

Vacancy for Music Director of Croydon Philharmonic Choir

Professional Skills

The successful candidate will:

- have excellent music qualifications and recognised professional training in choral conducting;
- have experience in training and conducting choirs and professional accompanying ensembles/ orchestras to an excellent standard of public performance including in top venues;
- have a broad knowledge of choral repertoire in its historical context and a commitment to achieving the highest standards in choral music, both traditional and modern;
- have the ability and drive to improve the choir's sound and musicianship;
- be able to develop the less experienced while also engaging the more accomplished singers in the choir through workshops and training;
- be able to work collaboratively with the choir's Trustees, accompanist and all stakeholders to plan imaginative, varied and engaging concert programmes within financial constraints;
- have contacts with other professional singers and instrumentalists to facilitate the programming of larger choral works. This would include 'fixing' an orchestra where this was made up of individual musicians;
- be willing to work collaboratively with other organisations such as other choirs, schools, colleges etc. and to explore with the Trustees other possible collaborations;
- demonstrate imaginative and creative willingness to promote the choir locally and to be involved in and supportive of smaller scale events (for additional payment) such as town centre carol singing, workshops and other events in the local area including those for fundraising purposes. This could be either by leading or supporting;
- be competent to lead the planned programme from September 2026.

Personal Skills

The successful candidate will:

- be an excellent communicator with good interpersonal skills;
- be dynamic, enthusiastic with a good sense of humour, allowing them to lead effectively and engage members during rehearsal;
- be punctual, reliable and well organised;
- build a good rapport with the members;
- have a strong affinity with classical choral music to support the continued growth of our choir and develop our performance/vocal skills and confidence;
- demonstrate the ability to make a positive impact on the choir, whilst inspiring and challenging the choir to tackle unfamiliar repertoire as well as well-known choral works;
- be willing to make a strong commitment to the choir and be an advocate for it;
- have ambition for the choir, challenging it with a vision for the future;
- create an environment where choir members feel safe, respected and are treated with consideration.