

DARWIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Inc **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CONDUCTOR**

The Darwin Symphony Orchestra seeks an outstanding Artistic Director and Chief Conductor to drive its artistic vision and annual program. This is currently a 0.75 position.

An integral role within the Top End community orchestra, it includes programming the annual DSO concert season and ensemble activities, conducting rehearsals and concerts as required, guiding the musical development of the players, and involvement in youth and community music programs to develop future players for the orchestra.

The Darwin Symphony Orchestra (DSO) is one of the most vibrant orchestras in Australia, as well as one of the most adventurous. Founded in 1989 the DSO began a tradition of hitting the road and taking music across the Territory. Since then, the DSO has performed in numerous remote locations and has managed to reach a higher proportion of its local population than many other orchestras in Australia can manage.

Comprised of a professional core and more than 70 volunteer players who work and live in the same communities for which they perform, the DSO has a unique dynamic that contributes to the organisation's vibrancy and its links to the community. DSO strongly values accessibility and community involvement.

The DSO concert experience is renowned as engaging and fun, with players able to enjoy the excitement of performing in front of family and friends.

To succeed in this position, you will have proven experience as an artistic director and as a conductor of orchestras, including amateur and pro-am groups. You will need to develop a solid understanding of the market in which DSO operates, and be prepared and able to program a wide range of orchestral, chamber, jazz and popular musical genres. You will have a strong knowledge of suitable artists and repertoire.

A demonstrated ability to liaise with all DSO stakeholders, including players, management, board members and sponsors is crucial to this position. You should have outstanding communication skills, with an ability to motivate and lead volunteer musicians and a willingness to participate in DSO media efforts and supporter functions as required.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential:

1. Proven capacity as an artistic director and a conductor of both professional, pro-am and volunteer orchestras.
2. Thorough knowledge of orchestral repertoire.
3. Thorough knowledge of suitable artists (conductors, soloists, guest musicians) with a broad national network of contacts.
4. Ability to program a wide range of orchestral, chamber and other musical events, including consideration of resource availability and audience suitability.
5. Critical judgement of performers and composers: strong ability to listen critically and constructively.
6. An ability to mentor others to achieve artistic goals, either individually or a group, with a passion for the growth of music within the community.
7. Experience with youth and adult music development programs.
8. An ability to understand, draft and achieve budgets.
9. Demonstrated ability to liaise effectively with artists, management, musicians and other stakeholders as required.
10. Outstanding communication skills, with the proven ability to motivate and lead.
11. Tertiary qualification in music.

Desirable:

1. An understanding of the DSO audience and the market, including the NT Community.
2. Experience of instrumental music teaching.

Requirement:

Current Working with Children Clearance Note (Ochre Card)

Candidates for this position must provide:

1. a current CV, including the contact details of two referees
2. cover letter identifying relevant skills and abilities as outlined in the selection criteria
3. a portfolio of conducting and artistic director experience

Applications close: Monday 29 January 2018

To discuss the position please contact Diana Jarvis, Acting General Manager on 0408 535 586 or diana.jarvis@cdu.edu.au