

TRINITY LABAN

Scholarship Report 2026

Trinity Laban Scholarship

Name: Xinyi Wu

Programme / Instrument: MMus / Harp

Report:

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the generous support I have received through this scholarship. This award has enabled me to continue my MMus studies at Trinity Laban and fully dedicate myself to developing as a performer. Throughout the year, I have taken part in orchestral concerts, recording projects, solo performances, auditions, and outreach activities. Highlights included performing Mozart's Flute and Harp Concerto, participating in professional recordings, and auditioning for the Asian Youth Orchestra (first reserve) and the Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz in Munich. This support has been invaluable to both my artistic and personal development.

One of the aspects I have most enjoyed at Trinity Laban is the wide range of performance and collaborative opportunities available throughout the year. A particular highlight was performing the complete Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto at St Alfege Church during the summer, which was an especially rewarding experience. I also greatly enjoyed performing at the Trinity Laban showcase at Salvi London following a masterclass with Sivan Magen. Alongside solo work, I participated in orchestral projects including Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5, Scheherazade, and Fauré's Requiem. These experiences have strengthened both my confidence and professional experience as a musician.

One of the most valuable aspects of my studies this year has been learning from the exceptional professors and artists at Trinity Laban. I am especially grateful to Gabriella



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Dall'Olio, head of the harp department, for her guidance and support throughout my studies. I would also like to thank Aileen Henry and Frances Kelly, who have both been incredibly inspiring in teaching me triple harp and historically informed performance practice for the Baroque repertoire featured in the period harp concert project I organised this year. In addition, Richard Allen and Noelia Cotuna have both been wonderful coaches, offering highly detailed musical and technical guidance that greatly deepened my understanding of the repertoire I worked on this year.

I am delighted to have several exciting projects and opportunities coming up over the next few months. Internally, I am looking forward to upcoming lunchtime recitals featuring flute and harp repertoire as well as solo harp works. I will also lead a workshop for young children at a local primary school, which I hope will be a rewarding opportunity to share music with younger audiences. Externally, I am excited to continue pursuing orchestral, recording, and audition opportunities following this year's projects and professional experiences. I also hope to continue developing my period harp project and explore further collaborative and interdisciplinary performance opportunities in the future.

I would once again like to express my deepest gratitude for the generous support I have received through this scholarship. Your support has allowed me to fully dedicate myself to my studies and artistic development, and it has made many valuable opportunities possible throughout the year. From orchestral performances and recording projects to solo recitals and auditions, each experience has contributed greatly to my growth as a musician. I am especially grateful not only for the financial assistance, but also for the encouragement and belief that this support represents. Thank you once again for your kindness, generosity, and continued faith in my musical journey.

Performance links:

- [«Media»](#)

Name: Gloria Rappo

Programme / Instrument: MMus / Harp

Report:

The support provided through this award has made a significant difference to my experience over the past academic year at Trinity Laban. I am extremely grateful for the

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encouragement and financial support it has offered, giving me the possibility to continue with my journey at Trinity Laban and nurturing my artistic growth. I really want to express my deepest gratitude as this support has allowed me to pursue my goals as a musician and has enabled me to make the most of my training and performance experiences. Thank you!

One of the highlights of my studies at Trinity Laban has been the opportunity to study and learn the triple harp, which has allowed me to explore a unique area of historical performance practice and broaden my musical experience. Thanks to one of our early harp teachers, Aileen Henry, I had the opportunity to be part of the continuo section of HGO Antiqua, in the production of L'Incoronazione di Poppea with HGO, which included a series of performances at Jackson's Lane Theatre. This provided important professional stage experience within a historically informed performance setting.

I have also greatly enjoyed the many performance opportunities available throughout the year, including lunchtime concerts, chamber music performances, orchestral projects, and masterclasses, all of which have helped me grow in confidence and develop as a performer. A particularly exiting experience was performing at Wigmore Hall at the end of April, with my chamber music partner, Christabelle Sheum (harp), as part of a Trinity Laban chamber music showcase.

These experiences have made my time at Trinity Laban both inspiring and rewarding.

This year, I have been especially grateful for the guidance and support of my principal teacher, Gabriella Dall'Olio, whose musical insight, encouragement, and dedication have had an invaluable impact on my development as a musician, harpist, but mostly as a human being. I will be forever grateful for everything she has taught me in all these years together at Trinity Laban.

I feel extremely lucky to have had the opportunity to work and study with our early harp specialists, Frances Kelly and Aileen Henry, whose expertise and passion have inspired me to explore new repertoire and performance practices, particularly in the triple harp.

We also have the privilege to have different visiting teaching assistants that have provided invaluable perspectives and advice throughout the year. Most of them are alumni of Trinity Laban, and having direct experience of what the world outside could look like for us still at



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Trinity Laban too, is really encouraging. They all help us to strengthen both our confidence and artistic growth as we prepare to begin our professional careers.

Now that I have obtained my settled status in the UK, I am very excited to continue building my professional and musical life here in the long term. Over the past years, I have established valuable relationships with students and orchestras, and I look forward to continuing to develop both my teaching and performing activities. Teaching has become an especially important part of my future plans, particularly after studying it as an elective at Trinity Laban, and I really hope to further expand my work with young harpists. Alongside this, I am preparing for orchestral auditions and applications for orchestral academies, while also planning to participate in competitions in Italy. I am also considering undertaking a specialized course in Milan on baroque harps with Mara Galassi, which would allow me to continue deepening my knowledge of historical performance practice.

Thank you so much for your support during my Master's studies. I will always be grateful to you and all the people out there who make young people's dreams come true.

Thank you!

Performance links:

- [«Media»](#)

Name: Olta Luli

Programme / Instrument: BMus / Flute

Report:

There are no words to explain how much this scholarship has helped me in completing my first year BMus studies. Having the generous funding from this scholarship removed a large financial burden from me and my family. My time at Trinity Laban so far has truly been amazing, and I cannot imagine how my musical journey would have unfolded without the scholarship. Before coming to study at Trinity Laban I had almost created the illusion that classical music would be unachievable for me as my parent's are Albanian Immigrants in the UK, and I have two younger sisters. My middle sister got accepted in the Yehudi Menuhin School but had to unfortunately reject as we could simply not afford it. However, i genuinely love making music, and believe that it is the most magical skill one could possess. I love the idea of having a long journey of practice to reach my goals as that journey is actually all that matters. Therefore, the fact that I had this generous support made me truly have faith on

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my future and my skills as a musician. There's always a path i can take and I will always try my best to enjoy every bit of it.

This year has truly been life changing to me as a classical musician. Firstly, coming from Junior Trinity, I already had very amazing experiences in here, playing as principal flute in the symphony orchestra and winning the concerto competition. Since I joined Senior Trinity, I was amazed by the number of incredibly talented and lovely people. Being surrounded by others who have such a passion for music makes me feel truly like I'm home. Firstly, Life is a Song at the start of the year, was such an amazing project as I found a passion of mine is other genres of music. Since then I have tried my best to explore all the music scene around London and beyond, attending jams, events, recordings etc. This way I also made a lot of connections, which led to me being asked to play in different recording sessions. It is important to mention that doing all these opportunities has only heightened my love for orchestral playing as it is the only place I truly thrive in. There is this unexplainable magic in the air when every musician works together to perform incredible music. However, what I have mostly enjoyed is my one to one principal lessons. I have never felt so supported by a teacher, making me even more passionate about the flute, and giving me a positive 'pressure' to always perform my best, while obviously enjoying what I do. Another highlight I must mention is how welcoming and warm the environment is... of course coming from junior trinity I was expecting this, however what I found when I joined Trinity Laban was incredible; a strong sense of community where we all support each other.



Everything in Trinity Laban so far has truly influenced me, starting from the fact that I'm constantly surrounded by very talented and passionate musicians. However, the person who truly has affected me is my one to one teacher Fiona Kelly. She is not just one of the best flute players I have seen but also a simply radiating person, always sharing positivity and making me want to always improve. Thanks to her and other opportunities I have been attending in Trinity Laban, I have completely raised my bar when playing, and always tried to see things in the most positive way I can.

I was really excited to play on the 4th of June with a Chamber Collective which me and my friends formed during this year. Furthermore, three friends from the Pop&Industry course

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invited me to record flute for them. However, what I am most excited is playing in my friend's Atharv Gupta's orchestra "Titan Orchestra" this summer as principal flute.

I am truly really grateful for this scholarship, as it has allowed me to further delve into my personality as a musician. I am very grateful that there are people helping young musicians, in today's rigid and high level classical music scene.

Performance links:

- [«Media»](#)

Thank you for helping secure their tomorrow.

Trinity Laban is a unique global community of arts creators and collaborators. We create the artistic pioneers of the future, informing and shaping the sector at large, and we work to ensure there are no barriers to the arts at any level of experience or ability.

Your support for scholarships at Trinity Laban helps us nurture the next generation of pioneering artistic talent. Thank you for your generosity, and your commitment to making the arts accessible to all.