

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Training Orchestra

Artistic Director & Conductor

Candidate Information
June 2025

What is Liverpool Philharmonic?

Liverpool Philharmonic enhances and transforms lives through music.

At the heart of our work is the critically-acclaimed Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra (the UK's oldest) and Choir; an extensive programme of participatory work with young people and others across our community; and presentation of almost 400 concerts and events each year at our home, Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.

Liverpool Philharmonic is rooted in our city.

We are central to Liverpool's cultural offering, being the largest music organisation and one of the largest cultural organisations in the city, employing over 300 people. As well as our work in Liverpool our Orchestra represent the city with performances and broadcasts across the UK and around the world.

The city's young people are a central focus of our work. Our In Harmony programme provides an intensive, daily music-making programme for over 1750 children in Everton and Anfield, North Liverpool, and we run more than 5,000 workshops and events in community settings for all ages across the City. The Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company provides a range of opportunities for music making for young people, including the Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Choir, Children's Choirs, and Rushworth Young Composers programme. We work in partnership with the Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust delivering programmes which support people in the Liverpool city region living with a range of mental health needs.

Liverpool Philharmonic is committed to diversity and inclusion.

We work hard to reach right across our community through our learning work, and concert programme.

We attract world class artists to perform at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall and our small venue, Music Room, with a diverse programme of performances ranging from classical, contemporary, rock, pop, folk, roots, and jazz to comedy, film and spoken word. We work with many organisations and cultural partners in the City to ensure that the artists and performances we put on stage, and the audiences we attract truly represent our community.

And we are working hard to ensure that our workforce is as diverse as possible.

Liverpool Philharmonic reaches more people than any music organisation outside London.

Over 350,000 people attend Liverpool Philharmonic concerts each year.

73,000 young people participate in our Youth Company and associated ensembles, attend concerts or take part in our In Harmony programme.

Around 900,000 people in 92 countries listen to our recordings each month on Spotify, more than any UK orchestra outside London.

Over 18,000 people have benefitted from our music and health programme over the last 15 years.

What is the role?

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- **Title:** Youth Training Orchestra Artistic Director and Conductor
- **Department:** Performance and Learning
- **Location:** Liverpool Philharmonic Hall or any reasonable location dependent upon the requirements of the post
- **Responsible to:** Youth Company Producer
- **Responsible for:** N/A
- **Contract:** Freelance

About Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Training Orchestra

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Training Orchestra is a brand new orchestra within Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company's structure. Youth Training Orchestra is designed to be a friendly, supportive, non-auditioned orchestra for young musicians (aged approx. 8-15) playing at a Grade 2-4 standard. Youth Training Orchestra is a positive training ground for young musicians looking to learn the basics of orchestral musicianship and ensemble playing, performance health and wellbeing and performing as an orchestra. Positive social relationships, teamwork and friendship are at the heart of the Youth Training Orchestra experience for young people.

This ensemble will be the ideal ensemble for first time orchestra musicians to gain knowledge and experience of playing in an orchestra in a fun, inspiring and youth-voice led environment.

Youth Training Orchestra will play an exciting and diverse range of music- everything from classical and folk music, to movie and show tunes, with youth voice embedded in all artistic planning decisions.

Youth Training Orchestra will perform on stage at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall at least once a year, and will often perform side by side with members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

Youth Training Orchestra will rehearse every Sunday during school term time, in Everton, Liverpool, from 2.30-4.00pm.

What is the role?

Principal Role

Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Company provides individual and group opportunities for young musicians and artists, to develop skills and knowledge through performance, composition, concert visits and other creative opportunities.

The Youth Training Orchestra Artistic Director and Conductor works directly with the young orchestral musicians of Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Training Orchestra, and liaising with sectional tutors, mentors, the Youth Company operations team and reporting to Youth Company Producer.

The Youth Training Orchestra Artistic Director and Conductor will also be responsible for:

- Working with the Youth Company Producer to select appropriate repertoire.
- Working collaboratively with the Youth Company Producer to create a comprehensive orchestral training programme for young musicians, and ensuring its success in its integral first twelve months.

Youth Training Orchestra rehearsals take place in Everton, Liverpool, every Sunday evening during school term time, 2.30-4.00pm.

Key Responsibilities

ARTISTIC DIRECTION AND PLANNING:

- Working collaboratively with the Youth Company Producer to select ability appropriate, diverse and engaging repertoire each term, adhering to set deadlines to ensure effective and smooth operation of the ensemble
- Working collaboratively with the Youth Company Producer to develop the Youth Training Orchestra model to ensure musical progression to Youth Academy Orchestra, and one day Youth Orchestra, by identifying key areas of learning needed for young musicians
- When required, working collaboratively with Youth Academy Orchestra and Youth Orchestra conductors to ensure a uniform and cohesive approach to progression throughout the orchestral progression route of Youth Company
- Attending termly artistic direction meetings with Youth Company Producer, and reporting back on the ensembles' progress and areas for development

CONDUCTING

- Providing musical leadership and conducting to Youth Training Orchestra during their weekly rehearsals
- Being able to provide informed advice and constructive feedback to young musicians on how to improve and develop their playing and orchestral skills during their weekly rehearsals
- Ensuring all rehearsals and performances remain positive, inclusive, social and fun for young musicians at all times.

Person Specification

The successful candidate is likely to be able to demonstrate the following:

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge / Experience		
Experience of working with young musicians (age 8-15)	Y	
Experience of orchestral conducting	Y	
Specialist knowledge of orchestral musicianship, across a range of instruments	Y	
Experience of developing learning curriculums and programmes for young people		Y
In-depth knowledge of orchestral repertoire	Y	
Knowledge and understanding of safeguarding practices		Y
Skills / Abilities		
Ability to work collaboratively within an artistic team	Y	
Orchestral conducting	Y	
Ability to plan and deliver impactful, engaging, inspiring and educational rehearsals for young orchestral musicians	Y	

Key Information

- **Employment type:** Freelance engagement, with a Lead Musician session (3 hour) fee of £126.95 per session. Planning, programming and meeting time is paid for, at the same rate.
- **Hours of work:** Rehearsals are every Sunday evening during school terms time (exc. Bank holiday weekends), 2.30-4.00pm, at Liverpool Philharmonic at The Friary, Everton, or at any other location in Liverpool where rehearsals, workshops or performances are scheduled to take place.
- **DBS:** Must have a current Enhanced DBS Certificate, with Child's Barred List

How to Apply

Please submit the following information together in one document.

- A CV
- A maximum of 500 words detailing how you meet the requirements of the job description.

All applications are to be emailed directly to Youth Company Producer, Jordan Armstrong, at the following email address: jordan.armstrong@liverpoolphil.com

Applications are due by 5.00pm on Friday 27th June 2025. No applications will be accepted after this time.

All applicants must have the right to work in the UK.

Interviews

Short-listed candidates will be invited to attend an interview during the week beginning 7th July at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street L1 9BP.

For candidates that pass the interview stage, they will be invited to an audition at a later date, to be confirmed.

Equal Opportunities Statement

Liverpool Philharmonic is committed to striving to represent modern Britain in all its diversity. Liverpool Philharmonic is committed to equality of opportunity and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified candidates, irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. In seeking to be representative of the Liverpool city region, applications from members of minority ethnic groups are particularly welcome as they are currently underrepresented within the creative industry. The appointment will be made on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process.

LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic
Liverpool Philharmonic Hall
Hope Street
Liverpool L1 9BP

Box Office: 0151 709 3789

The work of Liverpool Philharmonic is supported by:



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