

CALLING ALL MUSIC EDUCATORS!

The Firebird Fellowship is a life-changing, 12-month training program for teachers in music for social action. Strengthen your teaching by focusing on student outcomes, lead change in your field, and inspire young minds through music.



2025 focus: Latin America!

Apply by March 1, 2025, to join a global movement for impact.

WHAT IS THE FIREBIRD FELLOWSHIP?

Combining interactive online and in-person learning, The Firebird Fellowship focuses on the fundamentals of effective and inspiring teaching, AIM's self-assessment framework guided by a coach, and leadership development. Firebirds are changemakers, committed to student-centred learning and empowering young people through music education.

For the first time, the 2025 cohort will proudly focus on the impact on student outcomes in Latin America (LATAM). At least 80% of the cohort will be based in Latin America, with up to 8 spots available for teachers outside LATAM that speak fluent Spanish or Portuguese.

Becoming a Firebird is a profound experience - both personally and professionally, as Fellows join a movement to redefine music education and place students at the heart of the learning process.

OBJECTIVES OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The Firebird Fellowship aims to empower music educators as agents of social change by equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and support to create meaningful impacts in their communities. Through a blend of online and in-person learning, action research, coaching, and mentoring, the program focuses on strengthening core teaching practises, fostering leadership, and promoting student-centred learning. By prioritizing youth development and addressing social inequalities through music education, the Fellowship prepares teachers to inspire and uplift young people, creating ripple effects that extend beyond the classroom.

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

The Firebird Fellowship is offered at a full scholarship, with the scholarship valued at €15,000 each Firebird. This amount covers all training, materials, individual coaching, and all costs related to the in-person residency, including travel costs, visas, and food.

FELLOWSHIP OBLIGATIONS

The Firebird Fellowship is an intense commitment of approximately 5 hours per week to coaching, online sessions, and action research throughout the 12-month program. Full participation in the in-person January residency, a 17-day immersive experience, is required. Fellows must also pledge to complete the program and actively contribute to supporting their communities, embodying the values of leadership and dedication that define the Fellowship.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- » Aged 21+ with instrumental mastery equivalent to Year 1 BA in Music Performance.
- » Fluent in Spanish or Portuguese.
- » Consistent teaching role in a music for social action program in Latin America from August 2025–August 2026.
- » Teaches one of the eligible instruments (e.g., instruments frequently used in ensembles. At this point we do not accept applications from vocal, piano, or music initiation teachers).

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Informational Sessions: Tuesday, 28 January or Thursday 13 February
2. Eligibility Application: Due March 1, 2025.
3. Tasks Submission: Teaching video, self-analysis, and musical performance due April 15, 2025.
4. Group Interviews: May 1–15, 2025.
5. Final Fellowship Selection: May 31, 2025.

LEARN MORE

Read our prospectus and join an informational session to take the first step in your Firebird journey!

Learn more at aimpowers.org

#FirebirdFellowship #MusicEducation #SocialChange