



SECTION PRINCIPAL BASS

ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
91 Hindley Street, Adelaida SA 5000

SECTION PRINCIPAL BASS**GENERAL INFORMATION****Remuneration:**

A salary range of AUS \$107,835 to \$112,952 per annum plus superannuation and other allowances currently applies (Musicians Agreement 2024-2026). Any changes to salary will be reflected based on the relevant Musicians Agreement as appropriate. The ASO also offers a generous instrument insurance scheme.

Position Commencement:

The trial commencement date is negotiable; however, the trial should commence within 6 months.

Eligibility:

This position is only open to Australian and international applicants.

Application Process:

To express interest in this role, please submit the following to employment@aso.com.au:

1. Current CV outlining relevant musical, leadership and orchestral experience.
2. Recording submission (See Recordings below).

For specific enquiries, please email Rachel Grant, People and Culture Manager at grantr@aso.com.au or visit our website: <http://www.aso.com.au/about/employment>

Application Close Date:

5pm, Wednesday 14 October 2026.

Recordings:

Required Work: First movement of a standard concerto, with or without piano accompaniment, performed in orchestral tuning. The ASO tunes to A441Hz. Digital recordings made on phones are acceptable.

Submission instructions: Please label your recording submission with your name and contact details and submit via Dropbox to aso@aso.com.au with grantr@aso.com.au and library@aso.com.au on copy.

Selection Process:

Completed applications, including recordings, must be submitted by 5pm on Wednesday 14 October 2026.

Applications will be assessed on Wednesday 28 October 2026.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited, in priority order, to play in the position for a short assessment period. As part of the assessment, they also will be required to perform a short recital that includes selected orchestral passages.

Each shortlisted candidate will be offered a three-week invitation period. The timing will be arranged according to the candidate's availability and the ASO calendar. The ASO will seek to schedule a mutually agreeable time for the candidate to perform with the orchestra within six months of the invitation being issued.

During the invitation period, the candidate will be required to play with the orchestra and perform a recital for ASO members.

Recital works:

The recital will comprise 15 minutes of repertoire chosen by the candidate, plus the orchestral excerpts listed below.

Orchestral Excerpts:

1. Haydn - Symphony No. 31 - (4th movement solo with repeats).
2. Stravinsky - Pulcinella solo (No.7)
3. Mozart - Symphony No.40 (1st movement excerpt).
4. Beethoven - Symphony No. 9 (Recitative from the 4th movement).
5. Strauss - Ein Heldenleben
6. Britten - Variations on a theme of Frank Bridge (March).

If a successful candidate is identified at any stage, they will proceed to a trial in the position, and the invitation process may cease.

About The Orchestra:

Established in 1936, the ASO plays a major role in Adelaide's cultural and economic vibrancy, and enriches the community through a diverse program of world-class performances to more than 100,000 concertgoers each season.

In the spirit of innovation, the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra frequently showcases new music and Australian premieres. The ASO has embarked on numerous international tours and plays a role in the Adelaide Festival of Arts, Adelaide Cabaret Festival, OzAsia Festival, WOMAdelaide, State Opera of South Australia and The Australian Ballet. The season generally starts at the end of January and concludes mid- December. During the Christmas/New Year period, between seasons, the Orchestra members are on annual leave.

The ASO acknowledges that we work and make music on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We pay our respects to Elders past and present. We extend this respect to all Traditional Owners of the lands where we tour and perform.

To learn more about the ASO visit us at www.aso.com.au or Instagram @the_aso

About Adelaide:

Consistently ranked in the top three most liveable cities in the world, Adelaide, South Australia is a cosmopolitan city that offers an incredible quality of life. With its coastal location and proximity to world-class beaches, state parks, wildlife, celebrated wine regions and culinary delights, this city has much to offer for a relaxed and well-balanced lifestyle.

In 2015, Adelaide was bestowed the designation as the first, and only, UNESCO City of Music in Australia. The designation is an acknowledgment of the breadth, depth and vibrancy of the city's music culture, its international reach, its history and its aspirations. Consistently ranked as one

The ASO works and makes music on the Traditional Lands of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains.

To learn more about Adelaide's culture, vibrant city life and heritage please visit:

<https://www.cityofadelaide.com.au/>

Privacy

For the ASO Privacy Policy please follow this [link](#)

JOB DESCRIPTION

Duty Statement:

General duties and work requirements:

(Relevant passages from the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Musicians Agreement)

DUTY STATEMENTS: - Section Leaders (excepting First violins)

In addition to the "General duties and work requirements of Principal Musicians", **Section Leaders** shall:

- a) prepare and play the first part of the section and relevant solos of the repertoire; lead and direct the section;
- b) take responsibility for the style, intonation, balance, ensemble, rhythm and preparation of the section;
- c) in the case of string principals, prepare 1st desk part with bowings and other markings from concertmaster's part;
- d) play other parts from time to time in an emergency at his/her discretion;
- e) take responsibility in the first instance for the general discipline of the section;
- f) take responsibility in the first instance for rostering the section (this may be

delegated), and in string sections for seat allocation ensuring that appropriate input is received from section members and due consideration is given to artistic standards;

- g) prepare suitable audition material for auditions and casual assessments relevant to the section and consult with management on the engagement of casual musicians.

15.2 DUTY STATEMENTS: - Principal Musicians

General duties and work requirements.

Principal musicians shall:-

- a) play the instrument/s and parts for which the musician was engaged/auditioned
- b) play any instrument in the relevant family of instruments (see clause 15.8) provided:
 - i. there is a doubling part and the musician was engaged/auditioned on the relevant instrument(s); or
 - ii. the musician is willing and has a recognised professional level of competence; or
 - iii. the musician is willing and provided that the musician's artistic standards are not compromised;
- c) provided that the artistic standards of the orchestra are not compromised,
 - i. if applicable, perform higher duties, if willing;
 - ii. play in combinations of seven or less, if willing;
 - iii. play off-stage at the conductor's direction (subject to the musician's classification);
- d) undertake preparation of relevant parts in advance of the first rehearsal;
- e) rehearse and perform relevant parts as required;
- f) if applicable, mark parts and convey all relevant information consistent with section leader's instructions, in a concise and timely manner;
- g) maintain a fully professional appearance and behaviour whilst on duty;
- h) participate in the relevant musical responsibilities of the section;
- i) if applicable, follow the directions of the Section Leader in all matters relating to style, ensemble, intonation, articulation and bowing (as relevant), and seating;
- j) participate on auditions panels, trial assessment meetings, consultative, orchestral and artistic meetings as required;
- k) not unreasonably refuse to be available for meetings with management and colleagues to discuss job-related issues;
- l) undertake promotional activities consistent with the player's capacity as a professional musician and as agreed.

15.3 Principal musicians/Specific duties.

The positions of Piccolo, Cor Anglais, Bass Clarinet, Contra Bassoon, 3rd Horn, 3rd Trombone (Bass), Tuba, Harp, Timpani and Principal 1st Violin are Principal positions.

- a) The principal Piccolo, Cor Anglais, Bass Clarinet and Contra Bassoon may be required to play:
- i. any part written for their specialist instrument,
 - ii. any doubling part involving their specialist instrument and the section's main instrument,
 - iii. in any position except section leader whether or not a doubling part is involved. It is agreed that the requirement to play parts not involving the specialist instrument will arise either from the scoring of a particular work, or the need to achieve a balanced workload across the section.
- b) The positions of Piccolo, Cor Anglais, Bass Clarinet, Contra Bassoon are primarily responsible for their specialist part.
- c) The Principal 1st Violin shall:
- i. sit on the front desk as required or any other position as agreed;
 - ii. lead the orchestra as required;
 - iii. prepare and play relevant solos;
 - iv. assist the Concertmaster in managing the section and preparing parts.
- d) The Principal Bass Trombone shall:
- i. play Bass Trombone;
 - ii. play in any section position where the composer has written a Bass Trombone doubling part;
 - iii. play third or fourth trombone if not otherwise playing Bass Trombone;
 - iv. play second or first trombone, provided the musician agrees and has a recognised level of proficiency for playing these parts.
- e) The Principal 3rd Horn shall play 1st horn as required.
- f) The Principal Tuba shall play, on the most suitable instrument available, parts written for Ophicleide and Cimbasso.
- g) The Associate Principal Percussion/Timpani is primarily responsible for playing in the percussion section but shall also play Timpani from time to time as required.

Additional information about the Musicians Agreement can be obtained by contacting Rachel Grant via email: grantr@aso.com.au or telephone +61 8 8233 6245.

SUBMITTING A RECORDING

It is in the applicant's best interest to provide a video recording with superior sound recording qualities, however phone recordings are acceptable. The following requirements apply:

- All material to be recorded in one session.
- All material is to be recorded once only, with no retakes or editing.
- The recording submission deadline is 5pm Adelaide time (GMT +9:30) on Wednesday 14 October. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that recordings arrive on time. Recordings that arrive late cannot be assessed.
- The recording must be accompanied by a declaration form supplied by the ASO and signed by the applicant stating that:
 - the video recording is a true and recent recording of their playing, and
 - no editing or re-recording of the musical performance has taken place
- An applicant may replay a section of the required material in the same take, if dissatisfied, however the original attempt must remain recorded (i.e., no editing).

ATTRIBUTES SOUGHT IN ADELAIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PLAYERS

Through the recruitment and trial process, the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra seeks to appoint the finest musicians with the following attributes.

a) Attributes to be considered when playing with the orchestra:

Performance standard, including:

- dynamic range
- intonation
- knowledge of the orchestral repertoire
- rhythm
- sound
- sound compatibility with the section
- technical ability

b) Attributes to be taken into consideration during the Trial:

Performance standard as above and also including:

- ability to follow conductor
- ability to learn quickly
- ability to perform under pressure
- musicianship
- sight-reading ability
- stylistic correctness

Ensemble:

- ability to fit into section
- ensemble playing
- flexibility of approach
- sound compatibility with section
- ability to blend

Attitude:

- ability to accept direction
- ability to be part of a team (e.g. cooperativeness)
- dedication to working in an orchestra - sincere attitude towards playing
- willingness to participate in publicity and public relations activities
- preparation
- reliability and punctuality
- willingness to share the workload of the section
- professional standard of presentation and behaviour

For Section Leader positions:

- ability to liaise/work with other Section Leaders
- leadership of the section, engendering respect amongst section players
- organisation of the section including rostering

AUDITION VIDEO RECORDING DECLARATION FORM

Position to which applying

Name of applicant.....

Contact Details.....

Date of the recording.....

Place of the recording.....

Declaration:

As applicant, I declare that this video recording was made in accordance with the declared requirements of the ASO. I acknowledge that this video recording is a true and recent recording of my playing and that no editing or re-recording of the musical performance has taken place.

Signed & dated

Applicant..... Date.....