

COUNCIL MEMBERS

2020–21



Lord Black of Brentwood

Chairman of Council and Nominations Committee

Guy Black has spent his career in the communications industry and is Deputy Chairman of Telegraph Media Group and a former Director of the Press Complaints Commission. As Chairman of the Commonwealth Press Union Media Trust and Vice President of News Media Europe, he also has a significant international media role. He has been a member of the RCM Council since 2009, and became Chairman in 2017. He was educated at Brentwood School – where he first discovered his passion for music, and where he is now a Governor – and then at Peterhouse, Cambridge, from which he graduated in history. He is Co-Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary group on Music Education, a former Chairman of The Hanover Band, and a former Trustee of the Imperial War Museum. He was made a Life Peer in 2010, and has spoken widely in the House of Lords on media issues, music education and the Commonwealth.



Jane Barker CBE FRCM

Deputy Chairman of Council, Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee

Jane Barker is a Chartered Accountant and [recently stepped down as](#) Chairman of Marsh Ltd and Mercer Ltd. She is a member of the Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral. Her previous executive roles have included being Finance Director and then Chief Executive of the Equitas Group of Companies, of which she remains a non-executive Director, and Finance Director of the London Stock Exchange. In a non-executive capacity she has served on the Council of the Open University and chaired its Audit Committee and was a member of the Partnership Council of Clifford Chance. Jane was awarded CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 2014.



Peter Dart

Peter Dart is the Chief Growth Officer of Upfield, the world's largest plant-based food company. He has over 40 years global marketing experience, having worked on many of the world's most recognisable brands. Prior to his current role, Peter was a Director in WPP for 19 years, where his most important client was Unilever plc. He was previously Chairman of Added Value Group Marketing Consultancy, a company he founded in 1988 and which was bought by WPP. From 1978 – 1988 Peter worked for Unilever, where he was Marketing Director in Asia and Europe. Peter read Physics at Hertford College, Oxford, where he was also the Organ Scholar. He is a Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music and Associate of Trinity College of Music. He is Chairman of the Royal Choral Society and a Trustee of VCM/Voces8/Apollo5 and the Director of Music of St Mary's Parish Church in Wargrave. Beyond his musical interests and professional life, Peter participates in many charitable, educational and not-for-profit institutions – for instance he helped The Royal Foundation develop Invictus Games and Heads Together and invented the MenStar Coalition for the Elton John Aids Foundation. He has also been a Trustee of The Prince's Foundation and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields.



Douglas Gardner

Chairman of the Estates Committee

Douglas Gardner is a Chartered Surveyor, having taken a degree in Land Economy at London University. Currently he is Director of Industrial Realisation plc. Previously he was a Governor [1995-2001] and then Chairman of the Board of Governors [2001-09] of Nuffield Health, one of the UK's largest charities; Chief Executive of the Properties Division of Tarmac plc [1975-83]; Chairman and Chief Executive of Brixton Estate plc, a UK listed property investment company [1983-2000]; Chairman of IDP2, an industrial development partnership [2000-07]; a founder and executive Chairman of Halverton REIM, a fund management company [2004-08]; a Director of Invista Real Estate Investment Management Holdings plc, a quoted fund management group [2010-12], a non-executive director of a Jersey based Invesco Trust, Hirco plc, a company undertaking the development of townships in Mumbai and Chennai [2006-11] and Prime plc, a company developing modern GP surgeries. He was also a member of the Investment Committee of AXA's European Industrial Partnership [2001-05].



Andrew Haigh

Andrew Haigh is an advisor to a number of arts organisations on governance, finance and enterprise. He was previously an Executive Director at Coutts, one of the UK's leading wealth managers building customer propositions with a focus on successful entrepreneurs. He began his career as an investment banker in both London and New York before moving to be finance director of NatWest's International Businesses Division in 1993, followed by roles in the offshore islands running retail and private banking businesses. He returned to New York in 1999 for 2 years to act as country head for the NatWest Group's US businesses. He has spent 2 years in China helping create the first domestic private bank in the country. His external interests are around the arts and education including board memberships of the Hepworth Wakefield and the Chisenhale Gallery in the East End of London.



Sir George Iacobescu CBE

Sir George Iacobescu is the Chairman and Chief Executive of Canary Wharf Group. Born and educated in Romania, where he graduated in Civil and Industrial Engineering, he emigrated to Canada in the 1970s where he was responsible for the construction of some of the largest projects in North America. Sir George came to London in 1987 to start the Canary Wharf Project. Over 30 years he has overseen the transformation of a derelict dockland into one of Europe's largest and fastest growing business districts, with parks, public art, and hundreds of shops and restaurants. Sir George is Vice Patron of the British Society of Sculptors and a former Trustee of the British Museum. He was the founding co-Chairman of Teach First, a charity recruiting high flying graduates to teach in inner-city schools. Sir George is currently a Commissioner on Lord Heseltine's Thames Estuary Commission and a member of the Mayor of London's Brexit Advisory Board. He was awarded CBE in 2003 for services to regeneration and knighted in 2012 for services to charity and the community. Sir George is a passionate supporter of the arts, and in particular classical music, opera and jazz.



Ruth Keatch

Ruth Keatch has over thirty years' experience in the financial services industry and is currently a non-executive director of Redburn, a provider of investment research and trade execution services to institutional clients. After studying Mathematics at Oxford, Ruth began her career as a stockbroking analyst and progressed to lead the equities team at boutique investment bank Granville. Later she launched and managed a number of investment funds before becoming Chief Investment Officer at

fund management firm Artemis. There she coordinated the activities of the fund managers and oversaw risk, regulation and corporate governance matters within the team. Ruth has been a member of RCM's Investment Committee since 2014. She is a keen amateur pianist and adult learner, currently undertaking a music degree with the Open University.



Professor Vanessa Lata arche FRCM

Elected professorial member (August 2016 – July 2019, re-elected August 2019 – July 2022)

Professor Vanessa Lata arche studied at the Royal College of Music and completed her training in the USA and Paris. She has performed as a soloist with international orchestras and in the UK including the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra, working with many leading conductors. Vanessa's recital work has taken her to Europe, the USA and the Far East. She is an advisor to Lang Lang's music school, Lang Lang Music World, in Shenzhen, China, where she formerly held the position of Vice-Chairman. Since September 2005, Vanessa has been Head of Keyboard at the RCM having previously been a professor of piano at the Royal Academy of Music for fourteen years. She was made an Honorary Associate of RAM in 1997. After receiving an FRCM in 2010, she was appointed to the role of Personal Chair at the RCM in September 2011, which has given her the title of Professor of International Keyboard Studies and in 2017 as an extension to her keyboard faculty work, she was made the Associate Director for Partnerships in China. Vanessa is also a Director and Trustee of Eileen Rowe Musical Trust and a Director of London Classical International Piano Competition. She was recently appointed President of Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition for the 2021 competition.



Professor Colin Lawson CBE FRCM

Director, ex officio member

Professor Colin Lawson is Director of the Royal College of Music. He taught at Aberdeen and Sheffield Universities before moving to Thames Valley University as Pro Vice-Chancellor/Dean (2001-5). He has an international profile as a period clarinettist and has played in most of Britain's leading period orchestras. Colin has published widely, especially for Cambridge University Press. He is editor of *The Cambridge Companion to the Clarinet* and author of *Cambridge Handbooks to Mozart's Clarinet Concerto* and *Brahms's Clarinet Quintet*. He is co-editor of a series of *Cambridge Handbooks to the Historical Performance of Music*. He is also editor of the *Cambridge Companion to the Orchestra* (2003) and the *Cambridge History of Musical Performance* (2012).



William Mival FRCM

Elected professorial member (August 2018- July 2021)

William Mival is Head of Composition at the Royal College of Music as well as programme co-ordinator for the joint Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA)/RCM BMus programme taught in Singapore. A native of Rhyl, North Wales, he studied composition with Anthony Milner at the RCM and privately with Robert Saxton in London and York Höller in Cologne. His career has included extensive teaching, writing and broadcasting across BBC radio and television including regular contributions to Radio Three's 'Building a Library'. His compositions are increasingly widely performed. *On the Ringstreet*, was first performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Pascal Rophé in 1996 and *Tristan-still*, a BBC commission, at the Barbican Hall in London under Donald Runnicles in 2003 and short listed for a British Composer Award. In 2018 his *Correntandemente* for ensemble was selected for performance at the ISCM World Music Days held in Beijing and performed there by members of the Tanjin Symphony Orchestra.



John Nickson

John Nickson has worked for the British Council and English National Opera where he was responsible for both communication and fundraising and at the Royal Academy of Arts and Tate where, in addition to fundraising, he was also responsible for the Royal Academy Trust and the Tate Foundation. He has been a trustee of Atlantic College, United World Colleges International, Opera Rara and MANGO (Management Administration for Non-Governmental Organisations) and is currently a trustee of UK Community Foundations, London Music Masters and the Beacon Collaborative. He is an advisor, mentor and volunteer with a number of education and arts organisations and is also a campaigner for more philanthropy. His first book, *Giving Is Good For You*, was published in 2013 and royalties are divided between the RCM's scholarships fund and MQ: Transforming Mental Health. His second book, *Our Common Good- if the state provides less who will provide more?*, was published in 2017. As of 2020, he became co-founder of the Our Common Good venture philanthropy fund



Kevin Porter HonRCM

Deputy Director, ex officio member

Kevin Porter is Deputy Director of the Royal College of Music, where he leads the administration of the College, with a particular focus on international initiatives, governance and strategy. His early career was in quality assurance, first at the University of East London and then for the Council for National Academic Awards. He then moved to London Guildhall University where he worked in governance and academic policy, as well as QA. Kevin was a Specialist Assessor for the Association of University Administrators, Chairman of the Conservatoires UK Academic Administration Committee and he also chaired the CUK initiative to develop a new admissions service, UCAS Conservatoires. He is currently a member of the Royal Albert Hall Council and Chairman of the Board of KCG internal audit consortium, among an involvement in a range of HE sector organisations.



Andrew Ratcliffe

Chairman of the Audit Committee

Andrew Ratcliffe is a past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). He spent his career with PwC, leading a variety of large international audit engagements in a range of industries and carrying out other advisory work. He also served as a member of the PwC UK firm's Board and as the chairman of PwC's Global Board, which oversees the PwC international network. He is a non-executive director of Barclays Bank UK PLC and a trustee of a number of charities. He graduated from Cambridge University in 1976 having read mathematics.



Geoffrey Richards HonRCM

Chairman of the More Music Campaign

Geoffrey Richards was Head of the Fleming Family & Partners International Family Offices, Trust & Administration businesses and Chairman of Fleming Family & Partners in Zurich. He also chaired the Singapore family office and trust services business and was an executive director of the Fleming Group. Following his retirement in 2009, Geoff founded Richards & Partner Consulting Limited in order to continue with his Trustee and Advisory consultancy to international families. He is a Freeman and Liveryman of the City of London, a past member of The Prince's Charities Council, a past Member of the Philharmonia Trust and an Honorary member of the University of Lund-Sweden's student choir.



Elly Taylor HonRCM

Elected administrative member (August 2015 – July 2018; re-elected August 2018 – July 2021)

Elly Taylor is the Academic Registrar at the Royal College of Music. She studied Biochemistry and Biological Chemistry at the University of Nottingham. Having worked in marketing for a boutique wine company, she embarked on her career in Higher Education administration, firstly in External Relations at Loughborough University, then as Student Services Manager for a department delivering distance education at the University of New South Wales, Australia. Following a brief spell at the University of Sussex, Elly eventually reached the RCM in 2003, to manage the RCM's Registry. Over the years, she has played a key role in implementing the UCAS Conservatoires admissions system and has project managed the implementation of the RCM's student database. She has developed several online tools including the RCM's online registration system. Elly is a member of the RCM Senate and has also served as secretary to the Conservatoires UK Academic Administration Committee. Elly has played piano, saxophone and sung in various bands over the years. She is an Honorary Member of the RCM, awarded in 2012.



Rhoddy Voremberg

Chairman of Investment Committee

Rhoddy Voremberg is a solicitor and until 30 April 2020 was a partner at Farrer & Co LLP in Lincoln's Inn Fields, where he is now a part-time consultant. He specialises in advising private clients, especially the owners of landed estates and historic houses and collections, on family succession and capital taxation. He was for 25 years, before moving to Farrer & Co in 2010, a partner at Wilsons in Salisbury, where he was Senior Partner for three years. Following retirement from full-time legal practice, Rhoddy is taking on a part-time role as Secretary to the Estates Business Group. Rhoddy also has a wide range of interests in the arts and is an amateur typographer and silversmith. He was also formerly an international match rifle shot. He is a Trustee of the Stanley Picker Trust which provides grants to assist students undertaking vocational studies in Fine and Performing Arts.



Veronica Wadley CBE

Veronica Wadley is Chair of the London Music Fund and of the Department for Education's Expert Panel for the Model Music Curriculum. She was Chair of Arts Council, London and Board Member of Arts Council England (2010-2018). From 2002-2009 she was Editor of the Evening Standard and chaired the Evening Standard Theatre Awards and Film Awards. In 2010 she was appointed to the Mayor of London's Music Education Taskforce under the Chairmanship of Karen Brock, Head of Music Services in Tower Hamlets, to develop philanthropic music giving. In 2011, Veronica co-founded the Mayor's Music Fund, now called the London Music Fund and was re-appointed Chair in July 2020. From 2012 - 2016, she was Senior Advisor to the Mayor of London. She has worked with many charities and arts and education organisations including Northern Ballet and City of London Education Board and is currently a Governor of the Yehudi Menuhin School and Shoreditch Park Academy and is a trustee of ABRSM. She has been a Non-Executive Director of the Berkeley Group since 2012. In 2018, she was appointed to the Council of the Royal College of Music. She was awarded a CBE in the 2018 Queen's New Year Honours List for services to the Arts and in July 2020 was appointed to the House of Lords.



Guy Weston HonRCM

Guy Weston is Chairman of the Garfield Weston Foundation, a major grant-making body that champions good causes from the small and local to national institutions and centres of excellence. He is an Honorary Fellow of Merton College, Oxford and a graduate of INSEAD. Guy is Chairman of Wittington Investments Ltd, a holding company with interests in the retail, property, food and hospitality sectors. He has chaired successful major appeals for the Bodleian Library and for Westminster Abbey. He is a trustee of the Imperial War Museum and of the Thrombosis Research Institute, and a director of the London Theatre Company.



Joel Wilson

SU President

Starting the Oboe quite late at the age of 13, Joel Wilson soon fell in love with the instrument. After several years balancing his passion for music with his commitments as a competitive junior fencer, he performed his first concerto (Krommer Oboe Concerto) with the Enfield Chamber Orchestra and never looked back. He went on to join the Royal College of Music Junior Department, leading to his studies at the RCM. Graduating in 2019, Joel has been voted to represent the students of the RCM as their Union President for a second academic year. From organising student socials to supporting the ever improving resources for student welfare, he hopes, alongside his team, to provide the student community with a welcoming and exciting experience during their studies. As the representative for the student voice, the SU hopes to not only drive for change, but also celebrate the many wonderful ways in which the RCM has already created such a thriving family of musicians.



Charlotte Martin HonRCM

Clerk to the Council

Charlotte Martin read French at the University of Warwick and went on to complete her MA in European Cultural Policy and Arts Management. She worked for five years as House Manager at Warwick Arts Centre, the largest UK arts complex outside of London, and in 2000 was appointed Assistant to the then Director, Dame Janet Ritterman, at the Royal College of Music. In 2005 she became Projects Manager, covering a diverse range of projects. Over the years, her main focus has turned to pensions. She acts as the independent Secretary to the Trustee of the RCM Pension and Assurance Scheme and is the College's liaison and manager for the two other schemes available to staff – the Universities Superannuation Scheme and Teachers' Pensions. She was appointed Clerk to the Council in 2018.