



**Camerata360°**

**Professional Experience Scheme  
(Strings)**



**'..unstoppable energy that really sets the music alight.....'**

The Telegraph ★★★★★

**'One orchestra is leading the way'**

BBC One

**'..up there with the very best...'**

BBC Music Magazine ★★★★★

**"serious goosebumps time"**

Manchester Evening News ★★★★★







**Manchester Camerata is the UK's most relentlessly pioneering orchestra. Our vision is for everyone's life to be elevated and enhanced by exceptional music. Our purpose is to make music that matters; music for change. This is who we are. This is what we do.**

Through our music and our impact, we change the lives of people and the prospects of places. And we also reimagine what an orchestra can do - through debate, innovation, and craft.

We show this not just through our actions, but also in the way that we work. Just as our namesake Florentine Camerata did in Renaissance Italy almost 500 years ago, we question, challenge, and celebrate what an orchestra can do.

We do not expect to find an 'answer' or an 'end point'. We will be relentless in following this path, continually setting new horizons of expectations for what a modern world-class orchestra can achieve.



# Camerata360°

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Applications are now open for *Camerata 360*, a professional experience scheme open to third- and fourth-year undergraduates and all postgraduates enrolled at the RNCM in 23/24 and who are not on Camerata's extras list. Our scheme will recruit up to two violins, one viola, one cello and one double bass student.

Camerata's vision is to create a pathway for students of the Royal Northern College of Music that will see them experiencing our organisation as a whole, from performing diverse repertoire on the platform, experiencing our community work and understanding the challenges within the sector.

## We are looking for musicians who:

- ◉ Would value the opportunity to play with the orchestra, with assigned mentors in a wide range of artistic projects (classical/electronic/contemporary classical)
- ◉ Would value the opportunity to gain insight and experience in our community work and other departments within the organisation.
- ◉ Would value the opportunity to learn more about the impact an orchestra can make in the community.
- ◉ Are open-minded, curious and want to learn more about how an orchestra is run in today's society.
- ◉ Would like to play a part in discussions around artistic concepts and ideas (Think Tanks).

Approximately **80%** of the current membership of Manchester Camerata studied at the RNCM and our Professional Experience Scheme has helped launch the careers of 60 young musicians studying at the same institution.





# ACTIVITY AND TIME COMMITMENT

We appreciate that life as a student is busy, and for that reason, we want to ensure that we don't overload you during the experience. Below we have compiled a list of activities along with time commitment required. The following activity is mandatory.

<p><b>2023/2024 1 YEAR PILOT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing with the orchestra in a wide variety of our performance projects – everything from Mozart to AFRODEUTSCHE (3-4 Projects per year)</li> <li>• Feedback from our musicians on each performance project. (Verbal feedback during projects)</li> <li>• One-to-one tuition with mentor or section leader (2 x 1.5 hour lessons, repertoire and time of this can be decided by participant e.g end of year recital)</li> <li>• An introduction to the Camerata team departments and the work that we do ( 3 x 1 hour online sessions)</li> <li>• Career coaching (1 hour online session)</li> <li>• CV clinic (Up to 30 minute online session on an individual basis)</li> <li>• Introduction to Music in Mind, our music dementia programme, and it's improvisatory techniques. (1 x 1.5 hour session)</li> <li>• Taking part in our Music Café at Gorton Monastery (2 hour session at Monastery)</li> <li>• Exclusive Insight into our collaborative PhD with Manchester University (1 hour online session)</li> <li>• Opportunity to meet with Music Director and guest artists (during performance projects)</li> <li>• Volunteering at concerts (optional stage management)</li> <li>• Involvement in Think Tanks/Youth Forums (As is possible)</li> <li>• 2 x complimentary tickets to concerts within the season</li> </ul>
<p><b>Feedback &amp; Evaluation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation/Review that will inform the programme in 2024/2025.</li> </ul>





# TIMELINE

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Deadline for application:	13:00, Thursday 29 June 2023
Deadline for first round video submission:	1300, Friday 22 September 2023
Second round live audition:	w/c Monday 2 October 2023
CV clinics for all applicants	October/November 2023
Chamber Music Session and Lunch:	October 2023
Introductory online chats with team:	November/December 2023
Community work insight/Music in Mind:	February 2024
Attend Music Café:	March 2024
RNCM Original Voices Performance:	March 2024
Career coaching	April 2024
Insight to our PhD:	April 2024



Throughout this time, you will be invited to rehearse and perform with the orchestra in various projects as well as have involvement in online think tank conversations.





# APPLICATION AND AUDITION

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## APPLICATION

The application form can be found [here](#)

Please complete your application and attach a CV and covering letter. The covering letter should convey your interest in Camerata 360 and summarise previous experience but should be no longer than one page. Your CV and covering letter will only be shared with the panel if you are successful in proceeding to the second-round live audition.

## AUDITION

### First Round – video submission:

- Orchestral excerpts can be found [here](#)

Candidates are required to submit an audio-visual recording of the first round orchestral excerpts.

Audio will be extracted from the video before being presented to the panel to ensure candidates remain anonymous. The video must be submitted as an mp4 file, recorded in one take, not edited in any way and clearly labelled with your name and instrument.

Once you have applied by 29<sup>th</sup> June, Abby Flood will be in touch with further details about the video submission process.

**Successful students from the first round video submission will proceed to the second round live audition.**

### Second Round – live audition:

- **Violin:** first movement of a Mozart or Haydn Concerto with cadenza, plus piece of own choice
- **Viola:** first movement of Stamitz Concerto, Hoffmeister Concerto or Bach and piece of own choice
- **Cello:** exposition and development from a Classical or Baroque Concerto, plus piece of own choice
- **Double Bass:** two contrasting pieces of own choice

The panel will invite you for a 10 minute discussion following the audition. This will be a discussion around Camerata 360, where you will be given the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

**An accompanist will be provided for live auditions.**

### CV and covering letter feedback session:

All applicants will have the opportunity to request an online feedback session with Jo Watson, Manchester Camerata's Orchestra Personnel Manager.





# KEY INFORMATION

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The primary contacts for this Scheme are:

## **Royal Northern College of Music**

Abigail Flood

Ensembles Administrator

E: [Abigail.flood@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:Abigail.flood@rncm.ac.uk)

## **Manchester Camerata**

Jo Watson

Orchestra Personnel Manager

E: [jwatson@manchestercamerata.com](mailto:jwatson@manchestercamerata.com)

- Strings **can** apply for and audition for multiple RNCM Professional Experience Schemes but **cannot** accept more than one.
- All applicants are eligible to submit a first-round video submission.
- If you are on Manchester Camerata's extras list, you **cannot** apply to take part in their Professional Experience Scheme.
- You **will not** receive any payment for involvement in RNCM Professional Experience Schemes.
- Successful auditionees **cannot** undertake freelance work with the orchestra until all Professional Experience Scheme dates have been completed.
- Late applications **will not** be accepted, and individual receipt of auditions will not be acknowledged.

## **Auditions**

Auditions are a key part of Professional Experience Schemes and it is considered unprofessional to cancel at short notice. As such, any applicant withdrawing at less than 72 hours' notice prior to audition will be ineligible to apply to that orchestra again.

## **Postgraduates Only**

If you intend to use the Professional Experience Scheme for the Professional Placement module, please complete your application and attach a CV and covering letter (where appropriate). The covering letter should give reasons for your application and summarise previous experience (unless requested on the actual application form) and should be no longer than one sheet of A4. Please keep copies of all applications (CV, covering letter and application pro forma) as you may be required to submit them at the end of the year in a portfolio as part of your assessment.

You can choose to use the Professional Experience Scheme for the Professional Placement module (dependant on reaching the appropriate stage) but you do not have to choose the module in order to undertake the Professional Experience Scheme.

For questions about Professional Placement modules, please contact Andrea Vogler [Andrea.Vogler@rncm.ac.uk](mailto:Andrea.Vogler@rncm.ac.uk)



# KEY INFORMATION FOR SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

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## Manchester Camerata expects students to:

- prepare parts thoroughly and to a professional standard for rehearsals
- display an open-minded attitude to discussing issues that may arise
- respond promptly to all communications in relation to the scheme
- complete feedback forms after every patch of work
- attend all activity as part of Camerata 360

The aim of the scheme is to provide the best possible preparation for the student to pursue a career as a diverse orchestral musician. Students are encouraged to fully immerse themselves in this unique scheme in order to maximise career opportunities as well as using their time with us to gain valuable insight to the industry.

Camerata is constantly looking for excellent musicians to add to its extra lists and Camerata 360 students may be considered for extra work once their time on the scheme is completed.

