



CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

There are many opportunities at the University to perform in all kinds of musical ensembles and newcomers are always welcome.



Visit the music department and music society home pages:

bristol.ac.uk/music

bumsonline.org.uk

2025-26



UNIVERSITY ENSEMBLES

UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (auditioned)

CONDUCTOR: NEAL FARWELL

🕒 Rehearsals: Tuesdays 19.00-21.15, Victoria Rooms

This is the University's main orchestra, and it is conducted by members of Music staff. A full-size symphony orchestra, we perform ambitious repertoire from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries to a high standard. We aim to balance established masterworks, some less well-known pieces and contemporary music. Recent performances have included Rachmaninoff's 2nd Symphony, Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra, works by Augusta Holmès, Anna Clyne and Missy Mazzoli, and Brahms' German Requiem. Repertoire planned for this year includes music by Saint-Saëns and Holst, a premiere by Lim Kang Ning, and a massed-choirs collaboration with conductor Elinor Cooper.

UNIVERSITY NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE (auditioned)

CONDUCTOR: MICHAEL ELLISON

🕒 Rehearsals: Thursdays 18.00-20.00, Victoria Rooms

NME performs brand new works and modern classics to the highest standard, bringing together leading performers from across the University to give one concert during the year, along with contributions to events such as Bristol New Music.

UNIVERSITY SINGERS (auditioned)

DIRECTOR: ELINOR COOPER

🕒 Rehearsals: Wednesdays 14.00-16.45, Victoria Rooms

Bristol University's most prestigious choir, University Singers perform a wide range of music from the Renaissance to present day to a professional standard. The choir consists of around 30 singers and is directed by experienced professional conductor, Elinor Cooper. University Singers perform 2-3 times per term, and are often invited to take part in recordings and other professional opportunities outside the university.



BUMS ENSEMBLES

To be in BUMS ensembles, you will need to join the Bristol University Music Society, which is the main student led Classical music society. With membership, not only can you join our ensembles, but you can also come along to socials, and have the opportunity to form new chamber groups, or even come on our tour! For the un-auditioned BUMS ensembles, you can attend one of the first sessions as a try out, but after that you will be expected to pay BUMS membership. This pays for all music, any instrument insurance and room bookings. Ask a member of the society for further information and check out our stall at Welcome Fair! For more information please contact BUMSpresident@outlook.com. Check out our website bumsonline.org.uk for more information and to take our quiz to find out which ensemble or society is best for you!

UNIVERSITY BAROQUE ENSEMBLE (auditioned)

DIRECTOR: SAMMY LI

🕒 Rehearsals: Thursdays 19.00-21.00, Victoria Rooms

The Baroque Ensemble is an auditioned group dedicated to sharing historically informed, high standard baroque repertoire from an exciting range of composers. Due to its smaller size and passionate members, the ensemble has a unique collaborative atmosphere, with friendly rehearsals and the opportunity for each instrument to shine during performances. We welcome those enthusiastic about baroque music (and those keen to discover more!) and have places available for strings, woodwinds and continuo, as well as brass and percussion. If you have any questions, please contact the manager at: BUMSbaroque@outlook.com.

UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHOIR (auditioned)

CONDUCTOR: MAYURI SWAMINATHAN

🕒 Rehearsals: Mondays 19.00-21.00, Victoria Rooms

The University Chamber Choir is an auditioned group of around 40-50 high-standard singers, performing a wide and varied range of choral repertoire over the course of the year. Performing at least three concerts every year, the choir gets to sing in some Bristol's flagship venues and churches, including at our annual St George's concert. The choir makes up the bulk of our international tour choir.

UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (auditioned)

CONDUCTOR: CHARLIE KAY

🕒 Rehearsals: Mondays 19.00-21.00, Victoria Rooms

Chamber Orchestra is a high-standard, student-led auditioned ensemble that welcomes 40+ musicians from across the university to perform a variety of thrilling and high standard repertoire, including Copland's 'Appalachian Spring', Francaix' Clarinet concerto and Beethoven's 7th Symphony. Each year we have planned a programme of four concerts, including our flagship St. George's concert "An Evening with BUMS". Individual students have the chance to be featured through the esteemed annual concerto competition as well. For more information, please email our manager bumschamberorchestra@outlook.com or visit our Instagram! [@bumschamberorchestra](https://www.instagram.com/bumschamberorchestra)

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY SYMPHONIC WINDS (auditioned)

CONDUCTOR: JAKE WINGFIELD

🕒 Rehearsals: Wednesdays 17.00-19.00, Victoria Rooms

The Bristol University Symphonic Winds is the university's auditioned concert band. They perform classic and contemporary wind repertoire to an incredibly high standard, ranging from 20th Century wind suites to exciting film scores and everywhere in between. Symphonic Winds usually put on 2 concerts a year and have exciting rehearsals on Wednesday afternoons with regular socials afterwards. For more information email the manager at bumssymphonicwinds@outlook.com.

UNIVERSITY WIND ORCHESTRA (no audition)

CONDUCTOR: ABI LEAR

🕒 **Rehearsals: Mondays 17.00-18.30, Victoria Rooms**

The Wind Orchestra is the largest of the non-auditioned ensembles and performs pieces in a wide range of musical styles. We welcome all abilities of wind, brass, and percussion players, so come along, meet new people, explore new music and enjoy being in a friendly and social ensemble! Our wind orchestra competes in the annual South West Universities Concert Band Festival, co-founded by Bristol but now featuring 7 universities across the South West! If you have any questions please contact the manager at: BUMSwindorchestra@outlook.com.

UNIVERSITY STRING ORCHESTRA (no audition)

CONDUCTOR: RYAN POWER

🕒 **Rehearsals: Wednesdays 17.00-19.00, Victoria Rooms**

String Orchestra is a fun and exciting ensemble open to all string players without the pressures of auditions or intensive practice regimes. Violin, viola, cello, and double bass players are welcome to join as we strive to play challenging and engaging music to a high standard. Our repertoire is always varied, drawing on music of all genres. Players have the opportunity to showcase their work in 3 concerts over the year. If you want to play in a sociable and quality ensemble, join us on Wednesday evenings in the Recital Room in the Victoria Rooms! If you have any questions please contact the manager at: BUMSstringorchestra@outlook.com.

UNIVERSITY BRASS BAND (no audition)

CONDUCTOR: ED CHEUNG

🕒 **Rehearsals: Thursdays 19.00-21.00, Victoria Rooms**

The University of Bristol Brass Band is a friendly, sociable and hardworking non-auditioned ensemble, welcoming brass (standard brass band instruments + trumpets) and percussion players of all standards. The Band holds a number of concerts throughout the academic year, the highlight of which is competing at UniBrass in February, the annual inter-university brass band contest (in recent years we have won awards such as most entertaining band and most innovative program). The Band also has regular socials after rehearsals. In previous years, the band has been lucky enough to have workshops led by Philip Harper, conductor of the Cory Band, as well as sectionals led by section principals. If you would like to improve your playing and musicianship in a fun and low-pressure ensemble, join Brass Band on Thursday evenings in the Victoria Rooms Auditorium! If you have any questions, please contact the manager at: BUMSbrassband@outlook.com.

FLUTE CHOIR (no audition)

CONDUCTOR: YASMIN HUSSAIN

🕒 **Rehearsals: Fridays 17.00-19.00, Victoria Rooms**

Flute Choir is a fun and sociable ensemble. We are an un-auditioned ensemble and welcome flautists of all abilities to join our ever-growing group. We have a variety of challenging and easier parts, with additional opportunities to try out the piccolo and alto flute. Join our friendly community every Friday evening at the Victoria rooms as a great way to wind down from the week!

MINERVA CHOIR (no audition)

CONDUCTOR: REUBEN WEST

🕒 **Rehearsals: Thursdays 17.00-19.00 Victoria Rooms**

Looking for a fun, sociable and relaxed chance to sing and make musical friends? Minerva Choir is BUMS' un-auditioned choir, welcoming singers of all abilities and backgrounds united by a love of singing. Whether you're a newbie who's convinced you can't sing, or a seasoned pro ready to sing your heart out, come along to sing a mix of pop songs, classical pieces and hymns. Take a break from the stress of uni life every Thursday and come sing with us!

BUMS CHAMBER MUSIC (no audition)

CO-ORDINATOR: SHAYNA D'SILVA

BUMS Chamber Music is the perfect opportunity for all instrumentalists and singers to get involved with music at Bristol. We help you meet and connect with other chamber musicians so you can create and join ensembles. Recent ensembles have included piano trios, wind quintets and string quartets, but there are endless possibilities. We also collaborate with the composition network so composers can get their works performed. There will be many performance opportunities through the year with regular concerts and a masterclass happening in local churches for groups to participate in. There will also be opportunities to get feedback and socialise in various workshops. If you would like to get involved, you can fill out the BUMS chamber music form or contact Shayna at bumschambermusic@outlook.com.

COMPOSITION NETWORK (no audition)

CO-ORDINATORS: JOHN ARBUTHNOTT

🕒 **Rehearsals: Tuesdays 17.00-19.00 Victoria Rooms**

The Composition Network is a collective of composers within BUMS. In our weekly session we present and discuss the compositions we have been working on and get helpful feedback and opinions from other members. We also hold a few dedicated composition concerts to showcase your original compositions performed by other BUMS members. The network also gives commission opportunities from both within and outside of BUMS (eg. an external composition competition). For further information please email BUMScomposition@outlook.com.

CLARINET CHOIR (no audition)

CONDUCTOR: LUCAS DICK

🕒 **Rehearsals: Fridays 17:00-19:00, Victoria Rooms**

Clarinet Choir is BUMS' newest ensemble! Formed in 2024, Clarinet Choir is open to players of all levels, offering a relaxed atmosphere as well as opportunities for you to improve. We play all sorts of music – from arrangements of well-known classical pieces to swing and more modern experiments, that is accessible for all! Come along for the fun rehearsals, great music and free biscuits!

UNIVERSITY BIG BAND SOCIETY!

Welcome to Bristol University Big Band Society!

We have two amazing big bands which cover a full range of jazz, from classic swing to contemporary fusion, funk and pop. As well as being in demand for formals and parties, we put on our own events throughout the year, with a particular recent highlight being our sell-out event 'Clusterfunk' at Bristol Beacon hosted with the JazzFunkSoul Society.

The society also holds an annual summer tour which is always well received – with both bands performing to large crowds in beautiful locations across Europe.

Visit our Welcome Fair stand to sign up for auditions which happen at the start of the year! We have free membership available through the SU website.

Find us at:

🌐 www.bigbandsoc.co.uk | 📱 @HornstarsandBUJO | 📷 @bristolbigbandsoc

OUR GROUPS:

THE BRISTOL HORNSTARS

🕒 **Rehearsals: Fridays 17.30-19.30, Students' Union**

The Bristol Hornstars are Big Band Soc's auditioned band and are renowned as one of Bristol's premier jazz ensembles! The Hornstars bring a dazzling mix of jazz, funk, latin and modern classics to local venues. Be sure to audition for some of the finest jazz the city has to offer.

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY JAZZ ORCHESTRA / BUJO

🕒 **Rehearsals: Fridays 17.30-19.30, Richmond Building**

The Bristol University Jazz Orchestra are Big Band Soc's un-auditioned band (except for vocals and rhythm), giving everyone an opportunity to be a part of an accomplished and vibrant jazz ensemble. Be sure to come along for lively rehearsals with midpoint pints and unforgettable gigs!

WELCOME TO JAZZ FUNK SOUL SOCIETY!

Are you itching to improvise? Thirsty for funk? Searching for soul? If yes, then we're the society for you! We host weekly jazz, funk, and soul jams at "Mr Wolf's", open to all instruments and abilities, playing a range of music, from classic standards to your favourite funky pop bangers! Following each jam, a DJ takes over the stage, playing club classics deep into the night, and every other week, we also feature a 1-hour set from one of Bristol and the wider UK's many amazing bands. Music is always from 9pm till late!

Throughout the year, we also host interactive workshops (free for members) by some of the scene's best singers and instrumentalists, having previously hosted big names such as jazz vocalist Victoria Klewin, or Bristol saxophonist Craig Crofton. We've even had Ezra Collective up on our stage before!

Come pay us a visit at the Welcome Fair if you have any more questions, or just want to have a chat with one of our committee members!

Find us on instagram [@jfsbristol](https://www.instagram.com/jfsbristol) for more information, and on the [SU Website](#) for free membership.

A CAPPELLA SOCIETY

A Cappella Society was voted as the Best Society 2017 and 2018, as well as being shortlisted for Best Society Event. We specialise in modern A cappella (think Pitch Perfect)! We've got a really exciting year planned with concerts, socials, and opportunities for all abilities so find us at freshers fair. Check out what we are up to on Instagram [@uobacappella](#) or find us on facebook [@UoBACappella](#) for more information. We audition for some groups so come along and speak to us at freshers fair for more info!

OUR GROUPS:

THE BRISTONES (no audition)

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's non-competitive, mixed, unauditioned group, Bristones is known for their chill, undemanding rehearsal style that welcomes people of all abilities, experiences and voice parts are welcomed. As the largest group in the society, Bristones rehearses for 2 hours on a weekly basis, allowing you to meet new friends while singing your hearts out. It is the perfect way to get a taster of A Cappella Society! Our main committees will also be regularly attending rehearsals to welcome new members and helping them adapt to the society's environment.

Although non-competitive, the group gets equal opportunities to perform as they participate in the non-comp concerts held by the society. In other words, you can sing loads of super fun arrangements with a bunch of fantastic people with no pressure! If you would like to join and want to know more about the group, reach out to us [@UoBACappella](#) or [@Bristones](#). Whether you're just a beginner, shower singer, or an Aca-veteran, don't hesitate and come along!

THE TONE RANGERS (no audition)

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's non-competitive, mixed, unauditioned group, Tone Rangers is known for their interactive and dynamic performance style. Tone Rangers usually rehearses for 2 hours on a weekly basis, but sometimes they hold extra rehearsals depending on the song's difficulty. The dynamics this year between members are top-notch, comprising capable members from all competitive groups in various lower voice parts. In other words, Tone Rangers always act as the lower voice backbone of the A Cappella Society.

After rehearsals, it is also the group's tradition to go to the pub for drinks. On occasion, the manager/musical directors of the group will also hold smaller karaoke sessions or dinner socials for the members of the group.

Although non-competitive, the group gets equal opportunities to perform as they participate in the non-comp concerts held by the society. In other words, you can sing loads of super fun arrangements with a bunch of fantastic people with no pressure!

Whether you're Frank Sinatra, Michael Buble or just a beginner in singing, don't hesitate to reach out [@UoBACappella](#) or [@ToneRangers](#). All levels of people are welcomed!

TOP NOTE (no audition)

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's non-competitive, higher-voice, unauditioned group, Top Note is known for their ability to reach their top form and hit their top note (see what we did there?). Top note rehearses for 2 hours on a weekly basis, similar to other unauditioned groups. Nonetheless they boast a tightly knitted community, hosting regular night outs, drink and game nights and karaoke socials during term time. The group also wear their trademarked bandanas during their performances, making them easily recognisable and iconic members of the A Cappella Society whether on and off stage. Speaking of which, they are the first unauditioned group to release their performance on YouTube

Although non-competitive, the group gets equal opportunities to perform as they participate in the non-comp concerts held by the society. In other words, you can sing loads of super fun arrangements with a bunch of fantastic people with no pressure! If you would like to join and want to know more about the group, reach out to us [@UoBACappella](#) or [@TopNote](#) and start your A Cappella era with us!

ALL SHARPS (auditioned)

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's longest-running A Cappella group (previously HotTUBBS), All Sharps is the Society's non-competitive, mixed, auditioned group, known for their harmonies and arrangements. All Sharps usually rehearses for 2 hours on a weekly basis, but sometimes they hold extra rehearsals depending on the song's difficulty. Although non-competitive, being auditioned means that the group has a slightly higher standard compared to other unauditioned counterparts, incorporating choreography and leading barbershops in concerts.

In 2020, All Sharps has recorded and released multiple Albums, such as The Longest Time, Caught Up In A Dream, and their most recent release, Upon The Edge, featuring Alps, Waves, and Awaken. As an auditioned group, All Sharps is always looking for strong singers of all voice parts, including beatboxers. If you're interested in joining, please follow [@UoBACappella](#) or [@Allsharps](#) for more information regarding their auditions. Please note that the ability to read music is not an requirement for joining the group. So don't hesitate to sign up! Of course, the group gets equal opportunities to perform as they participate in the non-comp concerts held by the society. In other words, you can sing loads of super fun arrangements with a bunch of fantastic people with no pressure!

PITCH FIGHT (auditioned)

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's female and non-binary, auditioned, competitive group, Pitch Fight is known for their choreography, vocals, and arrangements. In 2020, Pitch Fight has recorded and released their debut album, Purple Reign, featuring songs such as Fire, E.T., and Back to Black. As for their most recent single release, It's a Man's Man's Man's World, is also out on all streaming platforms! Pitch Fight has also performed at various gigs, including Clicendales, Best of South West (BOSW) and LUKAS. The group also came third in ICCAs 2021 (yes the competition in Pitch Perfect), while winning best choreography and best arrangement simultaneously. The group has also participated in multiple charity performances, such as the performing in the local elderly home - Catherine's House, and occasional busking in Bristol.

Alongside our sister group Academy, the group made their triumphant return to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (after a couple of years off thanks to covid), with our show "the Aca-prentice", followed by our 5 star, sold out show - "Aca-Villa: The Love Island Musical" with our upcoming production this summers of "Pirates of the Acaribbean", taking place at the Edinburgh Fringe 2025! As a competitive and auditioned group, Pitch Fight is always looking for strong singers of all voice parts, including beatboxers. If you're interested in joining, please follow @UoBAcaplla or @PitchFight for more information regarding their auditions.

Please note that the ability to read music is not a requirement for joining the group. So don't hesitate to sign up! Please note that being a member of a competitive group is a big commitment - there are rehearsals, weekend trips, video shoots, and studio recordings. Members are expected to learn music outside of rehearsals. That being said, it is an incredibly fun and rewarding experience to have, and an amazing way to enhance your time at university

THE BRISTOL SUSPENSIONS (auditioned)

Rehearsals: Thursdays, 19:00 – 21:00, Victoria Rooms

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's mixed, auditioned, competitive group, throughout their existence, the Bristol Suspensions has become a hit with audiences across the country, and is known for their unique arrangements, stunning vocals, and high-energy performances. The group sings a variety of music, from pop to jazz to techno - you name it, they've sung it!

As one of the longer standing groups in the Society, the group has debut over 2 decades ago, releasing multiple Albums over the years. Their successful Album, Red Hot, was released in 2021 and was nominated for 10 CARAs (Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards), and won four, including 'Best Mixed Voices Collegiate Album'.

Suspensions has also performed at various gigs and competitions, including LUKAS, Best of South West (BOSW) and Irish International A Cappella Festival and many

more. The group has a glorious history, being crowned champions in multiple occasions: Voice Festival University in 2016, Irish International A Cappella Festival in 2019, Solevoci International A Cappella Contest Champions in 2024. Being a regular contestant in the ICCAs, the group was UK champions in 2021 and receiving awards for Outstanding Arrangement, Choreography and Vocal Percussion. Following the win, we secured interviews on local TV stations as well as an appearance on ITV's This Morning. In 2025, the group was awarded the best arrangement in the 2025 ICCAs with Recordplayer by AJR and Daisy the Great. Suspensions also busk on the streets of Bristol every week, and performs in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival every August. The group has achieved massive success in their Fringe performances, having sold out in both 2022 and 2023.

As a competitive and auditioned group, Suspensions is always looking for strong singers of all voice parts, including beatboxers. If you're interested in joining, please follow @UoBAcaplla or @Bristolsuspensions for more information regarding their auditions. Please note that the ability to read music is not a requirement for joining the group. So don't hesitate to sign up! Please note that being a member of a competitive group is a big commitment - there are rehearsals, weekend trips, video shoots, and studio recordings. Members are expected to learn music outside of rehearsals. That being said, it is an incredibly fun and rewarding experience to have, and an amazing way to enhance your time at university.

ACADEMY (auditioned)

As University of Bristol A Cappella Society's male and non-binary, auditioned, competitive group, Academy is known for their high-energy performances, camp, chaos and killer vocals - all at once. In 2020, Academy has recorded and released their CARA-winning debut album, Exhibit A; their 2023 album, Ad Astra, has seen them partnering with Better Together: a Mental Health Fundraiser, has also raised over £2000 for MIND. As for their most recent release, Blue Shift, is also out on all streaming platforms! Featuring classics such as Waterloo, Under Pressure, and Lay Me Down. Academy has also performed at various gigs, including Vocal Jam, the ICCA's and LUKAS, which took place in Bristol and across the country! Of course, the group also performed at a number of society events including our collaborative charity concert with the Men's Rugby society (which raised over £1,000!), and the Best Of the South West (BOSW) where we got to see many incredible A Cappella groups from unis all around the southwest perform!

As a competitive and auditioned group, Academy is always looking for strong singers of all voice parts, including beatboxers. If you're interested in joining, please follow @UoBAcaplla or @Academy for more information regarding their auditions. Please note that the ability to read music is not a requirement for joining the group. So don't hesitate to sign up! Please note that being a member of a competitive group is a big commitment - there are rehearsals, weekend trips, video shoots, and studio recordings. Members are expected to learn music outside of rehearsals. That being said, it is an incredibly fun and rewarding experience to have, and an amazing way to enhance your time at university.

BRIZZLEBOX (auditioned)

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Although non-competitive, the group gets equal opportunities to perform as they participate in the non-comp concerts held by the society. In other words, you can sing loads of super fun arrangements with a bunch of fantastic people with no pressure!

If you would like to join and want to know more about the group, reach out to us @UoBAcappella or @Bristones. Whether you're just a beginner, shower singer, or an Aca-veteran, don't hesitate and come along!

UNIVERSITY MADRIGAL ENSEMBLE (auditioned)

CONDUCTOR: TOM ROBERTS

🕒 **Rehearsals: Thursdays 19.00-21.00, Victoria Rooms**

Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble, affectionately known as MADS, is a 16-strong choir of auditioned singers from the University of Bristol, who perform unaccompanied part-song from across the ages, from Renaissance madrigals and polyphonic Masses to contemporary art song and jazz arrangements. Many members of the choir also perform with prestigious groups such as The National Youth Choir of Great Britain, Bristol Cathedral Choir and Clifton Cathedral Choir among many others. The choir sings all over the South West and London, as well as an annual tour to Cornwall. For any questions, contact Lillie Preston, president at bristolume@gmail.com.

UNIVERSITY CHURCH CHOIR (no audition)

PRESIDENT: HOLLY DE SALIS

🕒 **Rehearsals: Fridays 17.30-19.00, St. Paul's Church**

The University Church Choir is a friendly, non-auditioned group based at St. Paul's Church, Clifton (behind the Victoria Rooms). We sing a range of Anglican choral music to a high standard. We usually sing each week for the Sunday morning service, and Choral Evensong twice a term. Other highlights include our Advent/Christmas carol services, Choral Evensong at Bristol Cathedral, Allegri's Miserere on Ash Wednesday and a summer concert. Every summer we have a cathedral tour, spending a week singing the services in a UK Cathedral. We have a high turnover of

music with an ever-expanding repertoire. We also regularly premiere new music by Bristol composers. We have an active social programme and are always ready to welcome new faces. Find us at Welcome Fair or email uobchurchchoir@gmail.com

MUSIC THEATRE BRISTOL (MTB) (un-auditioned/auditioned)

PRESIDENT: BETH NUGENT

MUSIC AND TECH COORDINATOR: JUDE PEARSON

🕒 **Rehearsals: To be arranged**

Music Theatre Bristol is one of the largest performing arts societies and provides numerous opportunities to get involved as a performer or as part of the band/orchestra. We have both auditioned and un-auditioned productions and initiatives, allowing anyone who loves musical theatre to build upon their performance skills, learn new songs and dances, and meet lots of people. MTB also hosts Musical Theatre workshops by industry professionals. So whether you're a singer, dancer, actor, you can play a musical instrument or you are completely new to musical theatre, there are opportunities to get involved in the society all year round. Music is at the heart of our society and with a reduced membership price for band members it's a great opportunity to play all your favourite musical theatre songs with some of the most famous scores in the world. Find us at Welcome Fair or email president@musictheatrebristol.com.

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY OPERA SOCIETY (BOPs)

PRESIDENT: RALPH VINCENT

🕒 **Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 19:00 – 21:00, Victoria Rooms and Fridays, 17:00 – 19:00, Victoria Rooms**

BOPs is a fun and flourishing society dedicated to allowing students to discover and experience the world of opera. Regardless of previous experience, we offer opportunities to aspiring singers, instrumentalists, actors, dancers, costumiers, conductors, directors and producers. BOPs provides members the opportunity to perform and get involved with productions; every year, we produce a small-scale production in the first term, and a large-scale production. Our shows next year will be performed in the Pegg Theatre in November 2025 and at the end of February 2026. In addition to these productions, BOPs puts on regular arias concerts, workshops and masterclasses throughout the year for members to learn new skills, meet new people and show off their talents!

(Vocal and instrumental auditions are separate for each production)

Find us at Welcome Fair or email: president.bops@gmail.com for more details!

SYMPHONIA

Bristol SU performing arts society of the year 2023!

PRESIDENT: NEVE HUMPHREYS

VICE-PRESIDENT: ATHINA ARKOUDOGIANNI

Bristol University Symphonia is a Gold Balloon accredited society who won Performing Arts Society of the Year in 2023! We have two student-run orchestras: Symphonia Symphony Orchestra, which is part-auditioned, and Symphonia Philharmonic, which is the only un-auditioned full orchestra at the University. Besides playing prestigious music, we have a jam-packed social calendar, and eat biscuits and cakes during rehearsal breaks! We offer a non-pressurised fun environment for music making and are accessible to all. We have a vibrant and social orchestral family, and we enjoy engaging with our local community, including through outreach events and sponsorships.

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram (@bristolsymphonia) to keep up to date and find us at the Welcome Fair or email bristolsymphonia@gmail.com for more information. Apply now for either/both orchestras: bit.ly/applsymphonia.

SYMPHONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR: GEORGE OWEN

Symphonia Symphony Orchestra is a part-auditioned group that plays a wide variety of advanced orchestral music including late 19th century gems and modern favourites from the world of film. Last year, this included Shostakovich's Festive Overture, Bruckner's 9th Symphony and Grieg's Piano Concerto, as well as John Williams' Star Wars Suite. The orchestra is a tight-knit family of musicians, and we encourage everyone to attend our regular fun socials, including post-rehearsal wind downs. We rehearse on Thursday evenings and perform at least three concerts per year. Our esteemed annual concerto and composition competitions also offer special opportunities for individual musicians to showcase their talent.

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Music Festival is an annual event that aims to showcase the University's musical talent in a series of free concerts. The event provides opportunities for everyone to get involved, from performers to composers, conductors, and those interested in events management.



SYMPHONIA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Bristol SU:50 Most Influential 2024 Award Winner!

MANAGER: LEE SUET

CONDUCTOR: THOMAS JENSEN

Symphonia Philharmonic Orchestra is the University's only completely un-auditioned full orchestra. No matter what your instrumental proficiency is, we welcome you to perform orchestral favourites, in a relaxing, fun and easy-going environment. Our repertoire includes famous film and theatre pieces, as well as well-known classics. Last year, this included music from Jurassic Park, Gladiator and Lord of the Rings, as well as the overture from Mozart's The Magic Flute. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings and perform at least three concerts a year. In addition, we have many fun socials and often collaborate with other societies, allowing our members to meet new people and make friends while playing music. For a relaxed opportunity to play music and make friends, we'd love to see you at Symphonia's Philharmonic Orchestra!

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram (@bristolsymphonia) to keep up to date and find us at the Welcome Fair or email bristolsymphonia@gmail.com for more information.



AUDITIONS

- / SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
- / NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE
- / CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
- / CHAMBER CHOIR
- / UNIVERSITY SINGERS

**AT THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,
VICTORIA ROOMS, QUEEN'S ROAD**

One single audition covers Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra and New Music Ensemble; likewise, the University Singers and Chamber Choir. All players and singers (including members of last year's ensembles) need to audition - nobody has an automatic right to a place in any ensemble. This is your **only chance to audition** for the present academic year - places are allocated in the second week. At your audition, you will be asked to perform a short piece of your own choosing and to take a sight-reading test. The piece should be chosen with a view to showing off both technical proficiency and tone quality.

Please note that these are classical music auditions - if you are more interested in popular repertoire, then groups such as A Cappella Society and Music Theatre Bristol will be suitable for you.

Auditions will be held in the Victoria Rooms during Week 1. To sign up for an audition and book your time slot, please submit an audition form which can be found (along with other ensemble information) on our department webpage: www.bristol.ac.uk/music/performance/calling-all-musicians/auditions/ **If you turn up without having booked a time, you will not be able to audition.**

CONCERT & REHEARSAL SCHEDULES for the whole year will be available at the audition so you can see what membership of the various ensembles involves. **If you are offered and accept a place in any ensemble, it is expected that you will attend all rehearsals and concerts for the whole year.**

