

Policy Plan Jumpstart Jr. Foundation 2018 – 2022

In this shortened version of the extensive Policy Plan for the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation, we make clear what we do, who we are and what our goal is for the coming years.

Each separate chapter formulates the policy for the next five years, giving background information where necessary.

Then we look ahead: we ask questions for each subject, critically examine the current state of affairs, and formulate the strategy for this policy period.

This policy plan will be the governing document for the coming five years.

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I. General

1.1. Jumpstart Jr. Foundation

The Jumpstart Jr. Foundation (we prefer to use the international name rather than the Dutch 'Stichting Jumpstart Jr.') was started up at the end of 2006 using private donations. After financially supporting a number of very diverse national and international projects, the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation board decided in 2008 to focus solely on supporting talented young violinists and cellists by providing special string instruments on loan.

Both in the Netherlands and abroad, there are foundations and charitable organisations that focus on supporting musicians by making instruments available to them. Jumpstart Jr. Foundation distinguishes itself by limiting itself to young violinists and cellists with a strong interest in early music and historically informed performance, and to putting together a collection of violins and cellos built in the period from 1600 to 1800.

The music written in these two centuries is still being performed today, increasingly on the instruments that were also made during this period. Historically informed performance, a movement that started in the low countries in the middle of last century, investigates the way the music sounded in the period in which it was written, and tries to perform it on instruments that are as authentic as possible.

1.2. Instruments

With the help of a network of expert advisors, we have built up a collection of violins and cellos that are as much in their original state as possible. We have developed an extensive and careful procedure for seeking, selecting, testing and ultimately purchasing a violin or cello.

By allowing young and very talented musicians to play these special instruments, we can ensure that this cultural heritage remains alive and will be preserved for the future.

1.3. Musicians

We scout out exceptional musicians from all over the world with the help of our extensive network of conservatories, Musikhochschulen and Academies. We organise Auditions for the most talented among them, and an expert jury of professionals helps us to select one or more new Jumpstart Jr. Musicians.

For a Musician, the opportunity to play such a special instrument means a jump-start to his or her career. It can open doors to an important festival or a great international stage, a CD recording or a performance with a famous orchestra or ensemble.

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2. Goal and mission

1.4. Goal

In the deed of incorporation, the goal of the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation is formulated as follows:

The Stichting (Jumpstart Jr. Foundation) aims to support and stimulate talented young people in the broadest sense.

The Foundation does not aim to make a profit.

1.5. Mission

We have further specified this goal in our Mission Statement:

We are a non-profit organisation with a mission to support young talented musicians by loaning them a fine stringed instrument.

We aim to support highly gifted violinists and cellists who have completed or are about to complete their musical education and are recognised to become leading performers in Historically Informed Performance. These musicians are invited to take part in our program which consists not only of loaning them a high-quality instrument but also of personal coaching, professional courses, access to an extensive, high calibre international network and guidance with special projects.

Our support program is as individually tailored as possible.

3. Organisation

1.6. Board

The board is responsible for developing the strategy, setting up and implementing policy, setting up the multi-year budget, and the result of the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation. It ensures that the activities of the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation are focused on realising the formulated objectives.

The Jumpstart Jr. Foundation Board Consists of:

Ayolt Zoer, Chair

Mirjam de Boer-Postmus, Treasurer

Derk Lemstra, Secretary

Merel Kindt, general board member

A fifth board member will be announced shortly.

All board members perform their duties unpaid.

1.7. Management

The management is responsible for implementing strategy and policy, preparing plans and budgets, and the day-to-day management of the organisation. In this, the directors work closely with the board and regularly consult with the Chair. The management informs the board about all relevant facts and developments, initiates board meetings, carries out the associated administration, and is accountable to the board. It maintains contact with the Musicians and manages the instrument collections.

The Jumpstart Jr. Foundation management consists of Alida Schat and Anne Plaizier.

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1.8. Advisory board

The members of the advisory board for the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation are experts and professionals in the classical music world. They are closely involved with the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation, can provide solicited and unsolicited advice to the board and management, and have an important voice in the Auditions and Listening Tests.

Jan Van den Bossche and Jonathan Sparey both sit on this board, and a third member will be announced as soon as possible.

1.9. Advisors

Over the years, the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation has managed to attract a large number of experts from the classical music world to whom we can turn for things such as judging Auditions and Listening Tests or a discussion with our Musicians.

Their help and expert vision is greatly appreciated.

4. Musicians

1.10. Auditions

We are always looking for candidates for the Jumpstart Jr. Auditions through our extensive network, and interested parties can now also register for this through our website.

A musician must meet two criteria in order to qualify for the Auditions: he or she must be no older than 35 years and must have demonstrable experience and interest in HIP (Historically Informed Performance).

The Auditions are held over two days in the Recital Hall in the Concertgebouw. The auditionees are judged by an expert jury and interviewed briefly.

In addition, professional image and sound recordings are made of all auditionees, for the jury members as an aid in compiling their report, and for the auditionees to use afterwards, for example as a post on YouTube.

From 2019 the Auditions will be organised on an annual basis.

1.11. Musician

A new Musician is offered a loan contract for ten (10) years. An evaluation takes place annually in which we attend a concert and speak to the Musician. The central focus is the development of his or her career and the use of the Jumpstart Jr. instrument. If necessary and desired, we offer expert coaching and/or additional courses.

1.12. Alumni

An Alumni programme will be started up during this policy period, and we will investigate to what extent Alumni can help the current and new Musicians. Alumni are important ambassadors for the Jumpstart Jr. Foundation.

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5. Instruments

The condition of all our instruments is checked annually and their value reassessed every three years.

During this policy period, all of our instruments will be offered to expert violin makers for additional examination. Once we have a clear idea of the condition of the instruments, we will decide, taking everything into account, whether instruments will need to be restored and whether new instruments will be purchased.

6. Marketing, Communication & PR

Annually, or more often if necessary, we will update our website: www.jumpstartjr.org. This was taken care of in 2016 and the website was given a new look.

During this policy period, social media such as Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube will receive more attention and time, and these resources will be used more often. This applies to the Musicians too, who will regularly post something on the Jumpstart Jr. Facebook page or YouTube.

From 2018 onwards, a twice-yearly digital newsletter will be sent out to interested parties, friends, etc. It will be possible to register for this newsletter via the website.

7. Financial Overview and Budget

1.13. Notes to the budget

This will follow in February 2018, when the budget associated with the policy is adopted by the board.

1.14. Budget

The budget will be published in an abridged form after adoption by the board.

A separate policy plan and budget will be drawn up for the instruments from the EJS Donation. This is expected to be adopted and publicised in mid-2018. Both documents will form part of this policy plan.