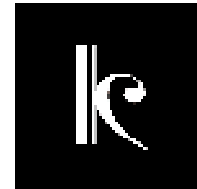




**Autumn 2010  
Audition Information Sheet  
and Application Form**



**Kentmusic**

The Kent County Youth Orchestra is widely acknowledged to be one of the country's finest youth orchestras, drawing together over 100 players between the ages of 13 and 21.



**What commitment is required from you?**

The orchestra meets three times a year for intensive coaching and rehearsal on six-day residential courses during school holiday periods at New Year, Easter and late August. Each course concludes with a public performance, usually in Maidstone. The orchestra studies a rich variety of repertoire with professional conductors and tutors from all of the major London orchestras. Members of KCYO work hard but also have plenty of time to socialise, study and establish firm and lasting friendships.



**How do I join?**

You must be resident or go to school in Kent and play an orchestral instrument to a very good Grade 7 - 8 standard, although you do not have to have taken any formal exams. Your instrumental teacher may be approached for a recommendation before you are offered an audition. After the application closing date you will be notified when, during early September, your audition will take place.

**There is no fee for auditioning.**

**Violin, Viola and Cello** players will be invited to attend solo auditions for which an accompanist will be provided. You are asked to prepare one piece of your own choice and an orchestral excerpt that will be sent to you in advance. Please be aware that this excerpt is as important as the prepared piece. Sight-reading may also be required.



**Woodwind and Brass** players will be invited to attend solo auditions for which an accompanist will be provided. Please prepare one piece of your own choice. You may also be asked to sight-read a short orchestral excerpt.



**Percussion & Double Bass** players will be invited to attend group workshops and are not required to prepare any pieces in advance.



**All applications must be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010  
Auditions are scheduled to take place between 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September 2010.**

## AUDITION PANEL

The audition panel comprises a professional instrumentalist (usually the KCYO specialist instrumental tutor) and the KCYO Manager. A professional accompanist is provided whose views are also taken into account.

The audition is led by the professional instrumentalist who may ask you to play sections of the music again to test your versatility and responsiveness to musical suggestion. It is rather like a mini masterclass or rehearsal. He/she is responsible for ranking you and the other applicants in order of merit. Applicants are then recruited according to the number of vacancies in the orchestra for that instrument.

## CHOICE OF MUSIC FOR AUDITION

You should choose music in consultation with your teacher which best displays your all-round technique, dynamic range, sense of style, expression and musical understanding. Accompanied music is preferable as it enables the panel to assess your ability to play in ensemble. Work with your teacher to ensure that you are thoroughly prepared for the audition. For string players, preparation of the orchestral excerpt is as important as that of your chosen piece.

## AVAILABILITY

Details of the KCYO's forthcoming season of courses and concerts will be sent to you together with the invitation to attend for audition. Members of the orchestra are required to commit to the entire season's activities. Please check the dates carefully with your parents and school/college/university.

## CODA

You will be asked a few questions after you have played. This is to find out a little more about you as a person, what you are studying at school or in further or higher education and, crucially, the part that music plays in your life.

Failure to secure a place in the orchestra may not be because you did not play well. You may be of a suitable standard but not recruited because there are insufficient places available. This is why applicants are ranked after the auditions.

Remember that panel members want you to play to the best of your ability. They are sympathetic people who realise you are under pressure and might be nervous. You will be performing in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

If you have any questions after reading this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at Kent Music on 01622 358402.

*Geoff Dixon*

Manager, Kent County Youth Orchestra

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Kent Music is a partner in music education with Kent County Council  
**Patron** Sir Peter Maxwell Davies CBE **President** Sir Simon Rattle CBE

Registered Charity No. 1110639 Limited Company No. 5464855





## AUDITION APPLICATION FORM

**To be completed by applicant:**

Name (CAPS) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

School/College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Details of the last examination taken on this instrument.

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Board \_\_\_\_\_ Mark \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please list all relevant orchestral experience:  
(continue overleaf if necessary)

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To be completed by instrumental teacher:**

I believe that my pupil is of a suitable standard and has sufficient experience to be considered for a place in Kent County Youth Orchestra.

Signature of teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed form to:

Geoff Dixon  
Manager, KCYO  
Kent Music  
Astley House  
Hastings Road  
MAIDSTONE  
Kent ME15 7SG.



## 2011 Season

**New Year Course:** Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> December 2010 to Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2011

**Concert:** 7.30pm, Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2011 - Mote Hall, Maidstone

**Conductor:** Guillermo Scarabino

**Course Fee: £222**

---- oooo OOOO oooo ----

**Easter Course:** Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011

**Concert:** 7.30pm, Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011 - Mote Hall, Maidstone

**Conductor:** tbc

**Course Fee: £222**

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**Summer Course:** Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011

**Concert:** 7.30pm, Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2010 - Mote Hall, Maidstone

**Conductor:** tbc

**Course Fee: £222**

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**Players are required to commit themselves for the whole season.**

**Please check that these dates do not clash with any school/college/university commitments and sign below.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(player / parent / guardian) delete as appropriate

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
(CAPITALS PLEASE)

**Players under the age of 18 must have the form signed by their parent/guardian.**