

Current Opportunity at the Royal Irish Academy of Music

Head of Junior RIAM

- **5 year fixed term contract reporting to the Director of the RIAM**
- **Salary – Commencing point 1 of lecturer scale (unless otherwise agreed with applicants already placed on lecturer pay scale) which is €56,680pa/€51,116pa (new entrant rate).**
- **Holidays – annual leave of 29 days**
- **Closing date for applications: September 8th**
- **First interviews to take place: 23rd and 24th September**
- **Second interviews to take place: 25th September**
- **Inquiries to: ruthmeehan@riam.ie (will be out of office 17th July to 24th August)**
- **Applications should contain a letter of motivation and curriculum vitae**
- **All applicants should receive, post-application, a copy of the draft RIAM 175 strategy**

The RIAM, as a national conservatoire for music in Ireland, is embarking on one of the most transformational phases in its 170 year history. We are in the midst of the major re-development of our premises on Westland Row, a fully funded project which is set to complete in September 2021.

Accompanying this infrastructural change is the re-structuring of RIAM's teaching and assessment divisions (a tertiary division, Junior Academy and national music examination system), to enable the expansion of RIAM in the coming years.

We are poised to create Ireland's leading centre for music education, training and performance. We aim to nurture excellence, build audiences, advocate for increased access to music participation, and amplify the impact of our work by forging powerful links between young people, emerging and established professional artists, diverse audiences and society at large.

The first key appointment to be made is a Head of Junior RIAM, with overall responsibility for the current student body of 1,500 school age students, who attend music lessons at RIAM across weekday afternoons and on Saturdays. RIAM are recruiting the above new post to lead the Junior RIAM and provide artistic and educational leadership that enhances the RIAM's reputation nationally and internationally.

Junior RIAM consists of three separate areas: Early Years Training, Junior RIAM and the Young Artist Programme. **Early Years Training** (age 0-10) involves students who are beginners and in the early years of their music studies. The focus in this category is on developing a solid foundation of musical skills, an appreciation for music and learning about resilience through music through small group tuition. Following this training at the earliest level, students advance to **Junior RIAM** (age 11-18). This division forms the bulk of RIAM's onsite student body, focusing on one-to-one teaching supported by music theory, chamber music performing groups and performances.

From the ranks of enthusiastic young participants engaged in RIAM's formal and informal programmes of learning and assessment come the emerging professional talent of the future, captured in a **Young Artist Programme** of approximately 25 members. The focus is on skills development, developing musicianship and awareness of style; and in forming a bedrock of personal resilience to support ambition.

The Head of Junior RIAM will: lead the development and delivery of student care and quality assurance and enhancement processes and systems that ensure all Junior RIAM students, including students with higher support needs, receive excellent care, guidance and support.

You will: be responsible to the Director of RIAM, but will work closely with other members of the Conservatoire's Senior Management Team, Heads of Faculty and external partners and stakeholders to ensure that provision is aligned with institutional, local, national and international priorities and needs.

You will: have a distinguished reputation as an artist and educational leader and will be required to maintain the highest standards of conservatoire teaching and performance. You will hold a degree in music, a teaching qualification either in primary/secondary and/or tertiary education or have experience of teaching in the musical performing arts within schools and/or higher education. You will have participated in national and international performance projects at a high level.

You will: be a visionary leader with experience and talent in creating and implementing innovative music programmes; specifically for children and young people with exceptional talent and potential. A proven record in the practicalities of managing budgets and logistics and a history of leading innovative projects will also be essential.

Major tasks

Leadership

- Junior RIAM aims to promote widening participation, access, progression and excellence. The Head of Junior RIAM will lead in developing, managing and implementing the RIAM's strategy for its pre-college provision across its in-house tuition and its outreach.

Quality assurance

- Responsibility for all quality assurance across the Junior RIAM, to include preparation of reports for internal and external reviews as required
- Representation of Junior Programmes on internal committees (as Chair of the Junior RIAM Committee, for instance) and external groups as required

Management

- Providing the primary managerial point of contact for issues relating to the three divisions of Junior RIAM, referring to and liaising with the Director, Heads of Faculties as required
- Line manager for the Administrative Officer Junior RIAM and her team, and for the General Manager of Junior Performing Groups
- Leading the planning of auditions/assessments for Junior RIAM
- Overall responsibility for all aspects of the Junior RIAM student experience from application to discontinuation
- Responsibility for maintenance of current deputy list in consultation with the Heads of Faculty and Administrative Officer, Junior RIAM Office.

Finance

- Management of Junior RIAM budgets, in consultation with the Director and Finance Office

Performance

- Leading creative input into the programme planning and delivery of Junior RIAM performances, as a member of the Artistic Programming Committee
- Responsibility for oversight RIAM's Junior Performing Groups with their General Manager
- Planning and operational responsibility for concerts and events for Junior RIAM and elsewhere as required

Health and Safety

- Obtaining and maintaining appropriate First Aid, Health & Safety and attend other training as required

Other

- Undertaking such other duties as the Director may require

Special Factors

Junior RIAM's working week involves a busy Saturday during term-time and not out of term time. The post holder will, therefore, need to be flexible in their approach to the working week.