



**Director of Music
Required for September 2018**

FURTHER PARTICULARS

An enthusiastic, ambitious and committed musician is required from September 2018 to lead this highly successful department. We are looking to appoint a Director who is able to build on the already extraordinarily successful Music programme at NLCS, and help lead it into an exciting new phase.

The successful candidate will have a real passion for their subject and providing opportunities for students to participate in the vibrant music making scene at school, as well as developing elite musicians. They will be prepared to lead from the front and collaborate with highly talented colleagues. The role will be responsible for the strategic direction of the department, both academically and from an extra-curricular perspective.

The role is line-managed by the Deputy Head (Curriculum).

The role will involve:

- Providing strategic direction and oversight of the Music programme for the whole school. This will include the schedule of concerts and the management of orchestras, ensembles and choirs.
- Overseeing the academic department to ensure that students are enthused and passionate about the subject.
- Responsibility for the provision and leadership of whole school music programmes for key events in the school calendar, for instance Founder's Day or Christmas.
- Working closely with the Assistant Director of Music, Choral Music Lead and Junior School Director of Music to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate in the musical life of the school, as well as further developing elite musicians.
- Line-managing and supporting teaching colleagues in order to ensure that high standards of teaching and learning are maintained.
- Line-managing and coordinating the programme of peripatetic music lessons.
- Working closely with the Head of Drama regarding musical productions.
- Having good piano skills to accompany IGCSE/A Level recitals, Associated Board examinations, concerts, competitions, choir rehearsals etc.
- Coaching, directing and conducting orchestras, choirs and ensembles.
- Being prepared to rehearse/accompany regularly after school hours, evenings and weekends when required.
- Overseeing and coordinating trips for the department, including any international tours.
- Contributing to the pastoral life of the School, usually as a form tutor.

Subject knowledge and enthusiasm are essential in delivering the curriculum. It is expected that the successful candidate will have a sound knowledge of Western classical music as well as other musical styles and be able to communicate these to the students in an exciting and engaging manner.

As well as displaying excellent subject knowledge and practical skills, it is essential in music teaching that the successful applicant has good interpersonal skills with colleagues and with young people. The candidate must possess the temperament to be flexible and adaptable to the role and be prepared to work regularly outside the specified contractual hours (e.g. at evening rehearsals/concerts, organising concert trips etc).

The Curriculum

Classes in the Junior School receive two music lessons per week. In Year 7 and 8, pupils receive one double lesson of music per week (70 minutes). In Year 9, students receive a single lesson per week. Thereafter the subject is optional and Music is offered at IGCSE, International Baccalaureate and A-level. The Department follows the Pre U, IB and C.I.E. at IGCSE level. Academic excellence is pursued and girls go on to read Music at University/College and students each year are awarded choral and instrumental awards at Cambridge. In the last 2 years, 90% of candidates have achieved an A* star grade at IGCSE and 100% of A level candidates obtained an A* at Pre U or level 7 at IB. At present, we have 3 A level and Pre U students, 1 IB student and 30 IGCSE girls.

The Department

The Department consists of three full-time and one part-time music teachers and twenty-seven peripatetic teachers and is housed in a purpose built Music School with 14 practice rooms, a keyboard suite, 1 large rehearsal/classroom and 2 smaller teaching rooms for A level and IGCSE. The Music department is integrated into the newly built Performing Arts Centre and this provides excellent facilities for school concerts and musicals. We have plans for the redevelopment of the Music School, and the successful candidate will be integral in helping to realise these ambitions.

The Department and the School's aim is to make music available to every girl who wishes to take part. To achieve this, all large choirs and orchestras are open to all without audition. A wide variety of music is available both within and beyond the curriculum. At the same time, the Department provides for the School's many talented musicians through further opportunities to pursue 'quality' music making at the highest level. Music scholarships are offered in Year 7 and there are two auditioned Chamber Choirs. A String Orchestra and many chamber ensembles are available by invitation or audition.

Chamber music has been a particularly strong and prestigious programme for many years. Each year, ensembles take part in the South East Schools Chamber Music Festival. In 2017 NLCS entered 8 chamber groups to the competition, and three ensembles were selected to play at the finals at St John's Smith Square. Students are regularly selected to play in the National Youth Orchestra, National Children's Orchestra, etc.

The Concert Programme

The School has had a proud tradition of music making. As well as the chamber music programme, there is a busy and thriving series of concerts each term, from large-scale formal concerts given in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC) to more informal concerts given regularly in the Old House and Music School. There are a minimum of seven large concerts each year as well as numerous smaller chamber and solo concerts. This year the department has founded the "Old House Concert series"

which gives opportunities for all students to perform in the splendour of our 18th century building here at Canons.

The Senior Orchestra (currently run by the Director of Music) is a non-auditioned group which achieves a high standard of performance. The senior orchestra performances this year have included the first movements of Dvorak 8 and Beethoven's 5th symphony. The Department works closely with the Drama Department and Musicals are put on regularly.

The Middle School Camerata for strings and the Upper School String Sinfonia are both auditioned groups and are currently run by the Assistant Director of Music. They play challenging and ambitious repertoire from the classical string repertoire. The School is particularly strong with its wealth of string players and this helps form strong ensembles and award-winning chamber groups. Other large instrumental groups include the Middle School Orchestra and Concert Band both of which non-auditioned.

Outside of the School environment, performances have been given in major hotels in London and ensembles have played at charity events held in the House of Lords. In July 2008, girls in Year 7-11 performed concerts in Venice and sang at St. Marks and other famous churches in the city. In 2012, over 40 girls toured Tuscany with a programme that included Vivaldi's 4 seasons, Bach's 4th Brandenburg Concerto. The department toured again in 2017 with a party of 40 students performing Pergolesi's Stabat Mater. Recently, 5 of our most advanced singers, performed with the Tallis Scholars in a performance of Spem in Alium at Harrow Speech room.

The School has also formed a partnership with The London Handel Players as Handel lived and worked here on the site of Cannons in 1717. In 2011 and 2012, NLCS students received master classes from leading Baroque specialists in the orchestra and had the privilege of performing as part of the London Handel Festival at St Lawrence's church, Whitchurch Lane, where Handel was organist. In June 2014, a production of Handel's Acis and Galatea was performed at Canons in conjunction with Handel House and Lawrence Cummings.

The Singing Programme

Chandos Singers: This is an auditioned chamber choir of about 16-20 students in Years 10-13 who sing part songs and more challenging repertoire. These have included works by Greene, Britten, Mozart etc. The chamber choir rehearse once a week. The Chandos singers perform at the Harvest and Remembrance services at school as well as at Senior concerts.

Middle School Chamber Choir: The Middle School Chamber Choir is an auditioned group who sing both formal and lighter repertoire. The choir has been entered at the Watford Festival and at the Eisteddfod in recent years with a great deal of success and we hope to continue that tradition with the new appointment. The Middle School choir sing at the Middle School concerts in December and June.

Senior Choir: This is a non-auditioned group of around 50 girls which sing larger choral classics. This choir is currently run by the Director of Music, there will be flexibility for the new appointment to direct this choir. Performances have included Mozart Requiem; Bach Magnificat and Faure Requiem. The choir rehearses once a week.

In addition, choirs are formed to sing at the annual Carol Service and for Founders Day.

The Department works closely with the Drama Department and Musicals are put on bi-annually. Productions have included 'Cabaret', '42nd Street', 'Anything Goes' 'Sweet Charity' and West Side Story. The successful candidate will also, on occasion, be expected to be Musical Director for future productions.

Instrumental Lessons

Through the peripatetic teachers, the school provides individual music lessons for a large number of pupils. Instrumental Staff are self-employed and are responsible in invoicing fees directly to parents. The Director of Music will oversee the general organisation and administration of the work of all the 27 peripatetic music teachers, supported by the Assistant Director of Music and Choral Singing Lead. Several of the peripatetic teachers play a vital role in the coaching of ensembles and the department currently rehearse around 30 ensembles each week. In addition, 450 individual lessons are taught weekly.

External opportunities

There is a strong culture of professional development at the School. In addition to the openly advertised internal promotion and professional development posts, the School also offers a number of external opportunities.

Following the opening of two partnership schools, North London Collegiate School, Jeju (in South Korea), and North London Collegiate School, Dubai, staff in the UK have opportunities to be involved in monitoring visits to South Korea and Dubai, and to be involved in the recruitment and training of their staff. A number of exchange opportunities are available to staff, both to Korea and Dubai, as well as to partner schools in the USA and Australia.

Terms and Conditions

North London Collegiate School has its own salary scale, with the role being paid according to experience and qualifications.

The School is a member of a BUPA group scheme; subscription is open to all staff. Staff may pay into the Teachers Superannuation Scheme. NLCS terms are shorter than the maintained sector.

Some staff accommodation is available on site. There is free use of the School's coach service and exclusive use of the indoor swimming pool, fitness suite and sports hall. Staff children who are selected to join the Senior School enjoy 25% fee remission (for up to two daughters).

Applications

Application should be made in writing to the Headmistress with a letter of application, completed application form and the names and addresses of two professional referees, one of whom should ideally be the Head of the applicant's present school. If applying by email, the application should be sent to Gill Conway, Deputy Heads' PA, who is in charge of teacher recruitment at deputyheadspa@nlcs.org.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday 2nd March 2018 at 12 noon. Interviews to be held on Wednesday 7th and Friday 9th March 2018.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment as part of their duties. The successful candidate will be asked to apply to the Disclosure and Barring Service for an Enhanced Disclosure.