



JOB DESCRIPTION

MUSIC DIRECTOR, BAY OF PLENTY SYMPHONIA

Responsibilities:

- Direct the artistic affairs of Bay of Plenty Symphonia and determine the artistic direction of the orchestra
- Provide guidance to the orchestra and its players in order to achieve the highest possible musical standard, provide leadership, motivation and encouragement to players to maintain or improve personal musicianship
- Serve on the Managing Committee of Bay of Plenty Symphonia as an ex officio member and attend their meetings (every 4-6 weeks)
- Set and oversee the artistic budget

Concrete tasks:

- Select suitable repertoire, soloists and, if required, conductors and/or rehearsal conductors for each of the orchestra's 3-4 concert series
- Conduct initial research into availability, suitability (particularly scores/parts in the public domain) and affordability of sheet music and source sheet music where not available on public domain websites
- Direct communication with composers and arrangers, if applicable
- Work with the Concertmaster and/or section leaders and Player Coordinator to determine seating of players and criteria for intake of new players, liaise with Concertmaster on bowing of parts
- Liaise with the Conductor, Concertmaster and Player Coordinator in regard to specialist or additional players that may be required for the orchestra's concert performances
- Liaise with the Player Coordinator about rehearsal, workshop and concert dates and times
- Ideally conduct at least two concert series per year
- Recommend a Concertmaster from the Society's membership to the Managing Committee on a yearly basis or recommend a Guest Concertmaster, if applicable
- Provide full programme notes and other artistic information for the purpose of marketing concerts
- Produce a Music Director's report for the AGM, including concerts performed, repertoire, soloists and reviews
- Liaise with other musical entities in the region to discuss potential collaborations, scheduling conflicts, instrument rental and player overlap issues

- Occasional (re-)arranging or type-setting of sheet music to match the available resources
- Coordinate the biennial Rising Stars competition, liaising with candidates and their teachers about repertoire suitability and length, transposition issues, rehearsal scheduling and other matters. Organise coaching where appropriate. Organise juries for various rounds.
- Liaise with Treasurer/Accountant about payment of sheet music, APRA fees, instrument purchases and maintaining the asset register, conductor/arranger fees, etc.
- Liaise with rehearsal and concert venue coordinator and conductor in relation to rehearsal and concert planning.
- Liaise with percussion coordinator and conductor in relation to percussion gear needs for rehearsals and concerts and to coordinate player allocation.
- Liaise with logistics team and conductor about concert weekend arrangements and stage lay-out planning.

Qualifications/Experience:

- Ideally a tertiary education in music performance or equivalent
- Experience working in or with community orchestras or similar
- Relevant conducting experience

Skills required:

- Conducting skills, arranging and typesetting skills highly desirable
- In-depth knowledge of orchestral repertoire, orchestral instruments and orchestral processes
- Self-organised person with good communication skills and understanding of financial discipline and good governance;
- Leadership and motivational skills; solid understanding of balancing the social and artistic challenges of a community orchestra;
- Forward-thinking, ability to think creatively

Aspirations:

- Maintain and develop a symphony orchestra in which amateur musicians, primarily from the Bay of Plenty, can play a variety of styles and perform public concerts to the highest standard realistically achievable
- Facilitate opportunities for the musicians to enhance their experience and improve their proficiency by collaborating, either in the orchestra or as smaller groups, with other musical and cultural groups and/or with accomplished soloists or conductors
- Promote and encourage, particularly in young people, the active and passive appreciation and enjoyment of live orchestral music in the Bay of Plenty
- Provide opportunities for younger orchestral players, aspiring soloists and/or conductors to develop their skills in performance with an orchestra.