



SUNSHINE COAST  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

## MEMBER'S INFORMATION PACK

### Welcome

The Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra is a community-based orchestra comprising professional, semi-professional, and skilled amateur musicians. We are constantly striving for excellence which is made possible with the understanding of our common goal and dedicated teamwork of you, our members. This document includes information outlining the basic requirements of SCSO membership, useful contacts and links, and may also assist in integrating yourself into the SCSO team.

### Vision and Mission

#### VISION

*The driving force for the growth of orchestral music on the Sunshine Coast.*

#### MISSION

*To bring music to life.*

*Through music, the Sunshine Coast Symphony Orchestra aspires to create shared experiences and connections that improve quality of life for everyone on the Sunshine Coast.*

*The Orchestra believes audiences and members should experience and enjoy music in a way that is relevant, accessible, and meaningful to their own lives.*

*Believing that music has the power to inspire, the Orchestra will fulfil this mission by adopting a welcoming, uplifting, and collaborative culture, and build relationships and foundations that will sustain the cultural heritage of orchestral music throughout our region.*

#### VALUES

- *One team striving for excellence*
- *Inclusive and respectful*
- *Inspiring and entertaining*

### Policies

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES – See 'Code of Conduct' or approach designated persons for assistance:

- Simon Eastwood – President  
[simoneastwoodmusic@yahoo.com](mailto:simoneastwoodmusic@yahoo.com)
- Genevieve Bignell – Orchestra Leader (Equity Officer/Life Member)  
[genmatt0591@gmail.com](mailto:genmatt0591@gmail.com)

- Dr Emma Secomb – Secretary (Registered Medical Professional)  
[esecomb@gmail.com](mailto:esecomb@gmail.com)
- Scott Lisle – Treasurer (Equity Officer/Health Care Professional)  
[scottlisle02@gmail.com](mailto:scottlisle02@gmail.com)

DRESS CODE – Dress code for SCSO performances is referred to as ‘Formal Concert Black’. This standard will be outlined in the ‘Bump-In Schedule’. The regulation dress consists of:

Ladies: All black, skirt length below the knee and covered shoulders, no spaghetti straps, netting, see through, halter neck or backless attire, suitable enclosed shoes (as defined by venue safety standards)

Gentlemen: All black with long-sleeved shirts, dress trousers (no jeans), suitable enclosed footwear (as defined by venue safety standards).

It is expected members will conform to this standard in keeping with SCSO’s presentation etiquette. From time to time, themes or weather (if outdoors) may dictate changes to the dress standard – this will be conveyed via the Bump-In Schedule.

EQUIPMENT – Members will be required to provide their own instrument, concert dress and music stand (including light when required). The minimum standard for music stands is a solid backed, black adjustable stand capable of supporting the issued SCSO music folder and designated stand light. Foldable wire stands are not acceptable.

## Membership Roles and Responsibilities

SCSO Members are encouraged to act in accordance with the ‘Code of Conduct’ and assist with routine tasks to develop teamwork and professionalism. This includes:

- Setting up/packing down chairs and rehearsal related equipment
- Assisting Percussionists with set up/pack down at rehearsal
- Be helpful to less able members or anyone experiencing difficulty
- Be mindful of space and safety requirements during set up for rehearsal and performance
- Treat orchestra colleagues, including the Music Director, Leader, and Section Principals with respect at all times during rehearsals and concerts
- Take care of music signed out and erase all markings on rental music before returning to the Librarian
- Observe the tuning order and maintain silence during the tuning process.
- Bring ALL music to each rehearsal and make arrangements for others to access your music in case of absence.
- Use a pencil and eraser to make notes as directed by the MD during rehearsal

## Section Leader (Principal) Roles and Personnel

Section Leaders/Principles will be appointed by the Musical Director and updated as required in consultation with the Orchestra Leader. Section Leaders will be selected based on musical/leadership ability, taking into account skill and qualification along with professional, teaching and ensemble experience.

Where a suitable Section Leader/Principle is not appointed, an existing Section Leader may be appointed to supervise additional sections until a suitable leader is selected.

Violin 1 – Genevieve Bignell

Violin 2 – Lucy Holthusen

Viola – Simon Eastwood

Cello – Franziska Frank

Double Bass – Joe Gehrke

Upper Woodwind – Teresa Hawke

Lower Woodwind – Jenni Maggs

Horns - Kylie Cooper

Trumpets – Nelson Oakley

Trombones / Tuba – Clayton Fiander

Percussion – Nelson Oakley (Acting)

### *Section Leader Position Description:*

The Section Leader/Principle will lead their designated section in the Orchestra and act as a point of communication between the Musical Director and Section Members for matters relating to musical and personnel management. Section Leaders/Principles are to carry out responsibilities as designated.

### *Section Leader/Principal Responsibilities:*

- Manage allocation and disbursement of parts to sections in consultation with MD.
- Direct and assist members with to achieve outcomes in accordance with the conductor's direction.
- Plan and arrange sectional rehearsals as required.
- Be aware of any legitimate concerns within the playing group and display an understanding and willingness to solve problems.
- String Section Leaders to supervise bowing of parts under instruction of the Orchestra Leader.

## Management Committee

### **Simon Eastwood – President**

*BMus (Hons)*

With Grade 8 violin, viola, and oboe, and a BA Honours Degree in Music, Simon was a Primary School music teacher and Band Leader for 20 years in the UK. A viola player most of the time, Simon has a passion for singing jazz, and worked around the world on cruise ships singing the hits of Frank Sinatra and Michael Bubl .

Simon now runs a successful family business and is the Upper Strings Specialist and Instrumental Music Coordinator at Sunshine Coast Grammar School. He has been a member of SCSO since 2018 and leads the talented SCSO Management Committee.

### **Genevieve Bignell - Orchestra Leader**

*BMus.Ed.*

Born in Sydney and educated in England and Canberra, Genevieve studied violin at the Canberra School of Music under Ernest Llewellyn, and then later graduated from Melbourne University with a Bachelor of Education. Genevieve has had a long career in music education both in Melbourne and on the Coast.

### **Dr Emma Secomb – Secretary**

*MB, BS FRACS DipSurgEd*

Dr Emma Secomb has played oboe and cor anglais for SCSO since 2015. She is the Queensland representative for the Australian Doctors Orchestra.

Emma has served as an elected board member for General Surgeons Australia (2012-2014), and the Queensland State Committee of the college of Surgeons (2014-2020).

### **Scott Lisle – Treasurer**

*BPhy (Physiotherapy), MHA(Health Administration), GAICD (Institute of Company Directors)*

Scott is recognised as a highly effective health system leader, clinical and consumer collaborator, with executive insight and a proven track record with over 18 years of extensive senior executive experience in strategic, operational and major project roles in complex health services across Australia. Scott's executive experience will be immensely valuable to the SCSO Committee. Scott joined the orchestra in 2016 playing cello and came to the Treasurer's role in November 2017.

## **Joe Gehrke – Marketing Manager**

*MSc (Tech) Biotech*

A double bass player for over 10 years, Joe has played in community symphony orchestras and smaller ensembles in Australia and New Zealand.

Joe has held management roles in multinational food companies in New Zealand and the UK, then becoming a founder of a natural beverage company that now operates throughout Australia and in some Asian markets.

Joe is managing director of the company and works from home so he can also help his wife with home-schooling their two daughters. Experienced in all facets of business, with start-up and corporate experience, Joe has knowledge in marketing and sales at both grass-roots and corporate-level, and he hopes to use this to grow the profile of the SCSO.

## **Nelson Oakley – Orchestra Manager**

*DipMusMgt, AMusA*

Following a celebrated career in the Australian Defence Force, Nelson turned his hand to Music Education in 2003 and has been working as an instrumental specialist in QLD Schools for almost 20 years. Nelson has a wide range of performance experience in venues across Australia, including; Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Concert Hall, Adelaide Festival Theatre, Perth Concert Hall and QPAC. His playing credits include performances with Ricky May, Marina Prior, Ed Wilson, John Farnham, Normie Rowe, James Morrison, Queensland Pops Orchestra, Queensland Theatre Orchestra and many more.

Nelson is currently the Brass Instrumental Music Specialist with three of the highest performing instrumental music programs on the Sunshine Coast.

## Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027: Summary

### **Musical skills and development - To improve and develop the playing standard of our orchestra, through constant improvement of both individual and ensemble playing**

- Improve and develop player professionalism in concerts and rehearsals through QSO masterclasses and section leader development

### **Events and repertoire - SCSO will provide exciting, high quality concerts through interesting and innovative repertoire**

- Concert themes based on member feedback, audience responses with events themed
- Source alternative venues to provide improved audience access, facilities and enjoyment with better vision of the orchestra and improved sound
- Efficient concert logistics with higher use of volunteers to reduce player fatigue and maintain performance standards

### **Attraction and retention - To attract, recruit and retain players to help enhance the standard of the orchestra and to sustain it as an organisation**

- Annual membership document with all required information for the concert year.
- Continued collaboration with SCYO (but no joint concert planned for 2023)
- Repertoire that reflects and celebrates the talents of members

### **Marketing - All concerts will be sold out in a profitable way and the SCSO audience will be increased each year**

- Potential use of a marketing agency
- Potential use of professional grants specialist
- Commission an Australian composer each year
- Continue to pursue commercial partners and donors

### **Sustainability - Ensure SCSO celebrates its centenary through exceptional financial management, maximising income from all sources and best practice governance**

- Review and amend committee structure to provide a clearer delineation between strategic management and musical management
- Establish member and volunteer roles to reduce the workload on committee members
- Invest available cash assets to maximise returns at an acceptable level of risk
- Annual budgets will be developed and approved by the committee