

PRESS RELEASE Monday 21 October 2024

TRIO OF TALENTED YOUNG SINGERS WIN COMPETITON TO PERFORM WITH BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Three young singers perform with the professional orchestra ©BSO

- **Three local children are set to appear as soloists in** *The Snowman* this December alongside Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (BSO).
- 70 children, aged 9-13, competed to win the opportunity. Three singers from **Devon**, **Hampshire**, and the **Isle of Wight** have been announced as the winners.
- Performances take place at **Lighthouse**, **Poole** on **Saturday 14 December** at 3pm and 7pm. Tickets from £5.

Howard Blake's *Walking in the Air* remains an enduring festive favourite. This Christmas, it marks the start of a new chapter for three talented singers as they prepare to perform music from *The Snowman* with the BSO.

Logan Broom from **Ringwood**, **Will Kent** from **Sandown**, and **Megan Frost-Howe** from **Newton Abbot** beat off competition from dozens of other talented young singers to perform as soloists with the professional orchestra this Christmas.

The talented trio will each perform individually alongside Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and its Southampton-based community choir, BSO Voices. The live performances, which are conducted by Pete Harrison, accompany a **full-length screening of** *The Snowman*.



Anthony Brown, the **BSO's Head of Marketing** and curator of its BSO Pops series, said: "We were thrilled to welcome such a large number of young singers from across the South West and beyond to audition. Logan, Megan, and Will stood out as brilliantly talented - we're excited to be able to offer them this memorable performance experience and look forward to welcoming them to the stage in December."

The Snowman is presented as part of the BSO's festive season, which includes family favourites, such as **Last Night of the Christmas Proms** with Joe Stilgoe. It also features traditional Christmas classics ranging from a **Celebration of Christmas Carols** and **Handel's** *Messiah* to the BSO's ever-popular **New Year's Gala**. The BSO's festive season tours **Exeter, Fareham, Marlborough, Poole, Portsmouth, Taunton** and **Weymouth**, throughout December and early January.

The Snowman takes place on Saturday 14 December – at 3pm and 7pm - at Lighthouse, Poole. Tickets are from £5 and can be booked at bsolive.com.

-ENDS-

NOTES TO EDITORS

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- High-resolution images available <u>here</u>

 a) The BSO's festive concerts at Lighthouse, Poole ©BSO
 b) Conductor Pete Harrison directs two performances of the festive favourite ©Andy Holdsworth
 c) Musicians from Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra ©Mark Allan
- 2. The Snowman is screened with permission from Snowman Enterprises Ltd | thesnowman.com

3. ABOUT BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA | bsolive.com

Chief Conductor – Mark Wigglesworth | Artist-in-Residence — Alena Baeva Principal Guest Conductor — Chloé van Soeterstède | Associate Guest Conductor – David Hill MBE Conductor Laureate & Artistic Director, Voices from the East – Kirill Karabits Conductor Laureate – Andrew Litton | Conductor Emeritus – Marin Alsop Calleva Assistant Conductor – Enyi Okpara

One of the UK's best-loved orchestras, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is known for championing the role of culture in people's lives. Based at Lighthouse, Poole, the Orchestra is resident in Bristol, Exeter, Portsmouth, Southampton, and Yeovil, and performs in towns and villages across the region. It is the largest cultural provider in the Southwest of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions in the UK.

Celebrated globally for his outstanding musicianship, extraordinary interpretations, and breadth of repertoire, **Mark Wigglesworth's appointment as Chief Conductor** (from autumn 2024) builds on the BSO's reputation for the highest quality music-making. The Orchestra boasts an enviable list of named conductors, including Principal Guest Conductor Chloé van Soeterstède, Marin Alsop, David Hill MBE, Kirill Karabits, and Andrew Litton.

Highlights of the season include concerto and chamber performances from Artist-in-Residence, the violinist **Alena Baeva**, and collaborations with Calleva Assistant Conductor, **Enyi Okpara**, who performs a broad mix of repertoire across the year. Guest artists include conductors Adam Hickox and Kevin John Edusei; pianist Nicholas McCarthy;



and accordionist Ksenija Sidorova — and the Orchestra's celebrated Digital Concert series continues into its fifth year, with 17 live performances broadcast globally from Poole.

Committed to new music, the BSO has presented premiere performances of works by Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, Jonathan Dove, Magnus Lindberg, Anna Korsun, Elizabeth Ogonek, Shirley J. Thompson OBE, Mark-Anthony Turnage and Kate Whitley in recent years — and it's Voices from the East series has been recognised for unearthing lost symphonic works from eastern Europe and central Asia.

The BSO is known for championing access to high-quality music for all and leads hundreds of community-based events each year, from its award-winning work in health and care settings to partnerships with schools and music education hubs. In the 2024/25 season, it deepens its reach into local communities, including: a new residency in partnership with NHS Dorset; an expansion of its creative health work; and the extension of the BSO Young Associates community music training scheme. Following international attention for igniting change, BSO Resound — the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra, and winner of the 2019 Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award — continues to challenge perceptions.

