



OXFORD UNIVERSITY
MUSIC SOCIETY

EST. 1872

A brief guide to student music in Oxford

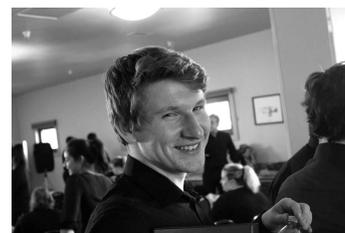
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President's welcome

Hello and welcome to the musical hub of Oxford!
On behalf of everyone here at OUMS, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you and to say a few words about the many musical opportunities both the city and university have to offer.

Whether you're interested in listening to, performing, composing or writing about music, OUMS is here to help and seeks to continually develop and appreciate the performance of music through your involvement. From symphony orchestras to chamber groups, jazz to classical, College Music Societies to University Ensembles - OUMS oversees the majority of student music-making and coordinates directly with groups such as the Oxford Philharmonic and the Faculty of Music to ensure that all who enjoy music in one way or another have the means to do so whilst here.

We look forward to meeting you either through one of our numerous ensembles, socials or elsewhere, and feel free to contact me at president@oums.org if you have any questions.



Chris O'Leary, President

The OUMS ensembles

Oxford University Orchestra



Our flagship group. The university orchestra gathers the best instrumentalists from across the University, and combines them with a different professional conductor each term, culminating in a high-calibre symphonic concert in the Sheldonian Theatre in 4th week. OUO is an intense group that runs two rehearsals per week and offers a highly rewarding time.

OUO recently went on a very successful tour to Japan.

Oxford University Sinfonietta

Our specialist chamber orchestra. They excel in performances of little-known and unexplored repertoire, in particular contemporary and early music that is often challenging and highly rewarding. Recently they collaborated with OUJO in a special project to present Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Blood on the Floor*, with the composer in attendance. They give a regular termly concert in the University Church.



Oxford University Wind Orchestra



The Oxford University Wind Orchestra gives a large number of woodwind, brass and percussion players from across the University the opportunity to perform in a successful, friendly and talented ensemble. Rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings, culminating in at least one concert per term. The ensemble is entirely student-run and directed, auditioning and appointing a new conductor each year. OUWO toured the USA's East coast in 2017.

Oxford University Philharmonia

OUPhil brings together a large symphony orchestra to perform well-known and historic pieces in the Sheldonian theatre every term. Each Hilary term, OUPhil includes a solo concerto in the programme. Auditions for the soloist take place in Michaelmas and past performances have been of an extremely high standard.



Oxford University Jazz Orchestra



The Oxford University Jazz Orchestra is the university's premier big band, bringing twenty of the university's best jazz musicians together into one ensemble to perform modern, demanding, exciting big band jazz to the highest level of musical excellence. Their schedule is often hectic, so up-to-date information is best found on their website. Please note that OUJO auditions separately (but at the same time) to other OUMS ensembles.

Oxford University Chorus

OUCorus is the University's largest choir with around 100 members and is non-auditioning. Members don't even have to be able to read music, as long as they have an enthusiasm for singing. Their repertoire consists mainly of classical and large-scale choral works.



Oxford University Brass Band



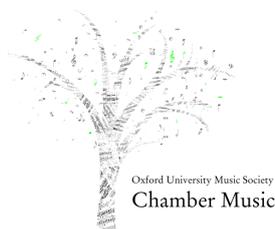
OUBB is a welcoming band which maintains many Brass Band traditions such as seasonal carols and competitions (the annual UniBrass contest) as well as organising the varsity concert (Bras-sity). They have termly concerts at a variety of venues throughout Oxford, with programmes ranging from Brass Band competition pieces, film music, marches and many others.

Oxford University String Ensemble

OUSE is our string orchestra, and one of our most recently founded ensembles. They perform staples of the strings' repertoire which do not require winds and brass, and are conducted by a new auditioned student conductor each year.



OUMS Chamber Music



OUMS Chamber Music organises weekly non-ticketed concerts in the Holywell music room, where any small group of players can present their own repertoire. New ensembles are formed by OUMSCM from a pool of signed-up players, who are then encouraged to organise their own schedule and prepare a programme of their own choosing. We aim to accommodate all ensembles who wish to present a concert, and previous concert series have been of very high quality.

Auditions

OUMS runs a weekend of auditions at the end of freshers' (0th) week in Michaelmas term. Sign-ups are available at our freshers' fair stall or through our website, at <http://www.oums.org/auditions/>.

The audition cycle serves all OUMS' groups in a single session so that players don't have to approach the individual groups separately; in auditioning for OUMS, you audition for *all* our groups simultaneously. Naturally, we take your personal preferences into serious consideration, which you submit to us upon arrival for your audition, and will aim to assign every player to a group that suits them.

A small panel will hear 3-4 minutes of a solo piece or excerpt, followed by a short piece of sight reading. The whole process takes approximately 7 minutes only and is quite informal. You'll hear back from us within days of the audition and get started making high quality music with us right away in week 1. You will not need to re-audition for OUMS at any time during your time at Oxford, and many players choose to transfer or take on extra groups as time progresses.

We look forward to making music with you!

The logo for OUMS, consisting of the letters 'OUMS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The 'O' is a thick, rounded circle, and the 'M' has a distinctive shape with a vertical bar on the left side.

OUMS is supported by the faculty of music, the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra and the Oxford Foundry booster grant. We are also indebted to TSOHost for charitably hosting our websites.

Oxford
Philharmonic
Orchestra

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OXFORD FOUNDRY
BOOSTER GRANT

