



In preparation for the opening of the National Centre for Inclusive Excellence in September 2018, Bristol Music Trust is proud to announce the 'Breaking the Glass Ceiling' symposium at Colston Hall, on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, followed by a special presentation from the National Open Youth Orchestra.

*'The people shaping the music scene are the people who it already works for best, that's why they get to shape the music industry'. - Live Music and Disability in the Northeast, Attitude is Everything*

As one of the UK's fastest growing sectors, the creative industries have considerable economic impact and shape the way the world sees us; influencing investment, tourism, and our prominence on the world stage.

Arts Council England and the DWP both recognise that disabled people are under-represented within the arts and cultural sector workforce. In February, the DWP announced that its new disability sector champions would "amplify the voices of disabled customers and employees within their own industries". Penny Mordaunt, the Minister for Disabled People, Work and Health, added: "These industries must become fully inclusive". Join us as we bring together leading music industry representatives and professional artists with disabilities to break the glass ceiling.

### **10:30-15:30hrs – Breaking the Glass Ceiling – Disability & the Music Industry**

With a keynote from Suzanne Bull (CEO Attitude is Everything and DWP sector champion for Music), expert facilitation from Phillip Flood (Sound Connections), and an industry panel representing broadcasting, education, music venues, unions, orchestras and the cultural and creative industries, the conference will break ground on Bristol Music Trust's commitment to eliminating the existing barriers to a career in the music industry for young people with disabilities.

### **15:30-18:30hrs – The National Open Youth Orchestra**

A special presentation of the findings of the recent feasibility study into the setting up of the National Open Youth Orchestra (the UK's first disabled-led national youth orchestra) will precede a performance of a specially commissioned piece of music from the South West Open Youth Orchestra and the Bristol Youth Choir.

### **18:30-20:00hrs – Fast Forward Showcase**

To cap off the day, we've programmed a showcase of talented musicians with disabilities from around the country to provide live and recorded music, which will be accompanied by drinks and nibbles. The event will be headlined by 'Spectrum', a super group of musicians from diverse background who will be performing interpretations of Beethoven's 7<sup>th</sup> and Mike Oldfield's Tubular Bells. For more information, please visit the Colston Hall website [www.colstonhall.org](http://www.colstonhall.org)

Places at this event are free but are limited to 150. We anticipate an extremely high demand so please RSVP to [rsvp@marketing.colstonhall.org](mailto:rsvp@marketing.colstonhall.org) as soon as you can to avoid disappointment.