

WORK WITH THE CBSO

SECTION LEADER TRUMPET



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The CBSO is seeking to appoint a Section Leader Trumpet to lead our trumpet section.

CONTRACT: 190 days per annum, with flexibility for the successful candidate to negotiate a reduced contract, if they so wish

LOCATION: Birmingham based with a regular requirement to travel in the UK and internationally

SALARY: £52,942 per annum

ABOUT THE CBSO

[The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra](#) (CBSO) is an internationally celebrated symphony orchestra, at home in Birmingham. A family of 90 incredible musicians, led by Chief Conductor and Artistic Advisor Kazuki Yamada, proud to make exciting musical experiences that matter.

Resident at Symphony Hall, the orchestra performs over 150 concerts each year in Birmingham, the UK and around the world, with music that ranges from classics to contemporary, soundtracks to symphonies, and everything in between. For more than 100 years, it has been involved in every aspect of music-making in the Midlands, and through its wide-reaching community and education projects, and family of choruses and youth ensembles, this continues to grow. Helping to build a life-long love of music for audiences, communities and musicians across Birmingham, the West Midlands and beyond.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY:

The CBSO is an equal opportunity organisation: we value diversity in our organisation and welcome applications from everyone. We consistently monitor our recruitment process to ensure that individuals are selected based on their relevant merits and abilities and receive equal treatment.

You will be welcomed at the CBSO and will find an inclusive environment where different views and experiences are valued, and everyone is able to be themselves. We recognise and understand the importance of diversity and inclusion and want our organisation to be representative of the audiences, people, and communities we serve.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- To play 1st trumpet in the orchestra and other CBSO ensembles as required.
- To play stylistically appropriate instruments as required by orchestration.
- To maintain an exemplary level of preparation with regards to orchestral repertoire and solos.
- To be an effective Section Leader for the trumpet section, taking a proactive role in maintaining section quality, cohesion and wellbeing.
- To build and maintain effective working relationships with all members of the orchestra, management team, freelance musicians and conductors engaged by the orchestra.
- To set examples of good orchestral etiquette and discipline.
- To participate in orchestra recruitment, including being part of shortlisting and audition panels and attending trial assessment meetings, with due regard for confidentiality, diversity and inclusion.
- To engage in the general activities of the orchestra, such as attendance at Section Leader meetings, promotional activity, outreach and learning work, and to act as an ambassador for the orchestra.
- To participate in performance/capability reviews in accordance with the CBSO MU Agreement.
- To be a role model for CBSO's values and work in accordance with the CBSO/MU Agreement, and all other CBSO policies and guidelines.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Candidates should have experience of performing in symphony orchestras and evidence through their application form of excellence in performance in a professional context. The CBSO will also consider candidates who are in the early stages of their career and can clearly demonstrate their potential to fulfil the role. The ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate the following skills and experience:

Essential:

- Highly reputable classical music training
- Recent orchestral experience as a professional trumpet player
- Commitment to delivering a very high standard of work
- Excellent communication and organisational skills
- Self-motivated, reliable and able to work under pressure
- Ability to work co-operatively as part of a team
- Ability to develop positive working relationships including with other members of the orchestra and management/administrative team
- Respect for others demonstrated by being fully prepared to play at the start of every session
- Ability to understand and speak English
- Demonstrate being able to lead a Trumpet section, both artistically and administratively

Desirable:

- Proven expertise in a broad range of musical and performance activities including education work and chamber music
- Considerable recent orchestral experience as a professional trumpet player
- Ability to play rotary valved trumpet and natural trumpet

RECRUITMENT OVERVIEW

SHORTLISTING

Following the deadline, anonymised application forms will be reviewed and scored by the recruitment panel. Candidates will then be offered a First Round (screened) audition or an Automatic Second Round (unscreened) audition based on their score.

Candidates with exceptional experience relevant to the role will be invited for guest freelance work with the orchestra, during which they will complete an automatic second round audition.

AUDITION

First and Second audition rounds will take place on the same day using a call back system.

First Round auditions are screened (anonymous) and will include performing one piece and a small number of orchestral excerpts – full details and notated music for both rounds is included in the Audition Booklet.

Second Round auditions (for candidates progressing from the First Round) are unscreened and will include further orchestral excerpts. Candidates may be asked to present material from the First Round again and may be asked to respond to feedback from the panel.

Candidates shortlisted for an Automatic Second Round will be asked to present all material from both audition rounds in a single, unscreened audition.

All audition rounds will be heard unaccompanied.

TRIAL

Candidates who have demonstrated a suitable playing ability through audition will be invited to trial for the position. This involves being invited for assessed freelance work with the orchestra on a project-by-project basis. The recruitment panel and section will meet regularly to discuss each candidate's progress and provide feedback or updates where necessary.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this position, please complete the online application form below. Any questions should be directed to applications@cbso.co.uk.

Please note that our shortlisting process is anonymous, so please ensure your application form does not reference your name or personal details.

We ask that you complete the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring section of the online form when you submit your application. The information collected will be treated as confidential, used for statistical purposes only, and will not be treated as part of your application.

LINK TO APPLICATION FORM: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/JMjyfAQpQq>

RECRUITMENT TIMETABLE:

Application deadline: Monday 2 November 2027

Auditions: Monday 4 January 2027
Friday 12 February 2027
Monday 1 March 2027

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The contract allows for non-orchestral work to be delivered in contract whilst always prioritising the work in the orchestra
- This position is full-time with a work commitment of 190 days per annum, with flexibility for the successful candidate to negotiate a reduced contract, if they so wish.
- Salary £52,942 per annum
- There are thirty-five days paid holiday in addition the Public Holidays
- Membership of the Company's Group Stakeholder Pension Plan
- Various benefits for CBSO employees including, but not limited to:
 - An instrument loan fund (up to £5,000) at preferential rates of interest
 - A study fund offering players up to £250 per annum
 - Comprehensive instrument insurance
 - A comprehensive sickness scheme, with cover for long term sickness or permanent disability
 - An independent Benevolent Fund, providing assistance and financial support in cases of need
- All CBSO employees are expected to adhere to all CBSO's policies.
- Please see the [CBSO / MU Standard Contract](#) for full terms and conditions.