



Canberra  
Symphony  
Orchestra

# CSO Rank and File musician

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Position description &  
2021 audition requirements

# About the CSO

**The Canberra Symphony Orchestra (CSO) is dedicated to reaching and enriching a broad audience through artistically vibrant musical experiences.**

A professional part-time orchestra, the CSO is a creative hub in the nation's, underpinning a diverse range of artistic and community endeavours that serve Canberra and the wider region and enrich the national cultural landscape. The CSO connects musicians, composers and creative leaders from diverse backgrounds and provides vital pathways for the next generation of emerging talent.

Australian music occupies a central place in the CSO's artistic vision; the CSO has a nationally distinct and growing commitment to programming Australian works in mainstream concerts as well as its dedicated Australian music series.

## Jessica Cottis, Chief Conductor and Artistic Director

A charismatic and erudite figure on the podium, conductor Jessica Cottis has received critical acclaim for her intellect, natural authority, and profound musicality. Named '2019 Classical "Face to Watch"' (*The Times*), she is much in demand, working regularly with leading orchestras such as the London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, Singapore Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Opera House, as well as numerous re-invitations to the prestigious BBC Proms.

A gifted communicator, Jessica works widely as an advocate for classical music. Described as a "cool, contained, super-articulate and engaging" (*The Scotsman*), she is a frequent contributor on BBC radio and television, commenting on a wide range of topics, from opera to architecture, synaesthesia, the environment and acoustics.

[jessicacottis.com](http://jessicacottis.com)

## Concert season

### Llewellyn Series

The CSO's flagship Llewellyn Series pairs iconic symphonic masterworks with compelling Australian compositions and features a range of guest artists. There are four concerts per season, performed on Wednesday and Thursday evenings at Llewellyn Hall.

### Australian Series

The nationally unique Australian Series exclusively features Australian chamber works, with a commissioning focus. There are three concerts per season, performed on Thursday evenings at the National Museum of Australia.

### Chamber Classics

Introduced in 2021, the Chamber Classics Series celebrates well-loved chamber repertoire. The series will be expanded to four concerts in 2022, performed on Sunday afternoons at Albert Hall.

### CSO Summer Prom

The CSO's annual outdoor concert on the lawns of Government House, the Summer Prom is a fixture on Canberra's musical calendar and enjoyed by all ages.

## Community engagement

With the support of the ACT Government and Community Partners, CSO community engagement delivers positive outcomes for the region in health and wellbeing, education, innovation and social cohesion.

Curated by audiologist and CSO bassoonist Kristen Sutcliffe and supported by Better Hearing Australia (Canberra), the CSO's leading Rediscovering Music program helps people with hearing loss to reconnect with music, supporting rehabilitation through active listening practice.

The power of music for wellbeing also undergirds the Music and Memory program for people living with dementia, piloted in 2020 in partnership with Goodwin Aged Care Services and ActewAGL. The program balances individual music preferences with the social benefits of a shared concert experience, informed by a growing body of research.

In 2021, the CSO also delivered *Visualising Harmony* with Belco Arts, supported by ActewAGL and the Australian Government's RISE Fund. This unique project saw CSO musicians and artists with diverse abilities co-create and perform original music, facilitated by world-class violinist Belinda 'Bindi' McFarlane.

Beyond these programs, CSO musicians continue to promote health and wellbeing through regular performances in local hospitals and for Canberra sessions of the lauded *Painting with Parkinson's* initiative. Each year, CSO musicians also visit specialist schools and aged care homes, delighting audiences who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience the joy of live classical music.

## Musical services

The CSO reaches thousands each year through musical services provided to a range of popular, family-friendly events across the region. These include Queanbeyan's award-winning *Music by the River*, presented by Icon Water with the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, and *Symphony in the Park* at Stage88, presented in conjunction with the ACT Government for Enlighten Festival.

The CSO has also supported a range of other arts organisations to deliver rich, thought-provoking cultural experiences. Notable 2021 collaborations include the debut production of Canberra's National Opera and the premiere of the large-scale, commemorative *Vietnam Requiem* with the Flowers of War.

Meanwhile, CSO musicians contribute to a range of avant-garde performances through the ongoing Cultural Partnership between the CSO and Molonglo, as well as the much-loved *Kids' Cushion Concert* school holiday series. The CSO also facilitates bespoke ensembles for weddings and other private functions.

# Position description

## Key functions and responsibilities

CSO Rank and File musicians fulfil the following duties, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the CSO's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement 2019–2021:

- Prepare musically as required prior to the first rehearsal.
- Arrive at rehearsals and concerts in time to tune with the orchestra (generally, musicians are expected to arrive 15 minutes prior to the call to ensure tuning takes place on time).
- Comply with the orchestra's tuning process.
- Follow directions from the conductor, Concertmaster, section leader and / or section Principal, marking music in accordance with directions where appropriate.
- Contribute to a professional and harmonious work environment.
- Dress appropriately for performances in keeping with the ensemble nature of CSO activity.
- Uphold professional standards and act in the best interests of the orchestra as a whole, at all times.

## Etiquette

- Generally, CSO musicians are expected to arrive 15 minutes prior to the call to ensure tuning takes place on time.
- To ensure rehearsals run efficiently to time, verbal communication should be restricted to questions and comments essential for concert preparation.
- Following Conductor's/Concert Master's/Section Leader's/Principal's instructions and when appropriate marking the music in accordance therewith.

## Rostering

CSO Principals roster sections based on player strengths and preferences, in consultation with the Concertmaster. A majority of contracts are issued to players **based in the Canberra region**, which reflects the CSO commitment to supporting the growing pool of high calibre, local players and developing emerging talent, while maintaining key interstate connections. This is important for the sustainability of the CSO into the future.

# Audition requirements

Candidates will be required to present:

- First movement (**exposition only**) of the concerto set for their instrument (see list below), with cadenza (if applicable) and piano accompaniment.
- Orchestral excerpts.

Excerpts will be available for download from [cso.org.au/employment](https://cso.org.au/employment) from Friday 15 October 2021.

Candidates must submit the following materials via Typeform by COB Friday 5 November 2021:

- a copy of their CV (including full name, postal address, email address and phone number)
- an audio-only recording (no video).

*The submission link will be made available online in advance.*

- Recordings will be adjudicated blind – **candidates must not identify themselves in the recording.**
- Each component (concerto and excerpts) must be recorded in a single take – **no editing.**

Results will be notified by Tuesday 23 November 2021.

## Concertos

### Violin

MOZART Violin Concerto No. 3 in G major *or*  
MOZART Violin Concerto No. 4 in D major *or*  
MOZART Violin Concerto No. 5 in A major

### Viola

STAMITZ Viola Concerto in D major *or*  
HOFFMEISTER Viola Concerto in D major

### Cello

HAYDN Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major *or*  
HAYDN Cello Concerto No. 2 in D major

### Double Bass

VANHAL Double Bass Concerto in E-flat major *or*  
DITTERSDORF Double Bass Concerto in D major

### Flute

MOZART Flute Concerto No. 1 in G major

### Oboe

MOZART Oboe Concerto in C major

### Clarinet

MOZART Clarinet Concerto in A major

### Bassoon

MOZART Bassoon Concerto in B-flat major

### High horn

MOZART Horn Concerto No. 3 in E-flat major

### Low horn

MOZART Horn Concerto No. 2 in E-flat major *or*  
MOZART Horn Concerto No. 4 in E-flat major

### Trumpet

HAYDN Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major

### Trombone

WEBER Romance *or*  
DAVID Trombone Concertino

### Bass Trombone

LEBEDEV Concerto in One Movement

### Tuba

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Concerto in F minor for Bass Tuba

### Percussion

*Excerpts only*

### Harp

HANDEL Concerto in B-flat major

# Key dates and contacts

<b>15 October</b>	Excerpts available on CSO website
<b>5 November</b>	Audition recordings due (audio-only)
<b>23 November</b>	Audition results notified

## Other notes

If you are unable to record with piano accompaniment, **contact the CSO in advance** to discuss.

## Contact

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