



**MUSIC
AGAINST
CHILD
LABOUR**

**CALLING ON
ALL MUSICIANS**



**ENTER THE
COMPETITION**

An illustration on a light pink background. In the upper left, a black guitar headstock with six white tuning pegs and six white strings is shown. Below it, a black silhouette of a person stands with their right arm raised towards the guitar. In the lower left, there is a white sewing machine with an orange spool of thread. To the right of the person, there are two more white sewing machines, one larger than the other, also with orange spools of thread. The overall theme suggests a connection between music and labor, specifically child labor.

ABOUT

MUSIC AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

The ***Music Against Child Labour Initiative***, launched in 2013, is an initiative of the International Labour Organization, JM International and the International Federation of Musicians (FIM), together with renowned musicians and key partners from the world of music. The Music Initiative has two key aims: ***raising awareness through music*** and, secondly, ***empowering children***, including children formerly in child labour, through music and arts education. It has received the support of musicians from all regions of the world.

Music and arts education is a critical component for the development of a child's education and a child's social and life skills. Access to musical and arts education makes schools more attractive to children and helps to ensure they continue their education and that they are protected from risk, including from child labour. While music alone cannot defeat child labour, it can empower children, support their withdrawal from child labour and assist in building their skills and self-esteem.

In 2021, we call on the world of music to take a stand against child labour!

COMPETITION

YOUR MUSIC CAN HELP PULL THEM OUT

Musicians, both professional and amateur, are invited to submit a song on the theme of child labour. Submissions from musicians of all formations are welcome. Participating in the competition is an opportunity to raise awareness about child labour and the importance of music and creativity in the lives of children. Contributions from **different genres** are equally valued - soul or song, highlife or hip-hop, folk, jazz, rock or tango, classical music of every tradition and every type of music besides!

Winners will be selected by a panel of technical and music experts, based on musical quality, the relevance of the message, song originality, and the inclusion of a call to action. Entries will be reviewed by the award-winning composer AR Rahman and other artists from the musical world.

The **Music Against Child Labour Competition** is being run by the global youth music organization Jeunesses Musicales International in collaboration with the International Labour Organization, under the umbrella of the Music Initiative, as a contribution to the UN International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour 2021.

Find out more [here](#)



COMPETITION

GLOBAL CATEGORY

Open to all musicians around the world, this category focuses on songs composed **about child labour in general**, but could also focus on specific type of child labour or topic.

Whether you are an orchestra, choir, ensemble, band or soloist, the most important thing is that your music should inspire hope and a better life for children suffering in child labour, calling on governments and all stakeholders to take action!

WHO CAN ENTER

Musicians of all formations, both professional and amateur, of any age.

PRIZE

1,000€ Cash Prize

A live video recording of your song to be streamed at the 2021 World Day Against Child Labour event.

GRASSROOTS CATEGORY

In the Grassroots Category we call on those engaged in **music projects that empower children** and give them a voice through music, including children who are at risk of or who were formerly in child labour.

We search for songs of hope, that aim to empower communities and raise awareness around child labour; projects that engage children and youth (under 18) and which could be in collaboration with established musicians.

WHO CAN ENTER

Children/youth groups, organizations, schools, non-formal education programs, children affected or at risk of child labour.

PRIZE

1,000€ Cash Prize

A live video recording of your song to be streamed at the 2021 World Day Against Child Labour event.

CLEAR COTTON CATEGORY

This special category is for songs **highlighting the issue of child labour in the context of the ILO's CLEAR Cotton Project**. The CLEAR Cotton Project, co-funded by the European Union, works towards the elimination of child labour and forced labour in the cotton, textile and garment value chains, combating child labour in **Burkina Faso, Mali, Pakistan** and **Peru**. To be considered for this category the applicant songs must be related to the CLEAR Cotton project. There will be a prize awarded to one winner from each of the four countries.

WHO CAN ENTER

Musicians of all formations, both professional and amateur, of any age, from Burkina Faso, Mali, Pakistan or Peru.

PRIZE

4 x 500€ Cash Prizes

A live video recording of your song to be streamed at the CLEAR Cotton Project events and on other occasions.

Apply here by 12 April, 2021.

Only **original songs** composed from **2019 onwards** will be accepted. Songs can be **submitted as audio recordings, live video recordings or music videos**. Lyrics must be attached and translated into either English, French or Spanish, if not in one of these languages.



WHAT TO WRITE ABOUT AND WHY

KEY FACTS

- ▶ **1 in 10 children** are in child labour
- ▶ **1 in 20 children** are in hazardous child labour
- ▶ **7 in 10 children** in child labour work in agriculture
- ▶ **1 in 3 children** in child labour do not attend school
- ▶ **1 in 2 children** in child labour are between 5 and 11 years old

COMPLIMENTARY INFO

- ▶ **152 million children** between the ages of 5 and 17 across the world are in child labour
- ▶ **COVID-19** puts more children at risk of engaging in child labour
- ▶ Child labour is work that **deprives children of their childhood**, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development.
- ▶ Many combine school with long hours of work, and **cannot fully benefit from education**
- ▶ Child labour has **declined by almost 40%** since 2000
- ▶ Ending child labour **is possible!**

Find out more key facts and figures on child labour [here](#)

WHY YOUR SONG MATTERS

Child Labour is a global human rights issue that affects us all. 152 million children, that is one child in every ten, is still in child labour today. Around half of these children, 73 million, are in hazardous work which endangers their health, safety and morals. Children often work from very young ages, across all economic sectors on farms, in factories and on the streets, to name but a few types of child labour. While different regions are affected in different ways and to different extents, child labour exists everywhere. Progress in tackling child labour has been made in recent years with almost 100 million fewer children in child labour today than two decades ago, with action focusing on laws and policies, education, social protection and the provision of decent work for adults and for youth of legal working age.

Yet today, **COVID-19 threatens to reverse years of efforts** and it requires collective action to protect children in the crisis response and to continue to drive progress towards the goal set by Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Target 8.7 to end child labour in all its forms by 2025.

Everyone can play a part, every action counts and can contribute to global change





MUSIC AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

www.musicagainstchildlabour.com

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