

LIFE BEYOND THE RCM

You want to be a professional musician, but what do today's professional musicians actually do? How has the life of the musician changed in the last ten or twenty years? How might it change again before you graduate?

At the Royal College of Music, we want to ensure you are fully prepared for the ever-evolving profession which you have chosen. Challenges await you, but if you start your preparation early there's never been a better time to be a musician.

First-rate musical skills are of primary importance but to achieve your goals you need to be truly dynamic, making opportunities for yourself, becoming proactive rather than reactive. You need determination, passion and great imagination to make a lasting impression with future employers and potential audiences.

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THE WOODHOUSE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

RCM musicians learn about the demands and realities of a fast-changing profession, and are encouraged to respond actively and creatively. In addition to carefully structured programmes of study and performance, there are many opportunities to deepen your knowledge, widen your experience, extend your skills and build networks of contacts – all of which ultimately enhance your employability.

The RCM is a world-leader in career development for musicians and is home to the renowned Woodhouse Professional Development Centre. We emphasise the need for musicians to be confident and versatile communicators, not just on stage but in everything they do.

Our dedicated team is here to help you unlock your potential and become a distinctive candidate for the many opportunities that lie ahead. We will advise you on the basics, guide you through a range of opportunities which mirror the professional world, and encourage you to use your initiative.

The Woodhouse Professional Development Centre offers:

- extensive opportunities to perform, teach and participate in outreach work
- advice on preparing effective CVs, covering letters, biographies and other essential publicity materials
- step-by-step suggestions on planning your own concerts
- numerous resources and directories, enabling you to find out everything you need to know about the music profession
- factsheets designed to answer your most frequently asked questions
- guidance on self-management and self employment including finance
- seminars, workshops and special events giving you a better view of the professional landscape

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Gaining experience and making contacts while you are still a student is crucial to your development as a professional musician. The Woodhouse Professional Development Centre sources and manages a range of external opportunities that offer practical experience in working as a musician. Engagements include formal and informal concerts in churches, galleries and community centres together with live music for a variety of corporate events and private functions. Inventive programming, immaculate presentation and a highly professional attitude are all essential requirements for musicians undertaking this work, and the team guide and support you through this process offering feedback following each event.

TEACHING SERVICE

An essential part of many musicians' careers, teaching is widely valued among its exponents as a creative and worthwhile way to share your musical passion and expertise with a new generation. The Woodhouse Professional Development Centre runs a popular teaching service which matches members of the public who want to learn with RCM students who are able to teach. Every week we receive requests for private music teachers of all types. If you have the skills, commitment and experience you can be considered for teaching opportunities as they arise.



RCM SPARKS

RCM Sparks is the Royal College of Music's groundbreaking learning and participation programme. It provides opportunities for everyone to make or learn about music at the RCM, regardless of musical ability. From weekend workshops for children to holiday courses for teenagers, vocal days for families to opera matinees for schools, RCM Sparks offers a musically enriching experience for all.

Complementing the RCM mission to provide professional training at the highest international level, RCM Sparks involves specially tailored and comprehensive training for students, preparing them for diverse roles they will undertake as professionals. The aims are to enrich each student's individual musicianship and professional skills, to cultivate an awareness of social responsibility and to improve long-term employability.

Recent RCM Sparks activities have included:

- Musicians of the Future Scheme – an innovative instrumental project placing RCM students in local schools to deliver a bespoke programme of instrumental learning
- Summer Music – a week of activities for 300 young people, running alongside the BBC Proms
- Turtle Song – a ten-week creative music project for adults with memory problems and their carers, during which the group composes a unique song cycle
- Education projects with:
 - English Touring Opera
 - Turtle Key Arts
 - Brent Education Action Zone
 - Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
 - City of Westminster
 - English Chamber Orchestra

For more information visit www.rcm.ac.uk/sparks

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Our Woodhouse Centre Assistant is committed to ensuring that relevant jobs and opportunities in the music business are featured on our extensive noticeboards and in our popular weekly jobs e-bulletin, bringing opportunities direct to your inbox whether you are a current student or a RCM graduate.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

The Woodhouse Professional Development Centre's team leads units and seminars on the BMus Programme raising many of the key issues concerning professional musicians. Topics include promoting yourself, applying for work, organising effective concerts and planning education projects.



GRADUATE CAREERS

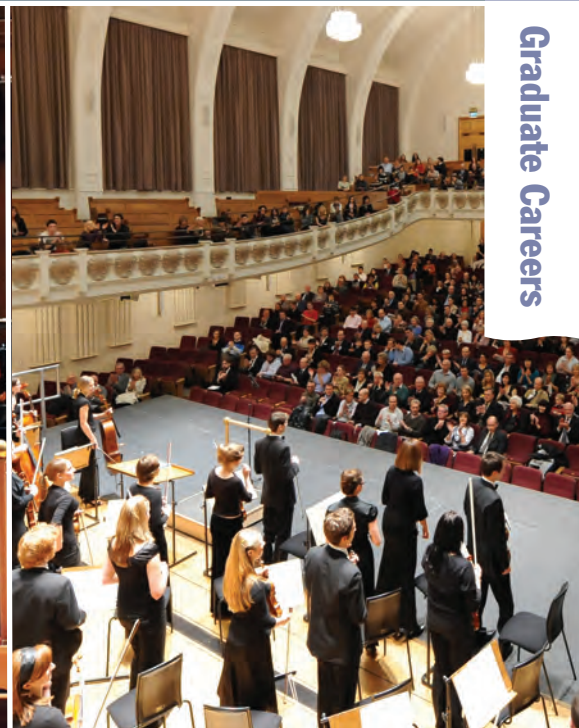
RCM graduates are leading successful musical careers throughout the world. In fact, according to the Guardian, Royal College of Music graduates are more likely to enjoy career success than those from any other conservatoire. When assessing “career prospects” in 2010 the Guardian rated the RCM not only as the top conservatoire in the UK, but as one of the top three academic institutions in the entire country, with 95% of graduates employed in graduate-level work within six months of graduation.

The most popular professions for RCM graduates are performer, composer, teacher, conductor, administrator or musical director (numerous shows in London’s West End are directed by RCM graduates) – or a combination of all of these. These pages give just a few examples of places where RCM graduates are plying their trade right now.

PLAYING WITH:

Baltimore Chamber Orchestra	Iceland Symphony Orchestra
BBC Concert Orchestra	London Mozart Players
BBC National Orchestra of Wales	London Philharmonic Orchestra
BBC Philharmonic Orchestra	London Sinfonietta
BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra	London Symphony Orchestra
BBC Symphony Orchestra	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
Belcea String Quartet	Musicworks
Birmingham Royal Ballet	National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland
Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra	Northern Sinfonia
Brodsky String Quartet	Opera Sinfonica de Sevilla
Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra	Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment
Chamber Orchestra of Europe	L’Orchestre de la Suisse Romande
Chilingirian String Quartet	Philharmonia Orchestra
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra	Queensland Symphony Orchestra
Orchestra	Rambert Dance Company
English Chamber Orchestra	Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra
English National Opera Orchestra	Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra
English Northern Philharmonic	Royal Oman Symphony Orchestra
Glyndebourne Touring Opera Orchestra	Royal Opera House Orchestra
Hallé Orchestra	Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Hong Kong Philharmonic	Royal Scottish National Orchestra
	Sacconi String Quartet
	Scottish Chamber Orchestra
	Southbank Sinfonia
	Sydney Symphony Orchestra
	Symphony Orchestra of India
	Trondheim Symphony Orchestra
	Ulster Orchestra
	Welsh National Opera Orchestra





SINGING WITH:

Bayreuth Festival
 Buxton Festival Opera
 Chelsea Opera Group
 City of Birmingham Touring Opera
 English National Opera
 English Touring Opera
 Garsington Opera
 Glyndebourne Festival Opera
 Glyndebourne Touring Opera
 Grange Park
 Liceu, Barcelona
 Lyric Opera, Chicago
 The Metropolitan Opera, New York
 Opera Holland Park
 Opéra national de Lyon
 Opera North
 The Royal Opera, Covent Garden
 La Scala, Milan
 Scottish Opera
 Welsh National Opera

TEACHING AT:

Bath Spa University
 Birmingham Conservatoire
 Boston Conservatory
 Chichester College
 Colchester Institute
 Guildhall School of Music & Drama
 Hochschule der Künste, Berlin
 Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts
 Imperial College London
 The Juilliard School, New York
 King's College, University of London
 Malaysian Institute of Arts
 Manhattan School of Music
 Open University
 Queen Mary College, University of London
 Queensland Conservatorium
 Reykjavik College of Music
 Royal Academy of Music
 Royal College of Music
 Royal Northern College of Music
 Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama
 Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama
 Sydney Conservatorium
 Trinity Laban
 University College, Cardiff
 University of Melbourne
 University of York
 Victoria College of the Arts, Australia
 Yamaha Academy of Arts and Music

WORKING WITH:

Academy of Ancient Music
 Askonas Holt Ltd
 Bayerische Staatsoper
 BBC
 Channel 4
 Classic fM
 Eden Foundation
 Harrison/Parrott Ltd
 Hazard Chase
 ITV
 Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra
 National Children's Orchestra
 National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain
 Priory Records
 Royal Albert Hall
 Royal National Theatre
 The Sage Gateshead
 Southbank Centre
 Staatstheater Kassel
 Warner Music Ltd
 Wigmore Hall
 Yamaha Music Ltd