



CBSO City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

Section Leader Oboe

The CBSO is seeking to appoint a Section Leader Oboe to join our woodwind section.

The current section is as follows:

Section Leader Horn: vacant

Principal 2nd Oboe: Emmet Byrne

Principal Cor Anglais: Rachael Pankhurst

In addition to the main symphonic repertoire, the orchestra play everything from baroque to contemporary music, and from large scale opera to light music. The successful candidate will also manage the section, attend auditions, sit on recruitment panels and attend Section Leader meetings. The CBSO tune to A440Hz.

SALARY: £50,000 per annum

HOURS: 190 days per annum

LOCATION: Birmingham



ABOUT THE CBSO

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO) is an internationally celebrated symphony orchestra, at home in Birmingham. A family of 90 incredible musicians, led by Music Director Kazuki Yamada, proud to make exciting musical experiences that matter to the people of Birmingham, the West Midlands and beyond.

Resident at Symphony Hall, the orchestra's musicians perform over 150 concerts each year in Birmingham, the UK and around the world, with music that ranges from classics to contemporary, soundtracks to symphonies, and everything in between. With a far-reaching community and education programme, a ground-breaking partnership with Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust, and a family of choruses and youth ensembles, it is involved in every aspect of music-making in the Midlands – and has been for more than 100 years.

This longstanding tradition started with the orchestra's very first symphonic concert in 1920 – conducted by Sir Edward Elgar. Ever since then, through war, recessions, social change and civic renewal, the CBSO has been proudly 'Birmingham's orchestra'. Under principal conductors including Adrian Boult, George Weldon, Andrzej Panufnik and Louis Frémaux, the CBSO won an artistic reputation that spread far beyond the Midlands. But it was when it discovered the young British conductor Simon Rattle in 1980 that the CBSO became internationally famous – and showed how the arts can help give a new sense of direction to a whole city. Rattle's successors, Sakari Oramo, Andris Nelsons and Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, helped cement that global reputation and continued to build on the CBSO's tradition of flying the flag for Birmingham.

In April 2023, Emma Stenning was appointed Chief Executive and Kazuki Yamada took up the post of Chief Conductor and Artistic Advisor, and in May 2024 became Music Director. Under their dynamic leadership, the orchestra continues to celebrate the joy of music, and the brilliance of its home city of Birmingham, through creating unmissable and unforgettable musical experiences for all.



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

The CBSO offers a range of Continuous Professional Development opportunities for its musicians, which includes the opportunity to engage with the CBSO's Learning and Engagement Programme. The L&E programme works with a broad and diverse range of participants through projects in primary, secondary and special schools, care settings and community venues. This includes CBSO Shireland Academy, the first state school in the country to form a partnership of this kind between an academy trust and a professional orchestra. We support talented young musicians through our partnership projects with the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, the CBSO Youth Orchestra, a training orchestra and side-by-side orchestra days. The CBSO Youth Orchestra meets three times a year receiving coaching from CBSO musicians.

CHAMBER MUSIC

In addition, there are chamber music opportunities in our player-led Centre Stage series and small ensemble performances for a range of different audiences at the CBSO Centre and across the region.

OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The CBSO is an equal opportunity organisation: we value diversity in our organisation and welcome applications from everyone. We consistently monitor our recruitment process to ensure that individuals are selected based on their relevant merits and abilities and receive equal treatment.

You will be welcomed at the CBSO and will find an inclusive environment where different views and experiences are valued, and everyone is able to be themselves. We recognise and understand the importance of diversity and inclusion and want our organisation to be representative of the audiences, people and communities we serve.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

Candidates should have experience of performing in symphony orchestras and evidence through their application form of excellence in performance in a professional context.

The CBSO will also consider candidates who are in the early stages of their career and can clearly demonstrate their potential to fulfil the role. The ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate the following skills and experience:

Essential:

- Highly reputable classical music training
- Commitment to delivering a very high standard of work
- Innovative and creative character with a broad outlook focused on enhancing the artistic quality of the CBSO and CBSO woodwind section
- Excellent communication and organisational skills
- Self-motivated, reliable and able to work under pressure
- Ability to work co-operatively as part of a team
- Ability to develop positive working relationships including with other members of the orchestra and management/administrative team
- Respect for others demonstrated by being fully prepared to play at the start of every session
- Ability to understand and speak English

Desirable:

- Proven expertise in a broad range of musical and performance activities including education work and chamber music
- Experience of leading an orchestral oboe section
- Considerable recent orchestral experience as a professional oboist



HOW TO APPLY

To apply to for this position, please complete the online application form below.

Please note that our shortlisting process is anonymous, so your application form will be redacted to remove any personal details.

We ask that you complete the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring section of the online form when you submit your application. The information collected will be treated as confidential, used for statistical purposes only, and will not be treated as part of your application.

Link to application form: <https://forms.office.com/e/BtbUrjZm9E>

QUERIES:

If you have any queries, please contact applications@cbso.co.uk



TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The contract allows for non-orchestral work to be delivered in contract whilst always prioritising the work in the orchestra
- This is a full time position with a work commitment of 190 days per annum
- Salary £50,000 per annum
- There are thirty-five days paid holiday in addition the Public Holidays
- Membership of the Company's Group Stakeholder Pension Plan
- Various benefits for CBSO employees including, but not limited to:
 - An instrument loan fund (up to £5,000) at preferential rates of interest
 - A study fund offering players up to £250 per annum
 - Comprehensive instrument insurance
 - A comprehensive sickness scheme, with cover for long term sickness or permanent disability
- All CBSO employees are expected to adhere to all CBSO's policies