



**Section Leader  
Viola (50% Job  
Share)**

Candidate Information  
November 2024

# 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 240 people. As well as our work in Liverpool our Orchestra represents 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 several Liverpool NHS Trusts delivering programmes which support people in the Liverpool city region living with a range of mental and physical 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 a 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?

## What is the role?

- **Title:** Section Leader Viola (50% Job Share)
- **Department:** Orchestra
- **Responsible to:** Orchestra Manager
- **Contract:** Part time, permanent

## Principal Role

- To perform as Section Leader Viola with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra in a range of musical styles and genres, orchestra and ensemble size.
- To have excellent orchestral and solo playing abilities, maintaining this to the highest musical standards.
- To perform in the Orchestra at venues throughout the UK and on foreign tours, involving regular evening and weekend working.

Whilst this position does not require the Musician to work exclusively with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, it is expected that the Orchestra will have priority on the Musician's availability.

In accordance with Liverpool Philharmonic's policy regarding unpaid leave, this must be agreed in advance by the Orchestra Management team and is subject to the scheduling requirements of the Orchestra.

# Key Responsibilities

- To play Viola in and lead the viola section and exemplify musical excellence at all times.
- To be fully prepared and familiar with programmed repertoire, including solos, in advance of rehearsals, recordings and performances.
- Ensure the viola section is consistently performing at its best.
- Foster, encourage and value a positive and supportive atmosphere within the viola section.
- Uphold and model the highest standards of professional etiquette during all rehearsals, performances and recordings.
- Manage the viola section rota and unpaid leave requests in collaboration with and with the support of the Orchestra Management team, whilst maintain the highest musical standards.
- Undertake informal 1-2-1 meetings with section members to discuss musical & artistic performance and proactively encourage training/personal development.
- Advising the Orchestra Manager on training and development needs/opportunities for individuals within the section and the section as a whole.
- Proactively maintain communications with the Artistic Team including the Chief and Guest Conductors to achieve the highest artistic standards.
- To lead the musical and artistic aspects of the Orchestra recruitment process including chairing panels.
- To consult and advise the Deputy Orchestra Manager on engaging external freelance players.
- Work with the Orchestra Leader and other string section leaders to supply bowings and markings for performance materials to the Music Librarian in timely manner
- Attendance at meetings including Section Leaders, Recruitment Panels and Company Briefings.
- Ambassadorial duties such as attending development or donor events.
- To proactively advise the Orchestra Management team on musical or artistic performance issues within the Orchestra, including contributing to capability procedures as required.
- To comply with Liverpool Philharmonic's Health and Safety policies and guidance.

# Person Specification

**The successful candidate is likely to be able to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and experience:**

- Excellent professional playing abilities of both orchestral and solo repertoire
- Knowledge and experience of performing symphonic repertoire
- Ability to lead and work collaboratively, inspiring and motivating members of the viola section
- Ability to communicate effectively with section leaders and members of other sections during rehearsals to promote collaborative working practices
- Good interpersonal skills and the ability to work as part of a team with a diverse range of people
- Ability to plan ahead
- Awareness of Health and Safety issues in general and specifically regarding noise

# Key Information

- **Salary:** £47,371 (prorated to £23,685.50)
- **Employment type:** Part time, permanent
- **Location:** Liverpool Philharmonic Hall
- **Holidays:** 35 days (pro-rated)

## What benefits are offered?

### **Pensions**

Access to a Group Pension scheme whereby employees are auto enrolled and can enjoy employer contributions.

### **Musicians Performance and Wellbeing Programme**

Access a comprehensive range of support for your physical and mental health and career development including injury prevention, onsite sports massage, physiotherapy, hearing health, performance coaching, training and development.

### **Training and Development**

Individual, confidential one to one Performance Coaching is available to all Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra musicians, free of charge, as and when required, focusing on performance enhancement and artistic growth as a player.

### **Service Awards**

Employees are provided with additional time off and cash incentives at various long service milestones.

### **Complimentary staff tickets**

Complimentary staff tickets are available, and employees are encouraged to attend events.

### **Health Cash Plan**

Following two years' service you will have access to a health cash plan with an external supplier. This provides cash back towards everyday healthcare bills and a range of other wellbeing benefits.

### **Discounted Staff Parking**

Access to reduced price parking (subject to availability) in car park operated by Liverpool Philharmonic for employees who choose to drive in to work.

### **Rail services**

Access to the Mersey travel Season Ticket enabling the cost of annual season ticket to be spread over a period of 12 months.

### **Cycle to work**

Cycle to Work Scheme that offers discounts on a bike and accessories, with the cost spread over a period of 12 months.

# How to Apply

Please [click here](#) to submit your application.

You will be required to input your personal details as well as submit your CV. Please ensure your CV does not include any personal information such as your name, date of birth, gender, address or phone number.

You will also be asked to submit a video of the repertoire below within the application portal.

## Orchestral Excerpts

MENDELSSOHN      A Midsummer Night's Dream – Scherzo  
ELGAR              In the South

Details of the excerpts for both the digital submission and live audition can be found on the job page for this role as a separate PDF named 'Excerpts'.

## Submission guidelines:

- Your video recording must be performed 'as live' in one continuous take
- Your video recording must be unedited
- Repertoire must be performed in the specified order
- Candidates must not speak during the recording
- Your video recording should be landscape and you and your instrument should be face on and central to the camera
- Where possible recordings should be made approximately 2-3m from the recording device
- The panel will only hear the audio of your submission
- Your video recording is a private submission and will only be listened to by the panel

*(Please continue onto the next page)*

## Deadline

Applications are due **12 noon on Friday 6 December 2024**. No applications will be accepted after this time.

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

## Live Auditions

If you are successful in your initial application, you will be invited to attend a live screened audition in either Liverpool or London – **30<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (London) & 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 (Liverpool)**.

Details of the excerpts for these auditions can be found on the job page as a PDF named 'Excerpts'.

## 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

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