Musical Director of Edinburgh Bach Choir

Job Description

- In consultation with the Committee, choose appropriate programmes for the season ahead, taking into account choir ability, rehearsal time, budget and variety
- Identify and contact any soloists, orchestra or instrumentalists required for concerts.
- Liaise with the Committee on all aspects of planning and running the choir.
- Collaborate with the programme editor on preparing programmes for concerts, with the librarian for obtaining music for choir and instrumentalists and with the secretary for booking concert venue and dates, and with Committee members in general for any issues that may come up.
- Attend regular Committee meetings, normally once per term.
- Audition new members seeking to join the choir, normally with an intake twice per year in September and January.
- Take weekly and concert week rehearsals to prepare the choir for concert, engaging with the accompanist as appropriate.
- Engage with the choir to ensure an enjoyable as well as a productive rehearsal time.
- Direct three concerts per year, with scope for occasional extra concerts or events.

Criteria

Experience of rehearsing and directing amateur choirs singing classical repertoire and experience in challenging and bringing out the best possible standard from singers in a wide range of repertoire.

A dynamic, enthusiastic and engaging approach, a positive attitude and good sense of humour and a well-developed ability to ensure rehearsals are enjoyable and challenging at the right level as well as productive for members of a range of ages and backgrounds, and makes the choir an attractive one for members to join.

Experience of conducting professional orchestra and ensembles in concert.

Knowledge of a wide range of classical repertoire including contemporary repertoire and preferably an interest in performing the works of J S Bach.

Ideally have contacts in relevant music circles in Edinburgh and Scotland for soloists and instrumentalists.

Excellent communication and organisation skills and ability to engage with the Committee and the accompanist effectively for planning and responding to any issues that may arise.

Ideally able to start with us in September 2024.