

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra would like to invite applications for the position of Principal Cello.

Suitable candidates for this position should have considerable front desk orchestral experience and/or exceptional musical accomplishments relevant to this role. The ideal candidate will be a cello player and musician of the highest calibre with the ability to lead, inspire and work collaboratively with the section and within the wider orchestra. Desired attributes include versatility, an in-depth understanding of a principal role and a willingness to encompass the wide breadth of varied repertoire performed regularly by the RPO.

By way of application, candidates should complete an anonymous portfolio form on the Musicalchairs portal by the closing date of 6 December 2024.

You will be notified whether you have been selected for audition by mid-December and the first live auditions will take place in London on 23 January 2025 AM and 24 January 2025 EVE (venue tbc). First and second round auditions will take place on the same day. Please get in touch if you are selected for audition and unable to attend on these dates.

Candidates selected for audition should prepare the following:

First round (screened and unaccompanied)

- Haydn Concerto in D: 1st movt exposition and development with cadenza
- Excerpts: Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2 – slow movt solo & Beethoven Symphony No. 8 – 3rd movt trio (available on Musicalchairs portal)

Second round (unscreened with pianist)

- First movement exposition of a contrasting concerto (no cadenza)
- Complete orchestral excerpt pack (available on Musicalchairs portal)
- Please note that candidates selected for an automatic Second round audition will also be asked to play Haydn Concerto in D: 1st movt exposition and development with cadenza.

The RPO is unable to reimburse candidates' travel costs. Candidates must have the right to work in the UK. Any international applicants who are unable to travel to the UK for a live audition should indicate this with Rebecca Rimmington via email (Rimmingtonr@rpo.co.uk) and, if shortlisted, will be asked to submit a recorded audition.

The RPO is committed to hear all applicants from global majority backgrounds and those with disabilities who have the relevant professional playing experience required for this position. Recorded submissions will be considered for anyone with geographical, availability or economic constraints.