



Sinfonia of Leeds – Associate Music Director

Job Description

Founded in 1972 as a chamber orchestra, Sinfonia of Leeds is now a thriving symphonic ensemble, whose programmes reflect the level of playing talent amongst its members. Playing 4 concerts a year at St Edmund's Church Roundhay, its established base in North Leeds, the Sinfonia of Leeds consistently draws sell-out audiences and glowing reviews. The orchestra is fortunate to be able to invite soloists of international renown to join for concerto and opera performances, many of whom have made return visits. For a full history of repertoire and performers, please visit sinfoniaofleeds.org.uk

Concerts are on Saturdays, evenly spaced throughout the year (early November, late January, late March/early April, late June/early July). Usually there are 8 Monday evening rehearsals (7.30-9.45) and a Friday evening rehearsal immediately before concert day. The orchestra has two leaders who share the role, and a full complement of strings, woodwind, horns and trumpets; bass brass, percussion, harp and keyboards join as required at the latter stages of the rehearsal process. String players are auditioned by the section leader after a trial rehearsal, other players are invited to join at the discretion of the Music Director and principal of the relevant section.

Job specification

The orchestra is looking for a conductor who will bring a combination of talent, experience, enthusiasm for working with non-professional musicians, and, most importantly, a love for making music with others. The successful candidate would be required to fulfil the following duties:

- Conduct up to two concerts and associated rehearsals per season (either solely or sharing with the Music Director)
- Plan the rehearsal schedule in advance and provide to the committee in good time
- Plan repertoire for each season in conjunction with the Music Director
- Make recommendations to the committee for the engagement of soloists, and assist in booking extra players as required
- Attend regular committee meetings to aid in the smooth running of the organisation
- Assist the Music Director in all matters, including maintaining and improving playing standards

Person specification

- Excellent musician with a keen ear for intonation and balance, with significant knowledge and experience of conducting orchestral repertoire to a high standard
- Experience of working with non-professional musicians, and an ability to inspire the highest standard of performance possible, and enjoyment of group music-making



- An excellent communicator with the players and a willingness to engage with audiences
- Knowledge of or contacts in the industry for the engagement of soloists
- Willingness to engage with the committee in all matters pertaining to the running of the orchestra

Remuneration

The position is offered at a fixed fee per concert (fee includes all advance / on the day rehearsals). Attendance is expected at all rehearsals and concerts unless mutually agreed with the Music Director, and provided that a suitable deputy is provided.

Please note that Sinfonia of Leeds is not an employer. The person appointed will be engaged on a freelance/self-employed basis and will be responsible for including income from this role in any declarations to Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs.

Application Process and Timeline

Please submit a CV, covering letter, and two video links (to include some rehearsal footage if possible) via Musical Chairs by 30 November 2025.

Interviews will be held with the orchestra panel online early in 2026. Invites to interview will be made in early January 2026.

Candidates may then be invited to take a one-hour rehearsal with the orchestra on repertoire in rehearsal for the next concert. These will be held from Autumn 2026 until Easter 2027.

Successful candidates will subsequently be invited to conduct a concert with the orchestra from Autumn 2027 onwards.