



Oxfordshire Schools Symphony Orchestra
at
Central Music School (Saturdays)

Information and Application Form 2019 – 2020

Please Note: This form is for application to the Saturday orchestra only. There will be a separate application process for the touring orchestra in due course.

About Oxfordshire Schools Symphony Orchestra

Oxfordshire Schools Symphony Orchestra is the second tier youth orchestra run by the Oxfordshire County Music Service after the Oxfordshire County Youth Orchestra. It is a large scale symphony orchestra of 80+ players tackling challenging, exciting repertoire.

Rehearsing weekly as part of Central Music School (CMS) in Oxford on Saturday mornings from 9:15 – 12:45, **OSSO at CMS** performs regularly throughout the year. As well as concerts at the Centre for Music, it performs new compositions as part of the Oxfordshire Young Composers' Competition and performs an end of year concert in Dorchester Abbey.

What are the benefits of joining?

The repertoire played by Oxfordshire Schools Symphony Orchestra is always challenging. Apart from the technical challenges of the music, we demand high standards of musicality, performance and discipline. Our aim is to stretch students' playing beyond what they thought possible and enhance their sense of achievement and enjoyment of music-making. Oxfordshire Schools Symphony Orchestra is the place where life-long friendships and a passion for music can be formed. Players will play repertoire that they wouldn't play elsewhere and they are given the opportunity to perform to a high standard.

How do I join?

Applicants should be of a standard of Grade 5 and above though there is no need for a formal exam to have been taken. All new members will have an audition and some existing members may be required to audition where there is a high demand for places in their particular section.

When are the auditions and what do I have to do?

Auditions will take place in the week commencing 24 June at the Centre for Music in Oxford. The auditions will take place during the evening in front of a panel of two specialists. Candidates will be asked to play:

1. A piece of their own choice, unaccompanied
2. Some sight-reading which they will be given 10 minutes before the audition to prepare
3. Some orchestral excerpts which will be sent out at least two weeks in advance at the time the audition appointment is sent.

Dates for 2019 - 2020 Season

OSSO at CMS meets to rehearse for 3 ½ hours every Saturday morning during term-time. There are no rehearsals where the Saturday is immediately preceded or followed by a school holiday, e.g. there are no rehearsals on the two Saturdays either side of the half term breaks.

Fees

The cost for **OSSO at CMS** for the 2019 - 2020 season will be £102 per term payable upon receipt of an invoice. Students who attend more than one ensemble may benefit from buying a 'CMS Pass' which entitles them to attend as many ensembles as they wish for one price.

Commitment

We ask for a high level of commitment from students, not only so they benefit from the rehearsals but also because great orchestral playing is dependent upon the contribution from all members of the 'team'; if someone is missing, this has an effect on the whole orchestra. We expect an 80% level of attendance for **OSSO at CMS**; there is enough rehearsal time available to allow for some absence and we acknowledge that students often have commitments which will sometimes clash.

Applications

Please complete the application form attached to this information or visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/orchestras and complete the online form. Applications should be submitted by Friday, 24 May 2019. Everyone should submit an application form, even those who are currently members and won't need to re-audition. Please submit an application even if you are unsure whether you will be able to take up a place; otherwise the section may be filled, and it will be very difficult to add extra players at a later date.

Further Information

If you have any queries that have not been answered here, please call Tom Morter on 01865 816982 or email tom.morter@oxfordshire.gov.uk

We look forward to receiving your application.



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OSSO at CMS Application Form 2019 – 2020 Season

Name					
Currently a member of (please tick):					
OSSO at CMS			OYWO		
OSSO Touring			Other (please state)		
Instrument			Standard		
Teacher			School in Sep. 19		
Age on 01/09/19		School year Sep.19		D.O.B.	
Address					
Postcode			Tel. Number		
Parent email					
Student email					
Parent/Carer Name			Parent/Carer Signature		

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Occasionally we would like to email you regarding Music Service news, musical events and activities that may be of interest to you or your child. Please select 'yes' in the marketing box below if you are happy to receive these emails.

Media Consent	Yes	No	Marketing	Yes	No
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By submitting this form, you agree to abide by our terms and conditions (available at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest) should the offer of a place in one of the orchestras be taken up.

Return this form to Oxfordshire County Music Service by
Friday 24 May 2019

Email: music.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk
(Subject heading 'OSSO application 2019 – 2020')