



BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: LEADER - Recruitment Process and instructions

We are seeking an exceptional violinist to lead and inspire this world-renowned Orchestra. The ideal candidate will have extensive professional orchestral experience, outstanding leadership abilities combined with the highest level of technical and musical excellence and a collaborative spirit.

The BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA aims to make the appointment process for its orchestral vacancies inclusive, transparent and accessible to players at all stages in their careers.

Please complete the online application form by 30th MARCH 2026

this will be redacted & anonymously shortlisted by members of the BBC SO Management Team.

*Candidates will then be invited to **Stage 1** or **2** based on pre-determined criteria.*

- **Stage 1:** Candidates who evidence a significant level of relevant professional orchestral experience will progress to live audition. It is likely that we will hold 2 rounds of auditions on each audition day:
Round 1: Screened
Round 2: Re-call auditions, unscreened.
Candidates who are successful at **Stage 1** will then progress to **Stage 3**.
- **Stage 2:** Candidates who evidence an exceptional level of professional orchestral experience in equivalent positions will be invited for periods of assessed guest work with the orchestra. If successful, candidates will be invited to perform a live audition to the panel (equivalent to **Stage 1**) at a mutually convenient time, and, if successful, will progress to **Stage 3**.
- **Stage 3:** Candidates will be invited for trial dates of work with the orchestra.

We will inform you of shortlisting decisions by 10TH APRIL 2026

STAGE 1 : LIVE AUDITIONS

Auditions are likely to be held in London on some of the following dates: **JUNE 12,13,24,25,26**. An accompanist will be provided.

Repertoire for the live audition:

1st movement of a Mozart Concerto (with cadenza)

1st movement of a contrasting concerto

Orchestral Excerpts: (in the book provided)

BEETHOVEN: Missa Solemnis (*Sanctus – Benedictus*)

DVOŘÁK: Symphony No. 8 (2nd movement, bars 57 – 64)

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: Scheherazade (Cadenzas from movements 2, 3 & 4)

STRAVINSKY: Agon (*Pas de Trois: Saraband & Coda*)

STRAUSS: Also Sprach Zarathustra (14 bars before 26 – 2 bars before 31)

HENZE: Richard Wagnersche Klavierlieder (No. 7: *Bauer unter der Linde*)

STRAUSS: Le bourgeois gentilhomme (No. 4: *Tanz der Schneider*)