



Birmingham Gay Symphony Orchestra

Job Description, Musical Director

The Musical Director is responsible for the overall musical direction of the orchestra, the preparation and leadership of rehearsals, and in conjunction with the orchestra's committee the organisation and performance of the orchestra's concerts. They are responsible for maintaining and improving the high musical standard that BGSO has become known for.

Role Responsibilities

- Prepare for and rehearse the orchestra fortnightly on Sunday afternoons (2-5pm) in Birmingham
- Rehearse and conduct concerts three times a year; normally in December (Christmas), March/April (Easter), and July (Summer).
- Attend meetings of the BGSO committee held monthly prior to the rehearsal.
- Attend the BGSO AGM and present a formal report on its musical progress to the trustees, committee, and members.
- Propose repertoire, assist in sourcing music, and advise on concert planning and other matters relating to the administration of the orchestra.
- Arrangement of pieces for full orchestra.
- Transcribe parts into an electronic format for members requesting this.
- Contribute to the planning of other events such as Open Days.
- Sourcing and recruitment of players to come in for concerts as deputies, as and when required.

Role Requirements

Essential

- Evidence of qualified musicianship and previous experience of conducting orchestral repertoire to a high standard.
- Ability to motivate and inspire non-professional and mixed-ability players to achieve a high standard of performance and enjoyment of music-making.
- A wide-ranging knowledge of orchestral repertoire and its technical and musical requirements, including symphonic, film and contemporary works.
- Excellent communication skills and ability to explain concepts in a variety of ways.
- An excellent judge of intonation and balance.
- Excellent speaking skills, including the ability to address audiences when required (e.g. at concerts).
- Imaginative and creative programming that is both exciting and appropriate for our members and our community, and engaging for audiences.

Desirable

- Good contacts with professional musicians, including singers, that the orchestra may wish to engage as soloists, and composers that the orchestra may wish to work with.



- Significant experience as an orchestral instrumentalist.
- A knowledge of external funding sources and experience of making grant applications.

Terms and remuneration

Following their appointment, the Musical Directors' contract will be subject to review and confirmation in April 2023 following a probationary period commencing in January 2023. BGSO's payment terms for the 2022/2023 season are negotiable depending on the successful candidates experience.

All fees are subject to annual review.

Statement on equal opportunities

Birmingham Gay Symphony Orchestra welcomes applications from suitably qualified musicians regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.