

Conductor / Musical Director for the Holborn Community Orchestra

The conductor/musical director is responsible for the quality of musical performance at all stages in performance projects for the Holborn Community Orchestra. They are also responsible for creating a positive atmosphere in rehearsal and performance spaces. In line with charitable aims of the orchestra and the abilities of the players, the musical director should strive to attain the best possible musical standard and ambiance for the members and deliver on the following responsibilities.

Rehearsals:

- The MD will prepare each score to conduct in rehearsal to a professional standard.
- The MD will maintain a positive and creative atmosphere throughout rehearsals.
- The MD will structure their rehearsals effectively so that sufficient material is covered to prepare the orchestra for the term's performances.
- The MD will liaise with collaborating artists such as choirs or voice actors as appropriate and plan their involvement in the rehearsal process.
- The MD will ensure that, if they are unable to attend a rehearsal, they organise another conductor to take their place.

Performances:

- The MD will ensure with the committee that all musical resources are sourced for each performance.
- On performance days, the MD will lead the team coordinating with the venue regarding stage layout, amplification, recording and any further musical resources.
- The MD will prepare their technique and scores to a professional level.
- The MD will conduct the orchestra on concert days and work with musicians to perform to the highest possible standard.
- The MD will MC each concert, providing an engaging support to the orchestra's performance.

General:

- The Musical Director will correspond regularly with committee members on all aspects relating to the performance side of the orchestra.
- The MD will attend regularly scheduled committee meetings
- The MD will manage in a friendly way the hierarchies of each orchestral section – working with string sections to find leaders and liaising with wind and brass players to assign parts suitable for players.

- The MD will collaborate with the committee when new players are required and assist with recruitment of new players.
- The MD will report any member complaints to the committee so that they can be dealt with in accordance with the code of conduct of the orchestra.

Preparation for each project (see below examples of latest terms):

- The MD will select repertoire in collaboration with the committee for every concert. HCO prides itself in featuring works by underrepresented groups including women composers and those from minority ethnic backgrounds. The repertoire should be balanced, engaging, appropriately challenging without being too difficult and in line with the values of the orchestra.
- The MD must plan and assist in the coordination of collaborating artists or ensembles such as singers or voice actors so that the repertoire balances their involvement with the performance from the rest of the orchestra.
- The MD will liaise with section leaders to facilitate specific instrumental techniques such as bowing for the strings.

