# Busted reveal they turned down Eurovision offer that later went to McFly



Busted, the iconic pop-punk band known for hits such as "What I Go to School For," revealed during an appearance on The Scott Mills Breakfast Show on BBC Radio 2 that they were approached to represent the UK at the Eurovision Song Contest several years ago but ultimately declined the offer. Matt Willis, one of the band members, recalled that after they turned down the chance, the organisers subsequently sought out McFly to take their place. This rejection adds a layer of intrigue to the longstanding connection between the two bands, both of whom rose to fame in the early 2000s.

Reflecting on this missed opportunity, Willis noted that the timing had not been right for Busted, indicating a desire for careful consideration when it comes to participating in such high-profile events. Joining him on the show, McFly's Tom Fletcher expressed a similar sentiment, stating that while he would have cherished the chance to perform at Eurovision, it simply wasn't the right moment for them.

This isn't the first time Eurovision has stirred up nostalgia and sentimentality in the music scene. McFly, too, was actively pursued around ten years ago to represent the UK at the contest. According to drummer Harry Judd, while they were "really pursued," the band felt that participating wasn't suitable for them at that time. Judd's comments underscore the complexity of Eurovision as a platform; it has been seen in recent years as both a source of national pride and a potential pitfall for artists who want to maintain a specific artistic identity.

Looking forward, both bands appear open to the idea of competing in the future. Judd has also praised recent acts like Sam Ryder, who have helped restore a sense of credibility and prestige to the UK's Eurovision entries following years of mixed results. Ryder's strong performance has renewed optimism among British musicians about representing the nation on this grand international stage.

As the competition approaches this May 17, the UK will welcome a new act, Remember Monday, who will be the first girl group to compete in over 25 years. The trio, consisting of Charlotte Steele, Holly-Anne Hull, and Lauren Byrne, is set to perform their song, "What The Hell Just Happened?" The performance is reminiscent of Bridgerton's lavish aesthetics, featuring dramatic costumes, vibrant colours, and a staging that includes a giant chandelier, highlighting the elaborate nature of Eurovision productions.

Anticipation for the upcoming contest is palpable, especially as Remember Monday prepares to take the stage in a bid for Eurovision glory. With both Busted and McFly continuing to make waves in the UK music scene, it’s evident that their past decisions regarding Eurovision have only added to their intricate legacy in British pop culture. Should they choose to embrace the competitive spirit of Eurovision in the future, it could mark a fascinating chapter in their storied careers.

Lastly, as interest in these artists grows, particularly with the upcoming 'Busted vs McFly' tour set for 2025, it becomes obvious that both groups continue to evolve while keeping nostalgia alive, demonstrating their enduring appeal in the ever-changing landscape of music.

### Reference Map

1 - Paragraph 1 1 - Paragraph 2 2 - Paragraph 3 3 - Paragraph 3 4 - Paragraph 3 1 - Paragraph 4 1 - Paragraph 5 1 - Paragraph 6 1 - Paragraph 7

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14697595/Iconic-band-Britain-Eurovision-McFly.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/mcfly-pursued-represent-uk-eurovision-song-contest-b1076927.html> - McFly revealed they were pursued about 10 years ago to represent the UK in the Eurovision Song Contest but declined as it wasn't the right fit for them at the time. Drummer Harry Judd mentioned they were 'really pursued' but felt it wasn't suitable for the band. Despite turning down the offer, they wouldn't rule out participating in the future. Judd also praised Sam Ryder for bringing 'credibility back to the UK' in the competition.
3. <https://metro.co.uk/2023/04/26/mcfly-were-really-pursued-to-do-eurovision-and-turned-it-down-18671290/> - McFly disclosed they were actively pursued about a decade ago to represent the UK in the Eurovision Song Contest but chose to decline as it wasn't the right time for them. Drummer Harry Judd stated they were 'really pursued' but felt it wasn't suitable for the band. Despite turning down the offer, they wouldn't rule out participating in the future. Judd also praised Sam Ryder for bringing 'credibility back to the UK' in the competition.
4. <https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/mcfly-eurovision-uk-entry-b2327202.html> - Harry Judd of McFly shared why the group decided against representing the UK at the Eurovision Song Contest. The band, known for hits like 'All About You' and 'Five Colours in Her Hair', was pursued to perform at the international music competition a decade ago but declined the offer as it wasn't the right fit for them at the time. Judd mentioned they were 'really pursued' but felt it wasn't suitable for the band. Despite turning down the offer, they wouldn't rule out participating in the future.
5. <https://www.kerrang.com/busted-mcfly-announce-tour-charlie-simpson> - McFly celebrated their 21st anniversary at The O2 in London when Busted made a surprise appearance, announcing a head-to-head tour for 2025. The 'Busted vs McFly' tour will see both bands performing across the UK and Ireland in autumn 2025. McFly joked about the rivalry, stating, 'They’re old men now, and we are gonna blow them and their carers off the stage next year.' Busted responded, 'We are ready to show who is the better band once and for all.'
6. <https://www.thepinknews.com/2024/10/10/busted-mcfly-tickets-tour-uk/> - Busted and McFly announced a joint UK and Ireland arena tour for 2025, following a surprise appearance by Busted at McFly's 21st anniversary show at The O2 in London. The 'Busted vs McFly' tour will feature both bands performing across various cities, including Birmingham, London, Cardiff, Sheffield, Leeds, and Aberdeen. Tickets went on sale on October 18, 2024, with pre-sale options available from October 16, 2024.
7. <https://www.tegeurope.com/2024/10/10/mcfly-and-busted-go-head-to-head-on-2025s-biggest-and-most-unmissable-tour/> - McFly and Busted announced a head-to-head tour for 2025, following a surprise appearance by Busted at McFly's 21st anniversary show at The O2 in London. The 'Busted vs McFly' tour will see both bands performing across the UK and Ireland in autumn 2025. McFly joked about the rivalry, stating, 'They’re old men now, and we are gonna blow them and their carers off the stage next year.' Busted responded, 'We are ready to show who is the better band once and for all.'