

Press release – New Roots 2024

The call is out to young musicians under the age of 25 who sing or play traditionally based music to enter for New Roots 2024. Whether your style is traditional or contemporary folk, roots or world music, whether you perform traditional material or write your own, the organisers would like to hear from you. There are two categories, **under 18** and **18-24**. New Roots has been running since 2000 and the standard rises every year. After temporary changes during the Covid pandemic, it has returned to its usual schedule

The list of judges for 2024 has now been finalised. Between them, George Sansome, Fran Foote, Andy Stafford and Valmai Goodyear represent a wide spectrum of insights into the folk scene. Their task will be firstly to listen to the entries sent in and select the performers who will take part in the final on Sunday April 7, 2024 at Trestle Arts Base in St Albans. On the day they will give constructive feedback to performers. There is no overall winner and everyone who makes it to the final will win one or more performance opportunities. The aim is to match the performers to the opportunities at folk festivals, clubs and other events which are offered to New Roots finalists. At folk clubs, opportunities include support slots, featured spots on singers' nights and full bookings.

Performers who want to enter are invited to complete the entry form on the New Roots web site and email it to info@new-roots.org.uk. In reply, they will get an email telling them how to upload up to 15 minutes of their music. The closing date is 31 January 2024. For further and more up to date information on the web site www.new-roots.org.uk This also has a form for event organisers who wish to offer performance opportunities for young musicians.

Further details: www.new-roots.org.uk email: info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk or ring 01727 852111 / 0770 801 2991