasey//Ticciati Duo	3.15-4pm
Lara Jones	4.45-5.30pm
Matt & Phreds	From £5
Tom Sharp Jazz Orchestra	1-3pm

## Monday 18 May

The Carlton Club	£12 advance
Big Ideas x mjf	8-11pm
Matt & Phreds	Free
M&P x mjf Jazz Jam led by Johnny Hunter	8pm-11pm

## Tuesday 19 May

Band on the Wall (The Copper Bar)	£12.50 advance
Beat the Jams x mjf: Tom Thorp & George King	6-7.15pm
The Carlton Club	£15
Brume x mjf: Stuart McCallum solo + vanillaforever - <i>Beyond Nightmares</i> + Emma Coates	8-11pm
Matt & Phreds	Free
Three or Four Shades of Mingus	8-11pm

## Wednesday 20 May

Low Four Studio	£16.50
Double Bill: Sarsen Drift + Tom Cawley	7.30-9.45pm

Whiffles (Oldham)	£15
OCT x mjf presents: Vipertime (ft. Troy Osmond)	7.30-10pm
Matt & Phreds	Free
Hania Derej Trio	8-11pm

## Thursday 21 May

Forsyth Music Shop	£25
Olivia Cuttill & Friends play the Legends of Jazz	7-8.45pm
George Street Chapel (Oldham)	£15
OCT x mjf presents: Her Revelation + Lullaby - Sonic Cradle	7.30-10pm
Band on the Wall (The Copper Bar)	Free
Calico	6.30-7.30pm
Finite Experience	10.30-11.30pm
Band on the Wall (The Venue)	From £27
Yellowjackets	8-11pm
Matt & Phreds	Free
Beyond the Blue	8-11pm

## Friday 22 May

Band on the Wall (The Copper Bar)	Free
Yoni Mayraz	6.30-7.30pm
Thiara Collective	9.30-11.30pm
Band on the Wall (The Venue)	From £15
Bel Cobain	7.30-10pm
Carole Nash Hall, Stoller Hall	£15
Triple Bill: Andy Scott & Carmel Smickersgill + Simeon Walker + Her Revelation	8-10pm
Stage & Radio	Free
The GreensKeepers Jam x mjf	7pm-Late
Matt & Phreds	From £7
The Plimp Souls	9.30pm-12.30am

## Saturday 23 May

Band on the Wall (The Copper Bar)	From free to £7.50*
Manchild	1.30-2.30pm
Jon Onabowu	3.30-4.30pm
Nout*	10-11pm

Band on the Wall (The Venue)	From £15
Lau Noah	2.30-3.30pm
Somewhere Soul presents:	8-10pm
Cotonete	
Somewhere Soul	11pm-3am
Clubnight x mjf	

RNCM Theatre	£25
Legacy - Coltrane and Cannonball: Tony Kofi & Denys Baptiste Quintet	7.30-9pm

Matt & Phreds	From free to £10*
M&P's Big Band Brunch ft. The Grant Russell Quartet	1.30-4pm
Suboptimal	5.30-6.30pm
Alligator Gumbo*	9.30pm-12.30am

## Sunday 24 May

Across the city (starting at Victoria Station)	£12
Piano Trail Walking Tour with FMWT	11am-1pm
The Social at Aviva Studios	Free
Dilettante	1-2pm
Caraway	3-4pm
Satnam Galsian: <i>Love or Sacrifice</i>	5-6pm
Band on the Wall (The Copper Bar)	Free
Flo/ra	1.30-2.30pm
Band on the Wall	6-7.30pm
Jazz Workshop Band	
Band on the Wall (The Venue)	From £13/£23*
Tara Lily	2.30-3.30pm
China Moses*	7.30pm-10pm
Matt & Phreds	Free
mjf Wrap Party Jam ft. Ed Kainyek Quartet	8-11pm

**tickets: [manchesterjazz.com](http://manchesterjazz.com)**

Details correct at time of going to print. For full  
and up-to-date programme information,  
please see [manchesterjazz.com](http://manchesterjazz.com)