

Bronze with BSO

Work experience at the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for 14 – 18 year olds

It is extremely valuable for young people to explore the arts and to develop an understanding of the different musical career paths available, which is why the BSO has developed a specially designed one-week work placement for students called *Bronze with BSO*. This opportunity enables students to achieve their Bronze Arts Award (a Level 1 award on the Regulated Qualifications Framework) whilst spending a full working week with different departments within the Orchestra, including Communications, Library, Marketing and Participate. *Please note this is not a performance-based work placement.*

Dates for 2019-20

There are two weeks during the 2019/20 academic year when *Bronze with BSO* will run, with the possibility of having multiple students in each week. Applicants can apply only for one of these weeks at a time by the stated deadline; if they are unsuccessful, they are welcome to re-apply for the next placement by the next deadline, taking account of any feedback they have requested.

Work placement date	Application deadline date
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st January 2020	Monday 4 th November 2020
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd May 2020	Monday 3 rd February 2020

Individual requirements and how to apply

Bronze with BSO is open to:

- Students aged 14-18
- An individual with an interest in a career in music, and although we encourage students with a range of musical tastes and experiences to apply, it is desirable that the participant can demonstrate a particular passion for classical music

To apply for *Bronze with BSO*, applicants must write:

- A CV (no more than two sides of A4) outlining the academic subjects they are studying at school or college, the extracurricular activities they are involved in, and any relevant employment or voluntary work they are doing or have done. Their CV must also include the contact details for two people who can provide a reference. One of these references should be their tutor, supervisor, or head of year at school or college, and another should be someone who has managed them at work (paid or voluntary) or during an extracurricular activity.
- A Covering letter to address the following points: why they are applying for work experience at the BSO, why they are a suitable candidate for the placement, and what skills and experiences they hope to gain from *Bronze with BSO*.

The CV and Covering letter should be sent to Jess Craig (BSO Participate Coordinator) via email at jcraig@bsorchestra.co.uk or via post at Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, 2 Seldown Lane, Poole, BH15 1UF.

Shortly after the deadline applicants will be shortlisted and invited to a telephone interview. Unsuccessful candidates will be contacted and can be given feedback on request. The successful candidate will be chosen after everyone on the shortlist has been interviewed over the phone.

Please note that the application process provides students with an opportunity to experience the effort and commitment involved in making a job application, and the placement itself is designed for students who are motivated to seek opportunities that challenge and develop their knowledge and understanding of a professional orchestra. Applicants will therefore need to complete their application in their own words and if they have any questions or queries about their application they are encouraged to get in touch themselves to Jess via jcraig@bsorchestra.co.uk.

Important information

Please note that the successful candidate will be expected to be at the BSO offices in Poole from 10am – 4.30pm every day during their placement. The nature of the work may require them to arrive earlier or leave later and to possibly travel to projects with a member of BSO staff; however, these will be discussed with the individual in advance of the placement. The individual will be given an hour's lunch break every day, and they can either bring a packed lunch to have in the office's kitchen or go out somewhere in Poole. Unfortunately, the Orchestra cannot contribute to the cost of lunch or travel from the candidate's home to the BSO offices.

Please be aware that *Bronze with BSO* is not a performance-based work placement. The majority of the student's time will be spent in and around the BSO offices, carrying out administrative tasks within the different departments to gain experience of orchestral planning and management. There will be a number of opportunities to interact with the musicians and to watch the Orchestra's rehearsals and concerts during the work placement, but students will not be able to play with the Orchestra.

What is Arts Award?

Arts Award is a range of unique qualifications that support young people to grow as artists and arts leaders, inspiring them to connect with and take part in the wider arts world through taking challenges in an art form. To achieve an Arts Award qualification, the participant must take part in several different activities such as attending arts events, researching artists and planning their own projects, which are then recorded in their own Arts Award portfolio. An Arts Award advisor helps the individual to plan their work and to keep track of their progress, in addition to being responsible for assessing and moderating the final portfolio. Please visit the Arts Award website for further information, found via this link: <http://www.artsaward.org.uk/site/?id=1346>.

Bronze with BSO

Arts Award offers an ideal structure for young people to explore the working world of a professional orchestra, so the BSO's work experience programme has been designed to incorporate the Bronze Arts Award. Successful applicants will spend a working week with the BSO to gain knowledge and experience of how the Orchestra functions, and an in-house Arts Award advisor will guide each student in how to plan and record their activities in order to achieve the Bronze qualification. At the end of the placement the student will have completed their Bronze Arts Award portfolio, which will be assessed by the advisor to ensure the student has met the

assessment criteria and will achieve a pass for their Bronze Arts Award. The portfolio will then be sent off by the advisor for moderation.

There are four parts to this qualification, and each part aims to increase the young person's experience and understanding of the arts, arts practitioners and cultural organisations. These parts are:

- 1) Explore the arts as a participant
- 2) Explore the arts as an audience member
- 3) Arts inspiration
- 4) Arts skills share

Together, the participant and the advisor will plan which tasks and activities they do during their work experience link to the different parts of the Arts Award. The nature of these activities will depend on when the placement is happening; for example, if it is taking place during a week when the Orchestra is performing a Schools' Concert, a number of the tasks will be related to this event. Likewise, if a group of BSO musicians are taking part in a project in the local community, the participant will be involved in that.

Get in touch

If the applicant has any questions or queries about *Bronze with BSO*, please do not hesitate to contact Jess Craig (BSO Participate Coordinator) via email at jcraig@bsorchestra.co.uk or via telephone on 01202 644727. As well as providing assistance with the application process, Jess can also provide further information about each part of the *Bronze with BSO* Arts Award, including a list of examples of the various activities involved with different departments of the Orchestra.