

Trainee Conductor

12 month internship

Salary: Payment for conducting concerts. Some other expenses may be payable.



Leeds Male Voice Choir are seeking a Trainee Conductor, to support the Musical team in the ongoing musical development of the choir. With outstanding musicianship you will have well developed keyboard skills and have had previous exposure to choral conducting, with a keen interest in developing further.

You will receive conducting tuition with the choir's musical director Tim Knight and be allocated time with the choir leading sectional rehearsals and concert performances whilst deputising for the musical director in his absence. You will have an ability to lead the choir, provide individual tuition and support the development of members of the choir with differing levels of musical ability.

Strong interpersonal and musical skills and an innovative, enthusiastic approach coupled with an interest in assisting in the running of the choir will support you in this role.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying, please send a CV and covering letter detailing your experience and how you meet the key criteria to **tim.knight@supanet.com**

To discuss the role informally, please telephone Tim Knight on 07887 960813

Closing Date: **Monday 7 November 2016**

Key Responsibilities

- Attending weekly rehearsals within the period of the internship, held on Thursdays between 7.30-9.30 at the Yorkshire College of Music and Drama Leeds;
- Attending additional rehearsals as necessary in the build up to key performances;
- Leading sections of weekly rehearsals under the direction of the Musical Director;
- Attending committee meetings as required to support operations of the choir;
- Act as Assistant conductor at local events where the Musical Director is unavailable;
- Lead sectional rehearsals where needed;
- Supporting the production of audio teaching materials for specific voice parts;
- Provide individual support and tuition, where needed;

Key Skills

- Strong interpersonal skills and an ability to enthuse members with a range of musical abilities;
- Excellent musicianship through qualification, training or experience;
- An interest in arts organisations;
- Tact, diplomacy and an ability to lead rehearsals;
- Advanced musical training or training/experience;
- Enthusiasm for working with people of all ages;
- A commitment to your own professional and musical development;
- Experience conducting ensembles and effective keyboard skills;

Recruitment Process

If you are selected for interview you will lead a rehearsal and audition with the choir, followed by a short interview with the Musical Director and the Trustees of Leeds Male Voice Choir.

Interviews/ Auditions are scheduled for **Thursday 15 December 2016**

The Role

The role of Apprentice Conductor was established in Leeds Male Voice Choir's centenary year, to provide opportunities to aspiring and talented musicians. The most recent post holder has used the role to springboard into the role of Musical Director for a large female chorus in West Yorkshire.

During the twelve month internship, you will support the musical team and trustees of Leeds Male Voice Choir and contribute to the musical development and direction of the choir. You will lead sectional rehearsals, deputise for the musical director and support individual learning whilst assisting with the production of audio learning resources for the choir. You will be provided with expert conducting tuition and will have the opportunity to conduct Leeds Male Voice Choir in front of sizable audiences in prestigious venues.

About Musical Director Tim Knight

Tim Knight is known for his dynamic and down to earth conducting style, based on a deep knowledge of the score and informed by a strong interest in people. He has been described as a born communicator and his open and direct contact with his singers creates performances of expression and energy.

Tim has worked extensively throughout the UK and also in the USA, Canada, Spain, Holland, Belgium and Norway.

The Musical Director of Leeds Male Voice Choir since 2014, Tim has overseen the increase in membership to almost sixty whilst concerts have been more musically diverse and audience numbers have risen.

Tim also directs the Masterworks Chorale, an international touring choir, The Heritage Singers, a liturgical choir and is the Principal of the Yorkshire College of Music and Drama in Leeds. In 2015 and 2016 he has acted as a judge at the Canco Mediterranea International Choir Competition in Barcelona.

As an award winning composer, his works are performed worldwide and are widely available, they range from beginner woodwind ensemble pieces to full scale choral/ orchestral works and he has been nominated three times in the Classic FM Hall of Fame.

Outside of music, Tim has a passion for Saab cars and a long term interest and involvement with preserved diesels a delight in cats and a need for Whisky!

About Leeds Male Voice Choir

Formed in 1916 at Middleton Broom Colliery in South Leeds, the choir has been singing throughout Leeds and Yorkshire for a century. Following an ongoing expansion programme membership of the choir has reached close to sixty, with men drawn from all backgrounds and ages, with a significant number of younger members joining the choir in the past two years.

With a mix of experienced singers and those new to performing, the choir has developed a reputation for diverse musical programmes with a modern and fun approach, the choir performs at community events, charity fundraisers, beer festivals and their own concerts, often in prestigious venues including the Kings Hall, Ilkley, Leeds Town Hall, Morley Town Hall, Leeds Minster and Leeds Cathedral.

In 2016 the choir celebrated its centenary in Leeds Town Hall to a capacity audience and appointed the first Trainee Conductor who has now been appointed as Musical Director of a large women's choir in West Yorkshire.

The choir is well supported by audiences with a series of sell out concerts in recent years. Leeds Male Voice Choir will perform four concerts in Leeds in 2017 and will undertake their first international tour in more than 30 years.