

WANDSWORTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

REHEARSAL & CONCERT DATES 2024/25

Dear Wandsworth Philharmonic Orchestra members, parents and carers,

I hope you are well and had a relaxing summer break! Whether you are a brand new member, or returning for another year, we are excited for you to be a part of the WPO community, and look forward to an exciting year of sharing music with you!

I am writing to share details about the 24-25 academic year rehearsals, half term orchestral courses, and performances. The key dates are outlined below and can also be found on the WPO webpage www.wandsworthmusic.co.uk/wpo along with other important information about WPO. This page will be updated throughout the year.

****ACTION****

Please read the following information and confirm your child's attendance at rehearsals, half term courses and performances for 2024/25 by completing this [form](#) by Monday 7 October at the latest.

ADDITIONALLY PERFORMERS WHO ATTEND A LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL IN YEARS 7-11 MUST ALSO:

Ask the Headteacher/Principal at your school for permission to leave school early to attend the rehearsal. Follow this [link](#) and edit the letter appropriately before sending to your headteacher/principal.

****to clarify if you attend an academy, free or private school or are in Year 11,12,13 you can ignore this section****

Rehearsals

Unless otherwise notified rehearsals take place in the main drama hall or refectory at Burntwood School. Rehearsals start promptly at 10.45am, so please ensure that you are in your seat, warmed up and ready to start playing at that time. (You should arrive by 10.30am unless you have another WMA lesson beforehand).

At the end of rehearsals please help to tidy away chairs, stands and music. Our percussionists will always appreciate anyone willing to lend a hand in moving the instruments back into the store cupboard!

It is **extremely important** that members are able to attend all rehearsals (including the half term course) and are downloading their music, looking at difficult passages **with their teachers** and practising **before rehearsals**. As always, practise parts can be found online here: www.tinyurl.com/wandsworthmusic

A reminder that WPO members are expected to:

- Give their full commitment and have regular and punctual attendance at all regular rehearsals, courses, workshops and performance.
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time (unless coming from another WMA lesson)
- Be prepared for rehearsals by:
 - Downloading the relevant music for their instrument(s).
 - Learning parts thoroughly before the rehearsals.
 - Taking music to their lessons to go through with their teacher.
- Bring a pencil and rubber to rehearsals

- Follow rehearsal etiquette by turning off mobile phones and paying full attention to the conductor

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal or are running late or unwell on the day of a rehearsal or performance, please inform John (07966 426345) as soon as possible.

KEY WPO DATES 2024-25

Full details of WPO rehearsal dates can be found here: www.wandsworthmusic.co.uk/wpo

31 Oct, 1&2 Nov 2024: Autumn Half Term Course (full attendance expected)

Sat 23 & 30 Nov 2024: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Sat 7 Dec 2024: WMA Christmas Concert (No WPO rehearsal this week)

Wed 11 Dec 2024: Winter Sounds at Fairfield Halls, 2.30pm arrival, 7pm concert

20,21,22 Feb 2025: Spring Half Term Course

Sat 22 & 29 Mar 2025: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Mon 31 Mar 2025: Brighter Sounds at Royal Albert Hall, c.2.30pm arrival, 7pm concert

Sat 28 June 2025: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Sat 5 July 2025: Extended rehearsal until 3.30pm

Sun 6 July 2025: Additional rehearsal for Tour & Wimbledon (10am-1.30pm)

Tues 8 July 2025: Wimbledon Tennis Championships, subject to final confirmation, 8.30am arrival

Sat 12 July: WMA Summer Concert – NO WPO rehearsal.

Sat 19 July 2025: WPO Summer Serenade Concert - All saints Church. (10.30am-3.30pm rehearsal, c.4.30pm concert)

20-27 July 2025: Summer Tour to Italy.

For more information regarding the tour please see the attached letter.

To sign up for the tour please click [here](#)

Final information regarding 2025 concert dates will be sent in due course.

WINTER SOUNDS 2, WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2024 – CONCERT INFORMATION

Venue: Fairfield Halls, Park Ln, London CR9 1DG

Arrival time: 2.30pm

All members must attend the afternoon rehearsal. Please let us know if you have difficulty getting permission to leave school early.

After rehearsal: Pupils will be allocated a holding area in Fairfield Halls and supervised by Wandsworth Music staff between the rehearsal and the concert.

Concert Start time: 7pm

Finish time of concert: The concert is scheduled to finish at approximately 9pm. Groups will be allocated a collection point for parents at the end of the evening.

Wandsworth Music contact number on the day: Aurelie Sciamma - 07767 670611

TICKETS

Tickets are priced at £11.50 – £14.50 and can be purchased directly from Fairfield Halls. Tickets will go on sale towards the end of September and are available via this link below:

[Wandsworth Music: Winter Sounds 2 | Fairfield Halls | Croydon](#)

Please double check that you are purchasing tickets for the correct concert!

CONCERT DRESS

Concert dress for all performances is **SMART ALL BLACK**: Smart black trousers or knee length skirt or dress/ plain black shirt/ blouse/ black socks or tights/ polished black shoes (no trainers).

HALF TERM COURSE DETAILS – COURSES TAKE PLACE AT BURNTWOOD SCHOOL

A polite reminder that all members are expected to attend the half term courses as these provide opportunities for intensive sectional rehearsals and coaching. The cost of each half term course is £60 (or £30 if in receipt of FSM or remission)

31 October, 1 & 2 November - Autumn Half Term Course

9:45am – Arrive (Thurs, Fri, Sat)

10am to 3pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Thurs & Fri)

10am to 1pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Sat)

20,21,22 February - Spring Half Term Course

9:45am – Arrive (Thurs, Fri, Sat)

10am to 3pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Thurs & Fri)

10am to 1pm – Rehearsals & sectionals (Sat)

The WPO repertoire for this year will include (all parts on dropbox unless stated)

Karelia Suite - Sibelius

Scheherazade – Rimsky-Korsakov

Danse Russe Trepak *from Nutcracker*– Tchaikovsky

Saint Saens - Symphony No. 3

O Fortuna *from Carmina Burana*

This Is Me

Walking On Sunshine

When I Grow Up

Drunken Sailor

When You Believe

Christmas Medley

Gift Aid

As a registered charity we are able to claim gift aid on WMA membership fees.

Gift Aid provides vital additional funds for charities and it costs you nothing extra to allow us to claim it. In order to access this additional source of funding we need a gift aid declaration from each parent who is prepared to support us in this way. Please support us by completing the gift aid form here - <https://wandsworthmusic.co.uk/giftaid/>