Projects Director

We are on a mission to champion change and celebrate diversity in classical music – do you have the skills and expertise to help us?

After ten successful years of growth, underpinned by a strong mission and successful fundraising, the Chineke! Foundation is looking for a Projects Director who will help ensure that the production and organisation of projects match their artistic ambition.

You will play an important role in the continued growth and evolution of the organisation. You will work closely with the Projects Team and lead on planning, selling and delivery. You will communicate the development of any new projects whilst overseeing the pre-existing engagements and work closely with our touring agents at Askonas Holt. Reporting to the Managing Director and working as part of our dynamic team of management staff you will play a vital role in the organisation.

**Person Specification**

We are looking for these areas of experience and skills:

* First-hand knowledge and experience of working with orchestras
* Confidence in advising the artistic team when developing programmes
* Experience of recording and filming including rights and contracting
* Experience of project scheduling
* Ability to build strong new relationships with regional, national and international venues
* Budgeting and negotiating skills
* Outstanding networking skills in a range of settings
* Ability to work from home and the Chineke! office at Woolwich Works in Greenwich
* Commitment to advancing the cause of diversity in the arts
* A strong work ethic, ability to work autonomously, and a willingness to work occasional irregular hours including weekends and/or whenever projects take place
* A high standard of communication in written and spoken English

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**Job description**

Reporting to the Managing Director and in coordination with the Artistic Director and Deputy Artistic Director, you will handle the orchestra’s diary, lead on the production of projects and line manage the Orchestra & Tour Manager and our Production freelancers.

Your responsibilities will be:

* Attending all Chineke! rehearsals, projects and tours
* Working closely with the artistic team to assist on curation of programmes, keeping track of conductor/soloist invites and handling contracting once bookings have been confirmed
* Meeting with venues to generate interest in our future programmes and secure concert dates to build out regional tours around core Southbank Centre dates
* Keeping the Development Director and Marketing and Communications Manager up to date on projects and future plans
* Keeping track of our National Portfolio Organisation requirements with Arts Council and planning projects to meet our targets on the number of concerts in each category that we have committed to in each financial year
* Working closely with our important partners i.e. Askonas Holt, Southbank Centre, Woolwich Works, Royal Albert Hall
* Working closely with the Artistic Team and Managing Director to ensure that our performance plans align with our mission and 5 Year Development Plan
* Producing and negotiating contracts to engagements (conductors, soloists, with venues/festivals, tours, commercial engagements etc.)
* Contributing to a supportive and collegiate culture within the Chineke! Foundation

**Terms of Employment:**

* Salary: £45,000 - £50,000 depending on experience
* Working hours: this is a full-time position, working an average of 40 hours per week including some work outside of regular office hours and at weekends for which TOIL will be given.
* Location: The work will involve a balance of working from Chineke! Foundation’s offices at Woolwich Works in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, working at rehearsal and concert venues and working from home.
* 20 days’ holiday per annum plus statutory holidays in the first year of employment rising by 1 day’s holiday per annum for each year of service up to a maximum of 25 days’ holiday, plus statutory holidays.
* Probationary period of six months during which one month’s notice on both sides. After the probationary period, there will be two months’ notice on both sides.
* There will be a number of professional development opportunities connected to this role and these will be developed in collaboration with the successful candidate

**How to apply**

If you have any queries, or wish to apply for the post, please send your CV and covering letter to Annabelle Baik, Concert Coordinator: annabelle@chineke.org

**Application Deadline**: 6pm, Monday 18th August 2025 6pm

**More about Chineke!**

Established in 2015, Chineke! aims to transform public perceptions of who classical music is by and for. We are doing this by developing the Chineke! Orchestra, Europe’s first majority-Black and ethnically diverse professional orchestra. Our founding was described as a “blaze of excitement and hope” (Daily Telegraph) and “the beginning of something culturally inspiring” (The Guardian). Since then we’ve staged 145 concerts and released three full-length commercial recordings, benefitting 350 musicians and reaching a live audience of 90,000 across the UK and internationally.

Our activities are organised into three primary strands. First, concerts by the Chineke! Orchestra, Chamber Ensemble, and Chineke! Voices, and the new works we regularly commission for the orchestra. Second, the Chineke! Junior Orchestra, which provides development opportunities for ethnically diverse musicians aged 11-22 and comprises courses, rehearsal weekends and concerts. And finally, our Learning & Participation programme in schools and other community settings, also including our new Beginners’ Orchestra.

Chineke! stands as a pioneering force in classical music, dedicated to showcasing the talent of Black and ethnically diverse musicians in the realm of symphonic orchestral performances. Alongside our core focus, we also embrace innovative collaborations that extend our impact and resonate with a wide audience. We've had the privilege of working with notable artists across different genres, such as Stormzy and Max Richter, and partnered directly with the estate of Bob Marley to reimagine Marley’s work in a project released by Island Records. In 2023, we marked another milestone by becoming the first European orchestra to perform the Black Panther soundtrack live alongside the film, in a special engagement at the Royal Albert Hall. Our current major partnerships include iconic classical music label Decca Recordings, leading cultural centre the Southbank Centre, and emerging arts hub Woolwich Works. In April 2023, Chineke! became an Arts Council England 'National Portfolio Organisation,' further enabling an ambitious expansion of our work across England and beyond.

For further information on the Chineke! Foundation, visit our website at: [www.chineke.org](http://www.chineke.org)

*The Chineke! Foundation is a Registered Charity in England and Wales, Charity Number 116593*

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