

# NORDSYNC FORUM #5

## Blå Veggen – Cultural Cooperation, Youth and Strong Local Communities

16–18 October 2026 | Mo i Rana and Nesna, Nordland, Norway

### About the Event

NordSync Project invites you to the fifth NordSync Forum, taking place in Mo i Rana on 16–18 October 2026 as part of *NordSync: Blå Veggen – Cultural Cooperation 2026–2027*.

The Forum brings together professional musicians and cultural workers, representatives of music and arts schools, voluntary cultural organisations, and youth communities from Norway, Sweden and Finland. The aim is to further develop cross-border cultural cooperation along the Blå Veggen (Blue Road/E12) and in the surrounding regions of Nordland, Västerbotten, Norrbotten and Kainuu.

Through its activities in 2024–2026, NordSync has established an extensive network of cultural organisations and professionals across the three countries. Several collaborative projects have emerged from previous NordSync Forums and Labs. In the new project period, we aim to build on these experiences, placing particular emphasis on **cooperation between voluntary cultural organisations, music and arts schools, professional artists and young people**.

One of the central themes of this year's Forum is **NordSync Atlas**, our new initiative dedicated to youth recruitment, skills development and youth participation. Atlas aims to develop new models for cultural education and cooperation, make cultural activities more accessible to young people across geographical distances, and strengthen connections between local cultural communities in the Nordic countries.

The programme includes professional presentations, practical workshops, meetings between project partners, and discussions about future collaborative projects. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience concrete results of Nordic cultural cooperation.

One important example is **Nordic Youth Music Initiative – Helgeland 2026**, an international youth music project bringing together approximately 120 participants from Norway, Sweden and Finland. The project builds on partnerships and connections established through previous NordSync activities and serves as a practical example of how music schools, voluntary orchestra associations and professional musicians can develop large-scale collaborative productions.

The Forum takes place alongside NordSync Lab #5, themed *Orchestra Courses – Reimagined*, and includes concerts and cultural activities organised in cooperation with local partners and the Smeltedigelen Festival.

Through professional exchange, practical cooperation and shared cultural experiences, NordSync Forum #5 aims to strengthen existing partnerships and lay the foundation for new collaborative projects in 2027–2028.

## **Partners and Participating Organisations**

The event is organised with the participation and cooperation of, among others, Rana Kulturskole, Vefsn Kulturskole, Helgeland Symphony Orchestra, Rødøy Orkesterforening, Strykekameratene, Alstahaug Orkesterforening, KulturAkademin Storuman, Lycksele Musiksällskap, Lycksele Musikkolan and Kuhmo Music Institute (Kuhmon musiikkiopisto), together with other partners within the NordSync network.

