

The Christchurch Symphony Orchestra invite applications for the position of Section Viola

The CSO seek a section viola who is a superb team player who demonstrates a high level of artistic skill, coupled with a passion for sharing music with the wider communities of Christchurch and Canterbury.

About the Role

Christchurch Symphony Orchestra musicians are pivotal artistic leaders within the communities of Canterbury. They are central to the continued development of not only the orchestra, but also the city and communities that the CSO is embedded within. This position is a permanent salaried role within the CSO viola section.

Musicians present approximately 23 concerts per annum that are of the highest artistic quality across a broad range of repertoire, with concert engagements ranging from the diverse *CSO Presents* series through to innovative and engaging *Masterworks* concerts. In addition, a CSO musician will play an equally core role in the orchestra's Community Engagement programme, where they might be required to coach a community orchestra or band, take a hands-on role in ongoing interactive programmes for people experiencing dementia or disability, work with NZ corrections and rehabilitation, or lead a masterclass for talented young musicians. This breadth of activity is considered core work, with no aspect valued more or less than the other.

In turn the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra provides a supportive professional environment that ensures musicians of all ages and abilities can develop and enhance their skills, expand their knowledge and grow through both new artistic and educational experiences.

About You

The Christchurch Symphony Orchestra understands that candidates may not have experience working across such a diverse and broad range of performance and community engagement initiatives. Along with performance skills of the highest artistic quality, candidates should also demonstrate a genuine interest in working in community engagement programmes, along with growing and developing this skill set to perform the role of an engaging CSO musician both on and off the concert stage.

About the CSO

The Christchurch Symphony Orchestra has earned a solid reputation for artistic bravery, adaptability and innovation. In recent years, the orchestra has forged an exciting new culture and personality that mirrors the energetic rebuilding of a city. As a result, the CSO is set to embark on a new journey that sees it re-interpreting its role within a re-imagined Christchurch, beginning with the return home to the Christchurch Town Hall which now features a purpose-built CSO rehearsal and administration facility in the heart of a vibrant new city.

Rather than considering the title Symphony Orchestra as a definition of what we do, we consider it to be a description of who we are. This approach means the CSO are not constrained in the way we utilise or present music or how the orchestra applies the specialist knowledge, experience and expertise of CSO musicians. Instead, the orchestra and its musicians move seamlessly between diverse programmes on the concert stage and interactive work in all areas of the community; both fully capturing the vision of who we are as the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

Remuneration

The role of Section Viola is a salaried position, as an employee of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. Remuneration is set at **\$23,000 NZD per annum**, plus employer KiwiSaver contributions.

Workload

Musicians will have a maximum workload of 170 calls per calendar year. This includes rehearsals, performances, Community Engagement activity and other engagements as required by the CSO.

About the Process

To be eligible to apply for this position, you must confirm your current ability to legally live and work in New Zealand. You must also be able and available to undertake a trial period commencing in January 2021, should you be offered it.

- 1. Application:** Candidates are to submit their CV in application for an audition. Please ensure your CV includes your current work residency status, with regard to the right to legally live and work in New Zealand along with confirmation of your availability to commence a trial (should you be offered it) in January 2021.

[Please note that the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra reserves the right to pre-select candidates for audition, as required.]

- 2. Audition Information:** Candidates will be sent an Audition Pack which shall include the audition excerpts and outline all requirements for both live and recorded auditions. Live auditions shall occur in Christchurch, New Zealand on **Thursday 5 November 2020**. All applications, along with recorded auditions must be received by the CSO by **Monday 26 October 2020, 5pm NZT**.
- 3. Auditions:** Auditions shall be in two rounds. Both rounds shall be screened and anonymous.
- 4. Trial:** The trial for successful candidates shall include CSO concert work as well as community engagement projects suitable to the candidate's level of experience. It shall also include a relaxed interview with the Community Engagement Programme Leader to gain an understanding of the candidate's previous experience or interest in Community Engagement activity. A relaxed chamber music session with CSO Principal Musicians may also be included in the trial.

Successful audition candidates from Round 2 shall be offered a one-year fixed term contract, commencing in January 2021. The trial shall be incorporated into this fixed term contract period.

- 5. Appointment:** Evaluation for appointment will take into consideration musical suitability and ability, as well as competency (or potential) in the Community Engagement field.

Timeline

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| Monday 26 October 2020 | Deadline for receipt of applications and recorded auditions. |
| By Friday 30 October 2020 | Live audition candidates shall receive notification of their audition time. |
| Thursday 5 November 2020 | Live Auditions to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand. |

Please submit your CV in application for the position of Section Viola to:

Clare De Courcy - CSO Artistic Coordinator
clare@csso.co.nz

All applications and recorded auditions are to be received by the CSO by Monday 26 October 2020 5pm NZT

