

BELSIZE BAROQUE ORCHESTRA LEADER SCHOLARSHIP

Summary

Belsize Baroque is a London based period instrument ensemble made up of students, professionals, and amateur players. We perform around five concerts a year with a variety of leading professional directors from the Early Music community. Concerts and rehearsals are managed by a dedicated group of volunteers. Rehearsals are normally held within one week of each concert.

One of the objectives of Belsize Baroque is to support musicians at the start of their careers. The purpose of the Belsize Baroque Scholarship is to provide an exceptional musician with financial support and opportunities to gain experience in leading a period instrument orchestra and work with top early music directors.

Scholarship

- The Belsize Scholar will be required to lead in **four** concerts during the period commencing September 2022. Where the director is a violinist this may be leading a section rather than the whole orchestra.
- The amount of the scholarship is £800 and will be paid in instalments, subject to satisfaction of the terms of the scholarship.
- The successful candidate will be chosen via application, interview and audition

Eligibility

Each candidate must

- be a student at an internationally recognised conservatoire or music college who is undertaking postgraduate study as at 1st October 2022; or
- have completed a postgraduate degree at a conservatoire or music college in the 3 years prior to 1st October 2022

In addition, candidates should demonstrate

- the requisite technical competence on baroque violin; and
- the leadership, organisational, and interpersonal skills required to lead and develop the string section of Belsize Baroque

Key Responsibilities

The Belsize Baroque Scholar will be an integral and key part of the orchestra. Therefore, as leader, will be required to

- actively take on the role of leader of Belsize Baroque, and act as violin soloist as the repertoire demands;
- be familiar with the parts, including solos, preparing them in advance;
- participate in all rehearsals (3 before each concert) and the performances of four Belsize Baroque concerts;
- ensure that string parts are marked with bowing prior to the first rehearsal of each concert referred to above;
- collaborate with the director of each concert to ensure rehearsal time is smooth and effective for all players;
- be an effective communicator bearing in mind the mix of players, contributing to an encouraging lively atmosphere;
- collaborate with the orchestra administrator and volunteers; and
- The orchestra may run one or two one-day workshops during the year. Whilst attendance is not a mandatory part of the scholarship, it is encouraged for the benefit of the scholar and the orchestra.

Application Instructions

Stage One

Candidates should submit a cover letter and CV, along with a reference. Please send your application to veronese68@hotmail.co.uk, no later than Wednesday 8th June 2022. All applications will be acknowledged. Candidates selected for audition will be notified by Wednesday 15th June.

Stage Two

Selected candidates will be requested to attend an interview and audition, in the evening of 22nd June in London. The audition will involve a short interview and performance of a solo on baroque violin (candidate's choice).

Final results will be notified to candidates by no later than 4th July 2022.

Important Information

Belsize Baroque Orchestra is already engaged to perform on the following dates. Please bear this in mind before you make your application. The successful candidate will be required to participate in these in line with the key responsibilities.

September 25 – rehearsals September 19 (evening), September 24 (daytime), September 25 (afternoon), directed by Catherine Martin at St. Peter's, Belsize Park

December 3 – rehearsals November 28 (evening), December 3 (afternoon), JS Bach Mass in B minor at Southwark Cathedral

January 2023 – Date to be confirmed. Other concert dates will be advised.