

## *City of Southampton Orchestra*

The City of Southampton Orchestra (CSO) started out in 1971 as an *ad hoc* group to accompany the New Forest Singers. This group quickly became established as a permanent chamber orchestra, calling itself the **Solent Sinfonia** and performing in the Art Gallery, Southampton.

Rapid success attracted more players making excursions into the standard repertoire possible, but the orchestra was no longer a chamber group. In 1978, by courtesy of the City Council, the orchestra adopted its present title with the aim of promoting concerts of a high standard while maintaining a friendly approach to encourage regular attendance by players and listeners.

Since 1978 it has employed professional conductors, ensuring a high level of training and performance. Apart from occasional guest conductors, in all that time there have only been three principal conductors - Jonathan Del Mar, Jonathan Butcher and current conductor John Traill.

A recent broadcast of the orchestra's performance on BBC radio 3's *Listen Up* evening concert called the CSO "one of the UK's leading non-professional orchestras".

The annual five concert season explores works from across the standard symphonic repertoire. Three of these are formal concerts in the Southampton Guildhall, Romsey Abbey and Thornden Hall. As part of the effort to encourage an interest in music in younger people a Family Concert is presented in January and the end of the season is celebrated with a less formal concert in the Southampton Guildhall where the audience may partake of drinks and dinner whilst enjoying the music. Other links with the local community involve the orchestra in outdoor 'Prom' and 'Come and sing' concerts.

For many years the orchestra has had a fruitful relationship with the prestigious Countess of Munster Music Trust enabling CSO to engage first rate young soloists; this season the young prize-winning cellist Pei-Sian Ng will perform Dvorak's great cello concerto.

Although all concerts include works from the standard repertoire the orchestra has also been involved in encouraging young composers, commissioning short works from young contemporary composers. This has now led to a place being awarded on Making Music's prestigious Adopt-a-Composer Scheme, allowing close work with up and coming composer Claudia Molitor on a new commission to feature in the 2007-2008 season.

The last few seasons have seen the Orchestra promoting an Apprentice Conductor scheme, offering young conductors the opportunity to study, observe, and participate in orchestral rehearsals under the guidance of John Traill, our current prize-winning principal conductor.

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## **City of Southampton Orchestra Sponsorship Scheme**

The City of Southampton Orchestra has an important part to play in the local community. It provides an arena for musicians to use and develop their talents for their own satisfaction and personal development. It acts as a social club; weekly rehearsals are a time of study and relaxation for both members and non-playing supporters. The by-product of all this pleasurable activity is our concert season during which we offer our talents back to the community in a series of performances in the City and surrounding areas. We are proud to display the results of our labours and wish to share the exhilaration of making music with our concert goers.

However, the Orchestra is heavily dependant on the goodwill of local supporters in order that it may continue to thrive in the community. This currently comes from a variety of sources: friends and family, the concert-going public, local commerce and of course the musicians themselves.

The expenses associated with the running of such a body are huge. The Management Committee currently undertakes a fine balancing act between satisfying members' musical development needs, putting on programmes that will appeal to the public and of course balancing the books. In order to aid long-term planning, regular fixed income would be an immense help.

The object of this scheme is to encourage sponsorship at all levels. The individual who can contribute £20 is just as important to the Orchestra as the Corporate Sponsor who may commit several hundred pounds. Included in this pack are details of a number of ways that you may contribute to the on-going running expenses of the Orchestra.

Please take a few minutes to read and consider which would be most appropriate for you before completing the application form. Whatever you decide, please know that your contribution will be most gratefully received and put to very good use.

# *City of Southampton Orchestra*

## **Friends of the City of Southampton Orchestra**

Become a regular "Friend" of the Orchestra. On receipt of your gift of £20 annually your Friends of City of Southampton Orchestra Membership Card will be dispatched to you. It will be valid for one year; during that time you may present it at any of our concerts to receive a free concert programme.

You will also receive a Season Brochure and flyers for individual concerts by post throughout the season.

Unless you specifically request otherwise, your kind contribution will be acknowledged in our concert programmes.

I wish to become a Friend of the Orchestra

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Postcode .....

Tel:.....

I do/do not wish my details to appear in the programme.

I enclose my donation of £20. Please make cheques payable to City of Southampton Orchestra.

### **Giftaid**

If you are thinking of making a gift to charity you should consider the benefits of tax-efficient giving. Please see the enclosed information and complete the declaration.

# *City of Southampton Orchestra*

## **Sponsor a Chair Scheme**

You may wish to “Sponsor a Chair” for one of our concerts. This could be to commemorate a special occasion; perhaps a birthday or wedding anniversary, or maybe to celebrate the life of a loved one. Your donation of £50 will help to cover the costs of filling a performing chair for a concert. You may nominate a particular position that you wish to sponsor, a favourite instrument or player - it may even be the conductor!

On receipt of your donation you will receive a Sponsorship Card. Present this at your chosen concert to receive 2 free tickets and concert programmes. The details of your sponsorship will be published in the programme.

I enclose my cheque for £50 made payable to City of Southampton Orchestra.

Name:.....

Addresses:.....

.....

Postcode.....

Tel:.....

Date of Chosen Concert.....

Chair or Player you wish to Sponsor.....

Commemorative date:.....

Details ( Birthday, anniversary etc).....

### **Giftaid**

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# *City of Southampton Orchestra*

## **Sponsor a Concert**

This scheme is aimed at generating support for a particular concert during the season. For your donation of £250 you will be invited to entertain up to 6 guests at your chosen concert in reserved seating. A host from the Management Committee will greet you and your guests and conduct you to your seats. Concert programmes will be included.

Acknowledgment of your donation will be made in the programme. If you are a Corporate Sponsor we invite you place an advertisement in the programme; you may also wish to place your advertising materials in the foyer.

Cheque enclosed for £250 made payable to City of Southampton Orchestra.

Name/Company Name:.....

Contact Name if Company:.....

Address:.....

Postcode:.....

Tel:.....

Date of Concert you wish to Sponsor:.....

I do/do not wish to place a gratis advertisement in the Programme.

I do/do not wish to place promotional materials in the foyer.

A member of the Management Committee will contact to discuss further details.

### **Giftaid**

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# *City of Southampton Orchestra*

## **Major Corporate Sponsorship**

We would invite potential Major Corporate Sponsors to consider a minimum donation of £1000 per concert season.

In recognition of this generous gesture we the Orchestra would acknowledge the company as a Partner for the concert season and joint logos would appear on all publicity materials and concert programmes. The company would be invited to place advertisements in all concert programmes and to display publicity materials in the foyer at each concert.

Sponsors may entertain up to 6 guests at each concert throughout the season in reserved seating. A member of the Management Committee will greet you and your guests and conduct you to your seats. Concert programmes will be included.

Sponsors may also be invited to attend rehearsals and/or committee meetings to gain an insight into how a Volunteer Managed Organisation is run. Non-playing support and involvement is always welcome.

Cheque in the sum of £..... Enclosed made payable to City of Southampton Orchestra.

Company Name:.....

Contact Name:.....

Address:.....

Postcode:.....

Tel:.....

We do/do not wish to place gratis advertisements in the Programme.

We do/do not wish to place promotional materials in the foyer.

A member of the Management Committee will contact you to discuss further details.

# *City of Southampton Orchestra*

## **Giftaid**

If you pay tax in the UK, then Gift Aid is a simple way to increase the value of your gift to a charity. Making your donation using Gift Aid will enable the charity to reclaim the basic rate tax on your gift to them. This means that your gift is worth an extra 28p to the charity for every £1 that you give.

Subject to a few rules, you can give any amount, large or small, regular or one-off and the charity can reclaim the tax. If you are a higher rate taxpayer, you can claim relief on the difference between the basic rate and higher rate of tax. If you do not pay tax, you should not use Gift Aid.

## **Gift Aid Declaration**

Name of Charity: City of Southampton Orchestra - Charity No: 281214  
Details of donor

Title:..... Forename(s):..... Surname:.....

Address:.....

Post Code:.....

Declaration: I am a UK tax payer and I would like the City of Southampton Orchestra to treat all donations I have made for the six years prior to this year and all donations I make in the future as Gift Aid Donations, until I notify you otherwise.

Date:...../...../..... Signature: .....

## **NOTES**

1. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the charity.
2. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.
3. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
4. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity, or refer to help sheet IR65 on the HMRC web site. ([www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)).
5. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.