



About BIG FAN

BIG FAN is a not-for-profit, multi-purpose music space located in Morningside, Tāmaki Makaurau. We offer three world-class recording studios and a live music venue all under one roof. Our goal is to bring people together, to support the role of music in the betterment of people's lives, and to foster the talents of musicians, songwriters, and those behind the scenes at every level.

About IGNITE

Ignite is dedicated to nurturing and empowering people with a passion for music and events through an 8-week industry specific training programme. Our mission? Support the personal and professional development of the students and offer valuable insights into the behind the scenes of the music industry.

Ignite has a unique aim to teach people not only creativity within, but also the complimentary skills in support of the music industry, exposing them to the incredible breadth of career pathways and opportunities that exist within it.

The programme offers one on one mentoring from industry professionals, upskilling opportunities, hands on experience and the opportunity to apply the skills learnt to practice. Through Ignite, we are engaging the wider community by producing shows run by the events stream participants, whilst creating key performance opportunities for young and emerging artists.

WHAT'S ON OFFER

8-week industry specific training programme with three streams

- **Event Management** (4 placements)
- **Event Production** (2 placements)
- **Music Production** (up to 6 placements)

Programme is roughly 40 hours of direct activity comprised of:

- **Mentoring** (8 hours)
 - established music industry professionals paired with each participant (one on one)
 - group sessions with peers and with previous Ignite alumni (peer to peer)
- **Seminars and Workshops** (12 hours)
 - industry experts and facilitators presenting seminars (*also open to the public*)
 - practical workshops and masterclasses
 - practical lessons with industry professionals
- **Experience** (4 hours)
 - private tours of music venues / recording studios
 - hands on practical experience at a music-related event
- **Application** (18 hours)
 - **Event Management** – organise a music event
 - **Event Production** – organise production at the events
 - **Music Production** – produce a song with a local artist
- **Review and Graduation** (2 hours)
 - reflect and present their learnings and experience to peers and guests at graduation
 - music production songs showcased at graduation

"Since launching Ignite in 2016 we've seen our alumni go on to further education, and careers within the music and creative communities. It's a programme to inspire, upskill and provide insight for people passionate in music, and allow space to apply the skills learnt to practice in a real-world setting. That's how all of us learn best, so to provide our rangatahi with the opportunity to produce their own shows and songs is invaluable." – Savina Fountain, CEO



INTAKE ELEVEN

Open to anyone aged **18 to 25 years old**, based in **Tāmaki Makaurau**

The 8-week programme runs **Sunday 13 September – Wednesday 4 November 2026**

Programme Fee

- Fee to take part in the 8-week programme is \$250 (inc GST)
- Scholarship placements on offer for those experiencing financial hardship

Applications Open: Tuesday 4 Aug 2026 at 10am

Applications Close: Tuesday 18 Aug 2026 at 10pm

Applicants Notified By: Friday 21 Aug 2026*

**Subject to change*

KEY DATES	ACTIVITY
Sunday 13th September: 11am-3pm	Launch Day
Wednesday 16th September: 5pm-7pm	Event Management Seminar
Thursday 17th September: 5pm-7pm	Music Production – Lesson one
Monday 21st September: 5pm-7pm	Music Production Seminar
Thursday 24th September: 5pm-7pm	Event Management – Lesson one
September 27th September: 5pm-7pm	Music Production Masterclass
Monday 5th October: 5pm-7pm	Venue tours
Friday 9th October: 5pm-7pm	Music Production – Lesson two
Saturday 10th October: 7pm	Event Management shadowing
Monday 12th October: 5pm-7pm	Event Production – Lesson two
Tuesday 13th October: 5pm-7pm	Event Management – Lesson two
Thursday 22nd October: 5pm -7pm	Work experience – Play it Strange showcase
Friday 23rd October: 7pm	Event Management shadowing
Thursday 29th October: 7pm	IGNITE Live show one
Friday 30th October: 7pm	IGNITE Live show two
Wednesday 4th November: 6:00pm – 9:00pm	Graduation!

** all dates subject to change*

*** Lesson times to be determined on availability of participants*

- All dates may change; however, we will try to stick to the above schedule and give everyone as much notice as possible.
- All participants are expected to attend all activities related to their chosen stream.

Location

- All above dates will be held at BIG FAN, except for the Tours & Work Experience.
- Some lessons may be held on zoom, however in person is preferred for all students and lessons.
- All event production lessons will be practical and will not be able to be held on zoom.
- Mentoring sessions are held as mutually agreed with the mentor – a mix of face-to-face, zoom and phone calls. BIG FAN can provide workspaces and facilitate meetings as needed.



ELIGIBILITY: Who Can Apply

Anyone passionate about music and events and interested in learning and new experiences.

- Citizens and residents based in Tāmaki Makaurau
- Anyone aged between 18 and 25 years old at the start of the programme
- Be available for all key dates of Ignite (pg.2)
- No prior experience required

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications Open: Tuesday 4 Aug 2026 at 10am

Applications Close: Tuesday 18 Aug 2026 at 10pm

Applicants Notified By: Friday 21 Aug 2026*

**Subject to change*

To apply for IGNITE, we ask for:

- A few short paragraphs about yourself & why you would like to participate in Ignite
- What you hope to achieve from participating in the programme
- Which stream(s) you're interested in, and your interest in these
 - If applying for the Music Production stream, applicants are required to submit up to 3 demos you've produced and/or written, and detail any prior experience with DAW
- A list of your favourite artists / bands / live events
- Social media or video links if relevant (*optional*)
- A character reference – this doesn't have to be from a place of work. It could be your tutor, employer, or family friend
- CV (curriculum vitae) – with your work and education history (*optional*)
- Contact information of the applicant
- Confirmation of eligibility criteria

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS - We will be looking for these qualities:

- **Event Management:** a passion for live music and events, and keenness to learn about how to organise shows.
- **Event Production:** an interest in the technical aspects of shows, and keenness to learn about the behind-the-scenes workings
- **Music Production:** an established interest in music production and/or songwriting, and keenness to learn about music production and engineering

Of the shortlisted applicants, consideration will be given to ensure:

- Fair representation
- A range of musical interests

CONDITIONS: All successful applicants are required to:

- Be available for all key dates (pg.2)
- Arrange travel to and from BIG FAN and for any mentor meetings held outside of BIG FAN
- Be a New Zealand citizen or resident
- Adhere to the BIG FAN code of conduct
- Provide feedback post programme

Ngā mihi nui **Sennheiser** and **Moshtix** and **Albert-Eden Local Board** for making IGNITE possible.





FAQS

Skills and Experience:

No skills and experience are necessary to apply for Ignite.

We would like to see your passion really come across in your application to get a sense of your passion for music and/or events and your keenness to learn and have new experiences.

Time Commitment:

Ignite roughly consists of 40 hours of direct activity over the 8-week period. Participants are welcome and encouraged to put in additional time as they need and like.

Mentors:

Mentors are selected and approached by BIG FAN based on their experience and reputation in the industry, alongside their commitment to fostering new music industry talent in Aotearoa. We aim to ensure our mentors are a representative snapshot of the music industry at large and can provide unique expertise and knowledge to our participants. All mentors are required to sign an agreement with BIG FAN to adhere to our code of contact as well as being police vetted, and reference checked to ensure the safety of all involved.

Age Restriction:

This intake is for people aged 18 to 25 by the start of the programme.

Fee:

The programme fee of \$250 (incl GST) is for the full 8-week programme and is a contribution towards the programme. This must be paid in full prior to the programme commencement. Please note there are scholarship placements available for those experiencing financial hardship.

Find BIG FAN:

Located at 25 McDonald St in Morningside, Tāmaki Makaurau.

Parking and Transportation:

Participants will need to arrange their own transport to and from BIG FAN and for any in person mentor sessions. BIG FAN will supply transport for venue and studio tours. Limited free and paid parking options are available outside BIG FAN, with convenient public transport access via the Morningside train station and nearby bus routes.

Criteria Eligibility:

All outlined criteria must be met. If you're unsure or have any questions, please get in touch with us at ignite@bigfan.co.nz. Our venue and studio facilities are available to hire to all, so if this programme isn't quite the right fit, please feel free to get in touch to enquire, or check out our other programmes on offer.

Application:

You can apply once per round.

Outside Tāmaki Makaurau:

Unfortunately, this intake is only available to people who reside in Tāmaki Makaurau.

Anything Else:

Get in touch with us ignite@bigfan.co.nz