

TONBRIDGE
Philharmonic
SOCIETY
www.tonphil.org.uk

Opportunity to lead an ambitious society with choir and orchestra

Music Director

(Appointment to start December 2018 or January 2019)

Our Society: This is an amazingly rare opportunity to lead an ambitious amateur society of orchestra and choir with a growing reputation for exciting concerts. 120 enthusiastic singers range in age from 15 to 70+, and there are more than 50 dedicated musicians in the orchestra. Our Society has grown and developed over the last four years under the professional baton of Matthew Willis. He is now moving on to an exciting opportunity in Europe, and we are looking to appoint an experienced, professional conductor with talent, training and enthusiasm to be our next Music Director, and to build on the excellent work that he has done with us.

Our performances: We perform five concerts a year, two orchestral and three, predominately choral, combined concerts. We are proud of the challenge and musical stretch of our programming. Under Matthew's direction, we have performed a varied and interesting selection of works, from *The Messiah* to Holst's exquisite *The Cloud Messenger*, a work not performed in the UK since 1933, and a semi-staged *Carmen*. The orchestra has given a wonderful performance of Shostakovich's *Leningrad Symphony* (with an orchestra of nearly 100 players) and a delicate rendition of Debussy's *Nocturnes*. The combined forces are about to perform Copland's *In the Beginning*, Verdi's *4 Pezzi Sacri* and Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, and we are very excited about our forthcoming performance of the Britten *War Requiem* in November. We also host an annual *Family Carols* in the Tonbridge School Chapel, a sell-out event with an audience of 700+ that is a key part of local Christmas celebrations and raises money for local charities.

Governance and Logistics: A registered charity, the Society is run by an elected and hard-working, highly committed team of volunteers.

Application process: Applications (a CV and covering letter outlining why you should work with us, together with your vision for our musical development) must be submitted to Joanna Mace, the Society's Secretary at the email address below no later than midnight on 9th April 2018. Shortlist interviews will take place on the afternoons of Sunday, 6th or 13th Sunday, May 2018. We aim to select three candidates who will be asked to attend an audition on the evening of Monday 21st May with the Orchestra and on the evening of Wednesday 23rd May with the Choir. Interviews and auditions will take place in Tonbridge, Kent.

Further Information: If you have the vision and professional ability to continue the growth of the Society's scope and standards, further information on the role is available on the Society's website <http://www.tonphil.org.uk/news.html> or from the Society's Secretary on <mailto:secretary@tonphil.org.uk>.