

Position Available

Monash University Philharmonic Society

Location: Monash University, Clayton Campus

Monash Jazz Orchestra Director

Applications close: Friday January 27th 2012.

Employment type: Part-time

Remuneration: \$2,100 per year (accommodation and all meals will be provided on rehearsal camps).

Duration: Ongoing, commencing Tuesday February 28th 2012. Three hours per week during the university semester (approximately 30 weeks per year) plus concerts and three weekend rehearsal camps.

Introduction

The Monash University Philharmonic Society (MUPS) is a student run music society affiliated with Monash University. MUPS coordinates three major groups: the Monash Jazz Orchestra (MoJO), the Monash Symphonic Winds (MSW) and the Monash Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) as well as many small ensembles. The society attracts members from student, alumni and staff bodies as well as the general community. The society aims to promote music at the university by encouraging musicians of all skill levels to join and give students an avenue through which they can continue playing their instrument and performing even though they may not be studying music. We also maintain a lively social atmosphere through camps, parties, movie nights and sporting events.

MUPS has three major concert seasons throughout the year, each with a specific theme such as 'Classics', 'Musical Comedy' and 'Lights, Camera, Music'. Additional performances include university events, festivals and joint performances with other community music groups. The Autumn and Spring Seasons generally comprise 10-12 rehearsals plus a rehearsal camp, whereas the Summer season includes 5-6 rehearsals plus either a residential or non-residential camp.

Whilst membership varies from season to season, the Monash Jazz Orchestra comprises 12-20 players. Although instrumentation also changes, the ensemble generally encompasses full instrumentation. A small example of pieces performed in the recent past includes:

Blue Ronda A La Turk – D. Brubek

April in Paris – V. Duke

My Funny Valentine – Rogers and Hart

Blues Brothers Revue – Arranged by J. Bocook

One Mint Julep – R. Toombs

Jump, Jive An' Wail – L. Prima

I've got you Under my Skin – C. Porter

Sing, Sing, Sing – L. Prima

Further examples of programming can be found at:

http://www.monashphil.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=24&Itemid=1

Position Description

The conductor of the Monash Jazz Orchestra plays a vital role in MUPS. This is an ongoing position that is reviewed after each season (triannually). Duties include:

Artistic:

- Programming repertoire for the band of a suitable genre, standard, quality, duration and cost in conjunction with the committee and other conductors.
- Planning and undertaking weekly rehearsals on Tuesday nights during the university semester.
- Attending three weekend residential rehearsal camps per year.
- Conducting three major MUPS concerts per year (May, September and December) as well as additional performances as negotiated.

Administrative/Other

- Attending and participating in auditions for both the band and other ensembles as deemed necessary and appropriate.
- Appointing a Deputy Music Director in conjunction with the committee as necessary.
- Liaising with committee members and general members.
- Assisting the Librarian in sourcing music.
- Organising tutors/sectionals as appropriate in conjunction with the committee.
- Organising extra performances or rehearsals as appropriate.

Selection Criteria

Applicants should possess:

Artistic and Musical Knowledge

- A proven high level of skill on at least one instrument.
- Knowledge of techniques and characteristics of the wind, brass and percussion instrument families.
- Experience in programming for community and/or secondary school big band concerts.
- Ability to judge and program music based on the needs, strengths and limitations of an ensemble.

Teaching and Educational Skills

- Experience in instrumental music teaching.
- Prior experience working with adults is an advantage.

Conducting and Research Skills

- Experience in conducting large instrumental ensembles.
- Efficient and varied rehearsal techniques.
- A proven commitment to continued learning and professional development of conducting.

To Apply

Please send the following to the President by no later than Friday the 27th of January 2012:

- A covering letter briefly addressing the selection criteria
- A current Curriculum Vitae

- The contact details of at least two referees
- A sample program of 30 minutes music of a suitable level consistent with the theme “20th Century Classics”.

Email:

president@monashphil.org

Mail:

The President
Monash University Philharmonic Society
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