

The Music for Galway **CELLISSIMO** Ambassador Programme

The Galway Cello, is a unique instrument, fashioned by luthier Kuros Torkzadeh for the cello festival *Cellissimo* from woods mainly grown in Co. Galway. Its most distinguished feature is the emblematic Claddagh Ring on its scroll, making it unmistakably *Galway*. Catherine Cotter was the first *Cellissimo* Ambassador from 2021-24: Music for Galway will give it on loan to a talented Irish based young cellist. This cellist will be selected in live auditions during *Cellissimo 2024* in Galway on Monday 20th May, 2024 and will become *Cellissimo* ambassador until the third edition of the festival in 2027.

Aims of the programme:

- To give life to the Galway Cello and to ensure that it is played regularly
- To help in the professional development of a young cellist by giving them the use of a valuable handcrafted instrument
- To further the professional development of a young cellist by offering performance opportunities
- To use both cellist and instrument as ambassadors for the next edition of *Cellissimo* in 2027

The chosen **CELLISSIMO Ambassador:**

- Is aiming to become / is already pursuing a career as a professional cellist
- Uses the Galway Cello as their primary instrument
- Mentions the Galway Cello and their role as *Cellissimo* Ambassador in their biography
- Agrees to appear in Galway for a maximum of three engagements per year for which they will be paid performance fees but no expenses
- Is willing to be active on social media and post either in the voice of the Galway Cello OR about their life with the instrument
Instagram: @the_cello_ambassador | Twitter (X): @CelloAmbassador
- Understands the value of this unique instrument and ensures its safety
- Will cover insurance costs
- Is between 18 and 26 years old at the time of selection in May 2024

See the making of the Galway Cello: <https://youtu.be/wFeUNw9y9ho>
Adrian Mantu performs Giovanni Sollima's Lamentatio on the Galway Cello: <https://musicforgalway.ie/exhibition-adrian-mantu/>

Interested cellists can arrange for a try-out of the instrument. Contact anna@musicforgalway.ie to make arrangements.

Approx. three cellists will be selected to audition in Galway on May 20th. To apply, please fill out the application form below. You will be expected to perform one movement of a Bach Suite and a short piece for cello and piano of your choice. You will be accompanied by MfG artistic director Finghin Collins. The performance should have a total duration of no more than 15 minutes and there will also be a 10-minute interview with the selection panel.

Galway Cello *Cellissimo* Ambassador | APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Mobile: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Please select:

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

Name of Music College / Conservatoire that you are attending/have attended:

Current year/ level of study achieved: _____

TO COMPLETE:

Please complete this question: "Why I want to be the *Cellissimo* Ambassador and have the loan of the Galway Cello until 2027."
(max 300 words) (Word document or PDF)

TO INCLUDE:

Link to a solo (or duo) performance video (YouTube / Vimeo / Dropbox)

CV - One page max (Word document or PDF)

Your proposed programme for the live auditions (Bach movement plus cello/piano piece - total maximum duration 15 minutes - Word document or PDF)

Send all items in one email to: **suzanne@musicforgalway.ie** by **Friday 4th of April 2024.**

For any further information or assistance contact on **anna@musicforgalway.ie**.

Auditions will be held on May 20th and we will advise all applicants of the selection decision on the day.