

OPERA NORTH

A group of performers on a stage at night. In the foreground, a man in a blue suit and a woman in a yellow floral dress are looking upwards. To their left, a woman in a green sari and a man in a blue vest are also looking up. In the background, a man in a grey suit is playing a cello. The stage is decorated with plants and a red patterned rug. Three balloons (purple, yellow, and blue) are suspended from the ceiling.

Accompanist

Our Purpose

Opera North's purpose is to create extraordinary experiences every day, using music and opera to entertain, engage, challenge and inspire.

Our People

Working at Opera North you will be part of a company and group of people committed to fulfilling this purpose. Whatever role you take we will provide you with an induction plan that introduces you to your job and the team you'll be working in, as well as giving you the opportunity to meet colleagues across the company. Our success in delivering against our purpose will be built on the commitment, skills, diversity and well-being of the people who work at Opera North, and we will invest in training to develop our people both professionally and personally, because we believe this strengthens not only our company, but also the wider creative sector.





**Our communities
and audiences are
part of us, and we
are part of them.**

Our award-winning work tours to theatre stages and concert halls throughout the North and beyond.



Who We Are

Based in Leeds, rooted in the North of England and international in outlook, our award-winning work tours to theatre stages and concert halls throughout the North and beyond, including to London and major international festivals. Alongside touring opera, in Leeds we curate an eclectic artistic programme of gigs, concerts, spoken word and film in the newly transformed venue the Howard Assembly Room. We aim to make work that is bold, innovative and ambitious, always looking for new ways to share and create with audiences.

Music for Everyone

Opera North believes opera and music is for everyone, and champions diversity in artists, repertoire and audiences. Through our Learning & Engagement and team, the Company connects with communities and inspires each generation, aiming to enhance the health and well-being of people in the cities, towns and villages where we work through arts participation and performance. In recognition of our work with refugee groups, Opera North holds the status of Theatre of Sanctuary.



A New Home

In 2021 we moved into our new home, the Howard Opera Centre. It is a world class rehearsal facility for our orchestra, chorus and all the artists we work with, sharing the same building as our new education studio where everyone is welcome to learn about and make music. We have also created a modern flexible working environment for our staff and given our venue, the Howard Assembly Room, a new lease of life with a dedicated entrance and public spaces, together with restaurant and bar in the heart of Leeds.

Leeds as a capital of culture

Leeds is the only city in England outside of London to have a resident full time opera company, ballet and repertoire theatre as part of a diverse, collaborative and thriving cultural scene. That rich offer has been complemented by a growing tech sector.

Surrounded by the stunning Yorkshire countryside including the Dales, Moors and North Sea coastline, Leeds is a fantastic place to live and work.

Main Purpose of the Job

Working alongside the In Harmony Choral Leader/s and, where required, the Instrumental Learning Team, the In Harmony Opera North accompanist will support the delivery of In Harmony Opera North and the Young Musicians Studio.

Background

Opera North is England's national opera company in the North and one of Europe's leading arts organisations. The Company is committed to producing work of the highest quality that excites, challenges and entertains.

The Learning & Engagement team at Opera North collaborate with professional artists to deliver opera related participative arts and family and community-based performance activity, by, with and for people of all ages: to develop a range of personal, social, and musical skills and create Extraordinary Experiences in their lives.

In Harmony Opera North is a long term music programme which launched in the spring of 2013 at Windmill Primary School; it now takes place at six primary schools and one secondary school in Leeds and Halifax and involves almost 2500 children and young people in full-time education on a weekly basis. The programme seeks to deliver an inclusive programme of music education and performance opportunities to encourage young people from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds to engage with the arts and, through doing so, benefit from a range of personal, social and musical outcomes. Supporting the development of a strong sense of community is an important facet of the programme, alongside promoting musical excellence and the opportunity for committed and enthusiastic young people to realise their musical potential.

Young Musicians Studio forms part of the progression activity offered to support children and young people who demonstrate the potential and enthusiasm to develop beyond the first access In Harmony provision. The Saturday Music School meets weekly during term-time. It offers classes in musicianship as well as ensembles and small group instrumental tuition taught by specialist tutors.



DUTIES AND KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Accompanying choral sessions within the *In Harmony* settings and *Young Musicians Studio* as scheduled.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Any other duties as may reasonably be required within the level and scope of the post.
- Ensuring the highest standards of professional performance are maintained.
- Supporting and wherever possible promoting and contributing to equality, diversity and inclusion within the organisation.
- Taking reasonable care of your own health and safety and that of any person who may be affected by your acts or omissions, including following Opera North health and safety procedures and co-operating with the organisation on health and safety issues.
- Participating in arrangements for performance review and appraisal.
- Ensuring that professional skills are regularly updated through participation in learning and development activities.



Person Specification

Competencies	Essential/ Desirable	Assessed by
Solid classical music training and a demonstrable high level of musical skill, technical proficiency on the piano and music literacy.	Essential	Application/ Interview
A clear passion for music and a high level of musicianship	Essential	Interview
Ability to work effectively with people from a range of backgrounds and professional contexts	Essential	Interview
Good team player and positive role model	Essential	Interview
Enthusiasm and receptiveness to change	Essential	Interview
Communication, both verbal and written	Essential	Application/ Interview
Commitment to, and strong advocate for, the importance of the interaction between arts organisations and communities	Essential	Interview
Ability to reflect on own professional performance	Essential	Interview
An awareness of diversity and how it relates to the role	Essential	Interview
Commitment to Continuous Professional Development	Essential	Interview
Special Features		
DBS Clearance	Essential	Post-interview
Good standard of personal presentation	Essential	Interview

All employees are expected to provide proof of their right to work in the UK before or on their first day of employment.

Terms and Conditions

Salary range: £25,240 per annum

Hours of work: Normal hours of work will be on average 35 hours per week, however actual working hours in any given week may vary and may include evening or weekend work. This post requires Saturday work on a weekly basis during term-time.

Normal place of work: The normal place of work is Leeds; travel to other locations around the UK may be required.

Holiday entitlement: 33 days inclusive of 8 statutory holidays per year.

Pension: Opera North will automatically enrol you into the company pension scheme upon appointment and after 3 months' service will contribute equivalent to 5.5% of your basic pay, should you meet the current legislative criteria. You will be required to make a personal contribution of 2.5% of your basic pay. We reserve the right to make future changes to our pension arrangements.

DBS: This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check

WE ARE NOT USING AGENCIES TO FILL THIS POSITION - NO AGENCIES PLEASE.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

We promote equity, diversity and inclusion in our workplace and make recruitment decisions by matching our needs with the skills and experience of the candidate. As we work to address underrepresentation in our workforce, we are particularly keen to hear from applicants from minority ethnic backgrounds or those with other protected characteristics.

The successful candidate must have the right to work in the UK or be ready to obtain it.

General responsibilities of everyone who works for us:

- Represent the company values and purpose to create extraordinary experiences everyday
- Work collaboratively and co-operatively with all team members and take an active part in team meetings and discussions
- Be an ambassador for Opera North and follow our policies and procedures
- Play your part in ensuring that everyone who comes through our door is welcomed and treated with respect
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How to Apply

To apply for this role, please send a CV and covering letter via the Hireful website.

If you need any help completing your application, including any adjustments to the application process, and if you are applying under the Disability Confident Committed scheme please contact appointments@operanorth.co.uk to make us aware.

Good luck with your application and we look forward to hearing from you.





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