## JOB DESCRIPTION

**Choir Leader – Workplace Voices (Freelance)**

**Closing date: 17th May 2024 at midday**

**Interview date: TBC**

**B:Music’s mission is to inspire a love of live music, through performance, participation and learning.**

**Who we are:**

B:Music Ltd is the music charity responsible for Symphony Hall and Town Hall, two iconic venues in the heart of Birmingham. Each year, these venues welcome over half a million people to around 800 concerts and events. We believe music should be accessible to all and aim to provide a welcoming, inspiring and safe space that celebrates and reflects Birmingham’s diversity.

As an organisation we have a national and international reach and in addition to welcoming over 500,000 audiences annually through more than 700 events, each year we engage with over 2,000 young people (for many their first and formative experience of live music) and our support for emerging artists ensures a bridge into successful and sustainable careers.

Symphony Hall and Town Hall are live music and entertainment venues, and flexibility is required.



Overall purpose

Originally set up for the BBC Two TV Show *The Choir; Sing While You Work* in 2013, Birmingham City Council Choir has become one of the country's best workplace choirs that has performed to audiences nationwide including for Heads of State and Royalty. In a new and exciting chapter, this successful choir has now become a part of B:Music. The choir will become embedded as part of our extensive programme and enable further engagement with workplace choirs and employees from across the city’s business community, whilst sharing the fantastic benefits of group singing with as many members as possible.

The choir is currently supported by a professional pianist and rehearse once a week for approx. 2 hours continuing to build a repertoire in preparation for any performances that they have agreed to undertake. We are seeking a passionate, ambitious and experienced choir leader to take the reins, nurture and develop the choir, ensuring that the highest possible level of performance is achieved.

Key Accountabilities:

**Choir Programme and Development**

* Propose an annual music programme for the choir with an eye to developing a challenging, interesting and varied repertoire.
* Plan, attend and lead weekly rehearsals with the choir for approximately 2 hours per week.
* Working with the choir to enhance technical ability, ensemble singing, blend and tuning, ensuring the choir is prepared, confident and able to deliver exceptional performances.

**Membership**

* + With the support and input from the Head of Development and Impact, Choir Committee and appointed accompanist the choir director will be required to engage in recruitment for the choir at regular intervals throughout the year.

**Performances**

* + Support planning for and lead the choir at performances throughout the year. These will be mutually agreed between the choir director, accompanist and B:Music team.
  + Support in designing imaginative and engaging concert programmes with broad audience appeal, suitable for each specific performance, which will develop the choir.

Person Specification:

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate an excellent music ability and the capacity to support this choir through previous experience as a choir leader or musical director. They will need to demonstrate a successful track-record of undertaking rehearsal and performance planning and preparation.

This includes:

* A strong track record of working with and leading choirs. Motivating, professional, dynamic, encouraging and enthusiastic: a dedicated choral director with the ability to make rehearsals productive, engaging and fun.
* A talent for musical detail; able to work constructively with the Choir to improve accuracy and blend to deliver high standards of performance.
* An understanding of and some experience of leading choirs with members with a wide variety of musical experience and proficiency.

Desirable qualities:

* Creative, ambitious and collaborative: a source of good ideas to move the Choir forward.
* Reliable and organised.
* Calm and confident leadership style: able to inspire confidence in others and maintain focus.

How to apply:

Please submit a CV and short covering letter outlining why you are interested in the opportunity and highlight the skills, experiences that you are proud if. These may have been gained in a paid or voluntary capacity.

Following the initial application phase, successful applicants will be invited to an audition-based interview, which will include briefly leading the choir. The date and time of this session is tbc.

Please also complete an Equal Opportunities form and email this to [recruitment@bmusic.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@bmusic.co.uk).

**Department:** Development and Impact

**Contract type:** Freelance (self employed) under B:Music’s payment terms

**Payment:** £60 per hour for rehearsals and £150 fee for performances.

**Location:** Symphony Hall and various external performance locations as required.  
**Hours Per Week:** likely to be 2 hours per week

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