

INTO OPERA MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE

RECRUITMENT PACK

May 2025

into
opera
A creative revolution

INTO OPERA AN INTRODUCTION

Into Opera was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (registration number 1183225) in 2019. The journey for Into Opera journey had, however, begun two years earlier in 2017 inspired by the vision of founder Genevieve Raghu who is now the charity's Chief Executive and Artistic Director.

Into Opera has become a progressive arts and educational charity. The charity is based in Norfolk and we are increasingly extending our reach nationally. The core purpose of the charity is to get more people 'into' opera. Some people do not have the opportunity, means or inclination to access opera. So, we create unique opera experiences, designed to offer imaginative and empowering first encounters of opera for new audiences and participants. We find ways to tackle and remove the perceived and actual barriers that might prevent potential audiences or participants from accessing opera.

Into Opera produces professional opera productions, commissions new operas and English-language translations, develops bespoke educational projects, commissions research exploring creativity in education and the value of opera in education, and provides creative CPD opportunities for teachers.



Our work with schools in Norfolk is far reaching and extensive. Examples of our work includes the co-creation of three children's operas with Michael Betteridge and one song cycle with Will Todd, as well as involving 250 children in staging the world premiere of a new opera by Patrick Hawes. Children and young people regularly participate in events such as the Norfolk Into Opera Festival and professional concerts across Norfolk with orchestras such as Britten Sinfonia and the National Symphony Orchestra. We provide long-term residency opportunities to schools which includes supporting schools to develop and deliver a creative and informed cultural strategy. At the moment we are embarking on a new co-creation opportunity in collaboration with

Norwich Puppet Theatre and we are in the process of launching a network to unite primary schools around the Arts in Norfolk.

Our Artistic Director, Genevieve, also works for Chetham's School of Music as their Opera Director and as an Education and Engagement Consultant for the National Opera Studio.

More information about Into Opera can also be found on our website:

www.into-opera.org.uk.

Into Opera operates in England and Wales, and is based in Norfolk.

OUR CHARITABLE OBJECTS

Into Opera seeks to advance education in, and to promote and increase the enjoyment and appreciation of, opera and the arts (including music, drama, dance, design, film and the written word) for public benefit. In doing so, we aim to improve the accessibility of opera as an art form, nationally and internationally, seeking to get more people 'into' opera as audience members and/or participants.

OUR CREATIVE REVOLUTION

Into Opera has started a creative revolution to get more people 'into' opera... **Why?**

Opera, a multidisciplinary art form, can change lives. We have witnessed its transformational impact time and time again - especially when working with children

Opera unleashes creativity

Opera builds communities

Opera strengthens resilience

Opera fuels ambition

Opera sharpens communication skills



- Opera improves concentration
- Opera nurtures confidence
- Opera provides space for self-expression
- Opera is inspiring
- Opera improves classroom attendance
- Opera improves exam results
- Opera brings joy
- Opera is a social leveller

MUSICIAN IN RESIDENCE

Into Opera's new Musician in Residence scheme will operate in 3-schools: Barford Primary (NR9 4AB), Bawburgh School (NR9 3LR) and Sprowston Junior School (NR7 8EW). This role has the potential to be:

- Shared between three people
- Shared between two people
- All be delivered by one person

We will be open to exploring this with applicants at interview and exploring all of these iterations.

RESPONSIBILITIES

We are looking for a Musician in Residence who can:

- Collaborate with Into Opera to continue to raise artistic ambition and standards at our schools
- Deliver an imaginative 6-week composition project for each year group at the school.

- Lead singing assemblies with knowledge of age-appropriate repertoire and vocal health
- Lead an after school choir and arrange performance opportunities for this choir
- Create and deliver a music project for each year group to deepen music knowledge, curriculum coverage and nurture creative thinking
- Support teachers with their delivery of music with 1-1 planning meetings and occasional after school CPD sessions
- Provide 1-1 instrumental and/or voice lessons
- Offer a music ensemble opportunity
- Provide a live recital after school each term for children and families
- Support with school productions and concerts
- Contribute where suitable to Into Opera's Primary Arts Network being launched in the summer of 2025
- Support Into Opera ad-hoc with preparing schools for their contributions to larger Into Opera creative initiatives
- Provide inspiration to our school communities and share their passion for the arts
- Recommend suitable, high quality concerts, theatre productions and wider cultural opportunities in Norfolk and beyond for the school to take their children to, complementing and deepening the impact of the work of the Musician in Residence
- Hold or obtain for the role, an enhanced DBS certificate

PERSON SPECIFICATION

We are looking for an inspiring Musician in Residence who can meet the following person specification:

- Experience working as a music educationalist
- Experience of planning and delivering music activities for children aged 3-11

- A charismatic, ambitious and engaging artist, who takes initiative and has the ability to nurture a creative and empowering workshop environment
- Understanding of the National Curriculum for Music
- Experience of working professionally as a musician
- Can play the piano, at least as a teaching tool
- An inspirational role model and motivator for pupils and staff
- Interest and experience in supporting teachers to build confidence in their ability to deliver music in the classroom
- Diverse and broad musical skills, knowledge and experience
- Interest in developing the cultural capital of children and also in learning about and celebrating children's own unique cultural backgrounds
- Upholds high standards and quality across all work
- Up-to-date knowledge of music education pedagogy, resources and providers
- Good digital skills and knowledge to integrate suitable software into approaches to learning
- Empathetic with excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to generate new ideas and respond creatively
- Able to prioritise and manage their own time effectively
- Up-to-date knowledge of appropriate singing repertoire for children
- Experience of working in school settings and lesson planning
- Experience of making decisions about the skills, potential and competencies of groups or individuals
- Appropriate educational, musical and professional qualifications



- Enthusiastic about acting as an ambassador for Into Opera, fully committing to the vision, mission and values of the charity, promoting positively its aims and activities
- Committed to the safeguarding and welfare of children and young people and the adults who work with them
- Experienced in embedding equality, diversity and inclusion through their work, repertoire choice and in their communication and behaviours
- Inspirational to the school community and championing music and the social, emotional and academic benefits it brings
- Believes in the importance of young people having access to high quality music experiences, including opera and telling stories through music, drama, words and design.

Whilst our Musician in Residence having some background and experience with opera is certainly preferable, it is not an essential requirement of the role. Likewise, having a car and being able to drive would be useful but this is also not essential.

In Return

A competitive hourly/day rate, dependent on experience

For anyone based over 25 miles away from the schools, travel expenses will be supported.

Budget will be made available to support the Musician in Residence in occasionally bringing in guest artists, to purchase tickets for school trips and live events which complement the work of the musician in residence, to purchase instruments for the schools and resources / teaching materials to support their work.

Role Duration:

Between 23rd June - 18 July we plan on arranging some initial, shorter, probationary days for the Musician in Residence to meet staff, pupils and to offer some introductory workshops.

The role will fully commence from w/c 8 September 2025 for one academic year, ending 17 July 2026.

The Musician in Residence activity will run over 10-weeks per term.

We will be in touch in writing by 1 May 2026 if we decide to offer a renewal of the role to the Musician in Residence for a following academic year, Sept 2026 - 2027.

HOW TO APPLY

Stage One

To apply please send:

1) A Covering Letter to express your interest and suitability for the role (up to 2 pages of A4) or a video application (up to 6 minutes in length). Please ensure you include how many days of work would be your preference, if you have an interest in working at a particular school and also your availability for Stage 2 of the application process.

2) Your CV

3) A completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

Applications should be sent to Genevieve Raghu: genevieve.raghu@into-opera.org.uk.

When sending your email to us please use the following subject heading: *Surname* Musician in Residence

Deadline: Tuesday 27 May at 11am

Stage Two

Interviews will take place at the Bawburgh School on either 5/6/9/11 June. Please confirm in your covering letter if there are any of these dates you could not make

The interview will comprise:

1) Delivering a 20 minute workshop to Y1/2 (KS1)

2) Delivering a 20 minute workshop to Y5/6 (KS2)

3) A 50 minute interview with representatives from all 3 schools and Into Opera

If you would like to arrange an informal discussion or to ask any specific questions before submitting an application, please get in touch by email in the first instance. We can then arrange the best way to ensure you speak to the most appropriate person and receive the information you need.

