

Worcester Philharmonic • O R C H E S T R A •

Registered as a Charity No: 512073

Information for Conductor/Musical Director Applicants

Application Deadline: Monday 20th May 2019

Thank you for your interest in the role of Conductor/Musical Director with Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra (WPO). We are excited about the future and eager to find the right Conductor/Musical Director to work with us.

We are an amateur community orchestra of 50+ playing members with a range of musical experience and ability. Our aim is to offer an environment where all musicians feel welcome, challenged, supported and inspired, whatever their level. We are an enthusiastic group, willing to consider new ideas to develop the orchestra further.

WPO performs a broad and varied classical repertoire, encompassing concerti, symphonies and music from film & stage. Our past repertoire and more information about the orchestra can be found on our website: www.worcesterphilharmonic.co.uk

The **WPO season** runs between September and June every year. We generally perform **four afternoon concerts** per year in **Pershore Abbey**, Worcestershire. These usually take place in November, January, March and June.

Rehearsals take place every Wednesday evening during school term time between 19:30 and 21:30. They are held in St George's Church, St George's Square, Worcester, WR1 1HX

We hold a morning rehearsal on each concert day in Pershore Abbey, before a 2:30pm concert.

WPO is a registered charity managed by a committee comprising of members of the orchestra elected each year and governed by its constitution. **The Conductor is an *ex officio* member of the committee.**

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We would like our Conductor/Musical Director to:

- Provide the orchestra with musical direction in order to develop the skills and abilities of its members and achieve the highest possible musical standards, whilst ensuring that rehearsals and concerts are an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.
- Conduct 3 out of 4 concerts per year, in agreement with the committee. The orchestra will invite a guest conductor for one of the four concerts.
- Conduct all rehearsals, including some sectional rehearsals, for all concerts which he/she will be conducting. Under exceptional circumstances, should the conductor be unavailable for a particular rehearsal, the conductor will liaise with the committee to arrange a suitable deputy.
- Prepare for each rehearsal to ensure that a thorough approach is taken to the preparation of the music for each concert.
- Agree in advance with the committee a detailed rehearsal schedule for each concert, taking into account players who may not be featured in all works.
- Work with the committee and leader of the orchestra to plan and agree the annual programme, taking into account practicalities of ability, budgets and audience appeal.
- Attend committee meetings when invited by the committee and provide advice and recommendations on musical matters.
- Attend the orchestra's AGM and any other special meetings that may be called.
- Define musician requirements for specific programmes, and work with the committee to meet those requirements.

We are looking for somebody who has:

- A track record of recent orchestral conducting experience
- The ability to inspire and enthuse players in all sections and of all abilities
- The ability to make rehearsals and concerts a rewarding and enjoyable experience
- Effective preparation and organisational skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate and engage with audiences
- The ability to work constructively with a committee in managing an orchestra
- Reliability and commitment
- A good working knowledge of orchestral repertoire.
- Experience of working with and conducting soloists
- Contacts with potential soloists, both locally and nationally

Further Information:

You will not be an employee of the orchestra. You will be engaged on a self-employed basis and will therefore be expected to account for your own income tax, VAT and Class 4 National Insurance contributions.

We are offering £75 per weekly rehearsal and a £200 concert day fee.

Worcester Philharmonic • ORCHESTRA •

Submitting an application:

Applications should be e-mailed to the secretary of Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra at WorcesterPhilharmonic@gmail.com by **Monday 20th May 2019**. Please include your CV and an application letter covering the points we are looking for. Your application will be acknowledged. If you have not received an acknowledgement by Wednesday 22nd May, please contact us.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend a **preliminary interview** in Worcester during June or early July (following our next concert on June 15th).

Auditions will take place on **11th and 18th September 2019** at St George's Church, St George's Square, Worcester, WR1 1HX.

Orchestra members will have the opportunity to vote for their preferred candidate.

The successful candidate will be notified by early October, following our AGM on 25th September 2019. The role will commence on a date mutually agreed between the candidate and the committee.

If you would like to visit us at one of our rehearsals or have an informal telephone conversation before submitting your application, please email us at WorcesterPhilharmonic@gmail.com and we will arrange for this to take place. We look forward to hearing from you.



Website: www.worcesterphilharmonic.co.uk



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