

Role Profile

Position: Musical Director

Responsible to: Pitchcraft Board of trustees

Responsibilities

- Create an enjoyable and energising rehearsal environment where members are motivated to come to rehearsals to work hard, have fun and leave feeling inspired.
- Plan and lead weekly rehearsals with the support of the logistics lead.
- Select music, including from Pitchcraft's library of arrangements by our founding MD, and become familiar with our existing repertoire/back catalogue.
- Work closely with the events team members on the delivery of high standard events and performances.
- Conduct the choir at performances and introduce songs if required.
- Audition new choir members (with support from section leads).
- Understand and drive the standards of Pitchcraft.
- Support the production of song videos and recordings.
- Enhance the choir's range of music and provide new challenges and ideas for our future direction aligned to our essence.
- Although not required to undertake general choir administration, the MD will be expected, in collaboration with section leads and logistics lead, to plan rehearsals and communicate plans in advance, assist with producing learning materials such as song notes and guide tracks and initiate and respond to communications in a timely manner.

Requirements

- Excellent musicianship.
- Relevant experience of working with choirs/ a cappella.
- Ability to design imaginative and engaging concert programmes with broad audience appeal.
- Adaptability and willingness to work on a wide range of repertoire.
- The energy, skill and enthusiasm to lead and motivate the choir.
- The ability to develop the choir musically and improve vocal technique.
- The ability to encourage expressive performance.
- Any other activities agreed with the Board as essential to fulfilling the role.

Personal Attributes

- Calm and confident leadership style.
- Encouraging and motivating approach.
- Clear communication style.
- Ability to deal with a range of people and personalities to get the most from a mixed group.
- Reliable and organised.
- Talent for musical detail; able to work constructively to improve accuracy and blend to deliver high standards of performance.
- Sense of humour and a sense of fun.

Terms

There are a number of options to consider regarding terms and remuneration, and we would be keen to discuss and agree with the preferred candidate, however we will seek to offer fair and reasonable terms commensurate with experience.

Background and context

Pitchcraft is an auditioned a cappella choir with 60+ members based in Edinburgh.

We sing original arrangements of a wide variety of music including our trademark mashups and medleys. We have an extensive repertoire of arrangements but our ideal candidate would also be keen to arrange for us. The choir learns from scores but also we welcome non music readers and provide audio tracks to support learning.

Pitchcraft is performance focused and all our performances are off score. In every performance we aim to offer high quality and high entertainment value as well as something a little different. We typically stage one or two of our own public performances a year as well as occasional corporate gigs and private event bookings.

Our members come from all walks of life and from a variety of musical backgrounds. We sing for pleasure and we love to laugh, but we are also passionate and committed to being the very best we can be. We value and encourage teamwork, fun, mutual respect and kindness.

Pitchcraft is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and all singers are members of the charity. A board of trustees is elected from the members and formally oversees the running of the charity. Day to day running of the choir is supported by volunteer leads and teams of members who contribute a wide range of useful skills including logistics support, event management, marketing and social media.

Application Process

Please email a copy of your CV plus a covering letter explaining why you would be a good fit for Pitchcraft. We may ask for referees for our preferred candidate at the selection stage, so please be ready to provide the names and contact details of 2 referees, at least one of which should be musical.

Applications close on Friday 28th April 2023.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview on 4th or 5th May and a short audition with the choir on 16th May. We will of course be flexible as needed.



Pitchcraft is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)
Registered Charity number SC052063
<http://linktr.ee/pitchcraft>