

## Position Description: TYO Chief Conductor

Location: Hobart, with some statewide duties

Commencement: 2025

Role: 0.3FTE – 0.6FTE (negotiable relevant to scope of duties)

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Tasmanian Youth Orchestras (TYO) is seeking an artistic leader of outstanding calibre to commence as TYO's Chief Conductor in 2025 – our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. This leadership role offers the successful candidate the opportunity to guide and nurture talented young Tasmanians as they develop as musicians, as individuals and as part of the vibrant creative community that is TYO.

The successful candidate will have a wealth of experience as a conductor and music educator. They will be a passionate advocate for music – and for its importance in the lives of young people and our communities. They will foster a positive, vibrant, and inclusive learning and development environment. They will plan, program and deliver annual rehearsal and performance activities to engage the young musicians of the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra and to inspire audiences; and they will mentor and guide TYO's artistic team.

This role reports to the TYO CEO; and the successful candidate will work with the TYO CEO, Board of Directors and administrative and artistic teams to deliver the organisation's strategic vision – for Tasmania to be a vibrant, unique place for classical music, where young people thrive.

### Essential for this role

- Extensive experience in conducting symphony orchestras and in educating young musicians.
- Outstanding musicianship, with experience across multiple genres and performance practices.
- Excellent repertoire knowledge, with the ability to select repertoire appropriate to the developmental stage and capacity of annual cohorts.
- A commitment to inclusive, growth-oriented pedagogy; and the capability to inspire and educate talented young musicians in all aspects of orchestral development and performance.
- Demonstrable knowledge of, and commitment to, child and youth-safe professional practices. Current Registration to Work with Vulnerable People (RWVP) is a requirement of this role; and a National Police check and successful completion of specific Child and Youth Safe training will be conditions of employment, together with First Aid training.
- Strong interpersonal, leadership, and communication skills, with a focus on professional, collegial and connected practice.
- Community development, leadership and outreach skills, with the ability to represent the organisation with key stakeholders and act as a media spokesperson when required.
- Well-developed planning and programming capabilities, supported by any relevant technical and administrative skills.
- Capacity to comply with legislative, safety and requirements, and observe and promote TYO's policies and procedures.

Choral experience and/or knowledge of choral repertoire would be highly regarded as an addition to these core requirements.

### Core duties

The TYO Chief Conductor role is a leadership position both within Tasmanian Youth Orchestras and within the sector. Core duties are as follows, noting that there is capacity to scope the role and duties between 0.3FTE – 0.6FTE to suit the preference and availability of the successful candidate.

- Act as ensemble conductor for the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra (TYO's flagship ensemble and Tasmania's state youth orchestra), planning, programming and delivering an annual program with a minimum of three performance outcomes and incorporating at least one new Australian composition.
- Prepare the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra for collaborative events which may have a designated guest conductor e.g. festival and sector collaborations; and/or support an associate conductor to prepare the orchestra appropriately for these opportunities.
- Undertake artistic leadership of special projects e.g. collaborations, composition premieres, filming.
- Provide leadership and guidance to the TYO artistic team: chair conductor meetings, support ensemble repertoire discussions, brief tutors, guide and mentor core artistic specialists, support training and/or performance needs as required and attend all scheduled TYO performances to support the artistic team.

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### Core duties *cont.*

- Liaise with the TYO CEO on concert concepts and marketing; and prepare draft material for concert programs as requested.
- Act as the artistic team representative on TYO's Artistic & Education Committee.
- Liaise with the TYO CEO and Artistic & Education Committee to support planning of TYO annual programs; and contribute to TYO Board strategic planning activities.
- Support TYO media, advocacy and fundraising activity.
- Support the TYO CEO in liaison, consultation and collaboration with key stakeholders.
- Act as a panel member for TYO's annual auditions round; and for ad hoc auditions throughout the year as required.
- Lead or support TYO's collaborative development work with ensembles in the north and north-west of the state.
- Prepare artistic reports as required for the TYO CEO, Board and/or funders.

### Important notes

- TYO's development and performance programs operate outside normal business hours: the successful candidate will need to commit to Saturday rehearsals (the Tasmanian Youth Orchestra currently rehearses on Saturdays from 11am-1.15pm) as well as scheduled performance calls on weekends and evenings.
- The annual TYO schedule is largely set at the start of the program year; but does have some flex throughout in the year in response to organisational need or new performance opportunities.
- At the full scope of the role (0.6FTE) some travel within the state will be required, including occasional overnight stays.

### Additional skills and experience

- Prior music teaching experience, private or classroom: formal teaching qualifications will be well regarded but are not essential.
- Strong organisational skills and functional computer skills. Microsoft Office capabilities essential.
- The ability to read music, source repertoire and produce appropriate teaching resources if required.
- Problem-solving abilities and the ability to work effectively under time constraints and pressure – as these are all components of rehearsal and event environments.
- Personal orchestral and/or choral experience is highly desirable.

### About TYO

A vibrant music community for young people aged seven to 25. A place where musical skills are developed and nurtured; and enduring friendships formed. A vital development organisation within Tasmania's creative ecosystem, a valued collaborative partner in performance, composition and research; and a year-round contributor of inspiring live and digital performances, with increasingly broad audience reach. This is TYO.

Formed in 1965 as a single orchestra, TYO will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2025. TYO today is home to a high-quality instrumental and choral development and performance program with three orchestras – including the 'flagship' state youth orchestra – two chorales, specialist ensembles; and regional connection and accessibility programs.

TYO programs are designed to be of outstanding quality and benefit – increasing musical participation, supporting connection and wellbeing, providing pathways to professional careers and growing lifetime musicians and supporters of the arts. Learn more about TYO [here](#).