ANU Orchestra Guidelines

Statement

The ANU Orchestra is the flagship classical music ensemble of the Australian National University and the School of Music. It is committed to presenting musical performances at the highest level, giving a creative outlet to students at the School of Music, and the University more broadly. It aims to increase awareness of orchestral music in the Australian Capital Territory through its pedagogical framework, and to offer enjoyable musical performances for the community through its outreach. In all of its endeavours, the ANU Orchestra upholds the values of the University through its operations and musical programming.

Orchestral Advisory Committee

The ANU Orchestra is managed by the members of the Orchestral Advisory Committee. This Committee comprises as core members:

- The Head of School
- The Conductor
- The Performance Convenor
- The Orchestra Administrator
- Contracted classical teaching staff of the School of Music
- An outside advisor from the Canberra Symphony Orchestra

The Orchestral Advisory Committee meets within two weeks of the main end-of-semester concert to discuss repertoire for the following semester, and at other times as required.

Repertoire

The ANU's policies on a range of issues, such as diversity of gender, race, age, will be considered in regard to repertoire programming. Following the Committee's recommendations, the Conductor will make repertoire selections, considering the likely make-up of the orchestra in the following semester and subsequent to auditions being held. These selections subsequently will be presented to the Committee for discussion, prior to final decisions on programming. When Concerto Gala concerts are scheduled, the availability of parts must be considered.

Applications

The ANU Orchestra is open to all ANU students, including Alumni up to five years after graduating, plus musicians in the community from 16-26 years of age. The ANU Orchestra webpage provides the most up-to-date information for applicants, and is updated regularly. When the audition period opens, applicants apply through submission of the webform available on the website. Generally, auditions are held in O-Week of every first semester, with a second round held, if needed, in O-Week of second semester. Out-of-round auditions may be held at the discretion of the Orchestra Advisory Committee.

Pre-tertiary students are welcome to audition on the understanding that they will be offered a place in the ANU Orchestra if there is no ANU student available to take that place. Pre-tertiary students who are offered a place in the ANU Orchestra are required to continue their participation in at least one of the pre-tertiary, school or community ensembles in

Canberra. These ensembles include but are not limited to CYO, ACTYO, CSYCO, Open School of Music, SCB.

Auditions

All auditions will be assessed by a panel comprising: the Conductor; an Orchestral Advisor; and one section expert.

Auditions may be held ·blind· (that is with the panel and each applicant separated by a screen), or non-blind. Members of the ANU Orchestra may be required to audition at the beginning of each year.

Applicants will be required to perform the following at the audition:
· Orchestral excerpts (available on the webpage)

In the event that an out-of-round audition is held for an unavoidable reason (such as the need for more players in a section), these may be through digital means at the discretion of the Orchestral Advisory Committee. Sight-reading will not be required in a digital audition.

Associated issues of prior poor participation, or absences from rehearsals, will be considered

Outcome
Outcome letters will be sent to all applicants at the close of all auditions, indicating solely that the application has been successful or unsuccessful. The reasons for an unsuccessful application will not be provided.

When successful applicants are notified of their result, they will be informed of the expectations of being an ANU Orchestra member. Accordingly, they need to agree to the Code of Conduct (see below), and understand that participation requires attendance at weekly rehearsals during the teaching period, and in public concerts at the end of each semester.

Players will be informed of their positions within a section, and advised that these are rotational. The Conductor, Orchestra Administrator, and at least two members of the Orchestral Advisory Committee make all decisions regarding positions and desking, subsequent to the audition process. Players should not presume that a position held in previous semester will be kept in a later semester.

As part of the audition process, a supplementary list of reserve players will be maintained. If a player declines a position of leaves during the year, a new offer may be made to a reserve member. Reserve members may be invited to play as augmenting or substitute players as required.

Rehearsals
Rehearsals take place for two hours every week of teaching during the semester, with the exception of Week 1. Attendance is recorded at every rehearsal, to: ensure the effective

running of the Orchestra; to comply with WHS procedures; and to satisfy assessment criteria for those members enrolled in the ensemble as part of a performance course at the School of Music. School of Music students may nominate ANU Orchestra for either their main Ensemble assessment in Performance, or in the Music Ensemble Elective (MUSI2220). ANU students may enrol in MUSI2220 for assessment in the ANU Orchestra.

Both the allocation of sectional weeks and the scheduling of repertoire during rehearsals is decided by the Conductor, the Orchestra Administrator, and at least two members of the Orchestral Advisory Committee at the beginning of each semester. This schedule will only be altered in the most rare of circumstances, given that the School of Music works closely with the Venues Team regarding the management of rehearsal venues.

Main Concert
The ANU Orchestra holds a concert in Week 12 of each semester in Llewellyn Hall, with a rehearsal held on the preceding evening.

Other concerts
From time to time, other concerts, masterclasses, and activities may be programmed within a semester.

Code of Conduct

Introduction
Before accepting an offer of membership of the ANU Orchestra, please read the following information and consider the time and commitment involved in accepting a position.

The word 'orchestra' is used throughout this document to refer to the ANU Orchestra. The acronym 'SoM' is used throughout this document to refer to the ANU School of Music. A musician who accepts an offer to join the orchestra is defined as a 'performer member', and referred to as a 'member' through this document.

Participation for ANU Performance students
Regular attendance at rehearsals, tutorials, and concerts is essential. Orchestra membership is a serious commitment. The following participation requirement applies to ANU students enrolled in Music Performance 1-6 and MUSI2220 Music Ensemble who nominate ensemble assessment in the Orchestra. Performing in an ensemble can only be learned through actually participating in an ensemble, and the absence of an ensemble member has a negative impact on the ability not only of themselves but also on each of the other ensemble members to continuously develop as ensemble performers. As such, in order to pass this course students must, unless they have a relevant medical certificate, participate in at least 80% of ensemble rehearsal time. Please ensure that you are familiar with the Orchestra's rehearsal schedule. Attendance records are considered alongside performance standards in the audition process.

Attendance requirement for non-ANU Performance students
Regular attendance at rehearsals, tutorials, and concerts is essential. Orchestra membership is a serious commitment. If a member is absent on more than two occasions during the semester, the Orchestral Advisory Committee will re-evaluate their membership. Members must always notify the Orchestra Administrator with as much notice as possible by e-mail of

any absence due to illness, a compulsory school/university activity, or other reason. Attendance records are considered alongside performance standards in the audition process.

Communication
The Orchestra Administrator uses e-mail as the primary means of communication with members. Members are requested to regularly check their e-mails for the latest information, and to respond promptly as required.

Personal information
Members are to ensure that the Orchestra Administrator is provided with up to date contact information.

Reserve members
If a player declines a position of leaves during the year, a new offer may be made to a reserve member. Reserve members may be invited to play as augmenting or substitute players as required.

Member's Code of Conduct
Orchestra members are required to:

- Protect and promote the positive image and reputation of ANU at all times;
- Comply with all reasonable instructions from ANU staff and orchestra section leaders;
- Adhere to orchestra member Conditions (participation, attendance, part preparation, etc.), Policies, Work Health and Safety regulations, and Common Law;
- Protect the privacy of other members and not disclose unauthorised or inappropriate information in a public arena including social media or other online forums;
- Show compassion and empathy to others facing a challenging situation;
- Never discriminate or vilify based on another person's race, colour, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion, social origin, political opinion, or disability;
- Never intimidate, bully, cyber-bully or use words or actions that intend to cause harm, distress, coerce, or cause fear;
- Never touch, film, or take photos of other members, staff, or participants without their consent;
- Report unsafe behaviour to ANU staff.

SoM will deal with breaches of this Code of Conduct or the terms and conditions of membership in an appropriate manner. This may involve exclusion of the member from a program, event, or activity on a short-term or permanent basis.

Alcohol, drugs and tobacco
The Orchestra will suspend of cancel the membership of any member who attends a rehearsal, tutorial, concert, workshop, or similar activity under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. The ANU campus is designated as Smoke-Free. The ANU Smoke-Free policy recognises the adverse effects of smoking, passive smoking and tobacco products. It prohibits all smoking (including electronic cigarettes and marijuana) and the use of all tobacco products, anywhere on all of the University's campuses, including buildings,

properties, grounds, and workplaces. It prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products in all vehicles on campus and used for business purposes, and the promotion and advertising of tobacco products on University's lands. The policy prohibits tobacco-industry funded activities.