

# EASTER CONCERT

**Essex Youth Orchestra  
Essex Young People's Orchestra  
EYO String Octet**

**Robin Browning, EYO Conductor  
Jane Hammond, EYO Assistant  
Conductor**

**Isabella Patrick, EYO Leader**

**Matthew Andrews, EYPO Conductor  
Atharv Gupta, EYPO Assistant  
Conductor**

**Larry Au, EYPO Leader**

**St Botolph's Church, Colchester • Friday 11 April at 7pm**

**Essex Music Service – part of Essex County Council** – is the lead partner in the Greater Essex Music Hub which is supported by funding from the Department for Education which comes to us via Arts Council England. Along with partner organisations that make up the Hub, we offer a range of musical services, projects and opportunities throughout Essex schools and within the community.

We believe that every young person deserves the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, and the young people that you have come to hear tonight, each started out their musical journey at a younger age. We seek to use the funding received from Arts Council England to provide every child across Essex, no matter who they are or what their circumstances, the opportunity to participate, enjoy, create and be part of an inspiring world of Music and the Arts.

The ensembles performing tonight are just some of the many ensembles we run. Should you wish to find out more about the broad range of ensembles and wider opportunities we offer, please visit our website:

[www.essexmusicservice.org.uk](http://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk)

or email your questions to:

[musichub@essex.gov.uk](mailto:musichub@essex.gov.uk)



# PROGRAMME

## **EYO String Octet:**

**Dvorak - String Quartet (American) - Extract (5 minutes)**

**Isabella Patrick - Waves (8 minutes)**

## **Essex Young People's Orchestra:**

**Dvorak / Stone – Slavonic Dance (4 minutes)**

**Holst – Marching Song and Ceremonial Dance (6 minutes)**

**Howard / Bernotas - Fantastic Beasts: Secrets of Dumbledore (5 minutes)**

**Schwartz/ Ricketts - Highlights from Wicked (4 minutes)**

**Badelt / Ricketts - Pirates of the Caribbean (6 minutes)**

## **Essex Youth Orchestra:**

**Dvorak - Vltava from Ma Vlast (12 minutes)**

## **Interval (20 minutes)**

## **Essex Youth Orchestra:**

**Shostakovich - Symphony No 11 (60 minutes)**

**1. Palace Square (Adagio)**

**2. Ninth of January (Allegro – Adagio – Allegro – Adagio)**

**3. Eternal Memory (Adagio)**

**4. Tocsin (Allegro non troppo)**



## **A note about tonight's performance**

We would request that all audience members turn off mobile phones and other devices that could disturb tonight's performance.

Please also note that audience members are not permitted to take photos and videos. Greater Essex Music Hub may post media on its social media channels and this is fine for you to share.



## Robin Browning

### Conductor of Essex Youth Orchestra

Robin Browning is an established conductor and renowned conducting teacher. Praised as an “expert musician & conductor” by Sir Charles Mackerras, Robin is a passionate advocate for the power of music to change lives. Striving for a flexible approach in all aspects of his work – conducting, music education and conductor training – he always aims to inspire and unite through communication and barrier-breaking.

Robin is currently Principal Conductor and Music Director with de Havilland

Philharmonic, Petersfield Orchestra, Havant Chamber Orchestra and Essex Youth Orchestra.

He is the Artistic Director of SÓN Orchestra, a flexible, professional UK-based ensemble, appointed as **Orchestra in Association** at Southampton’s Turner Sims for three seasons between 2017 and 2020. With SÓN, Robin instigated a highly successful series of **Unwrapped** events, sharing the stage with David Owen Norris and John Suchet to explore and ‘unwrap’ composers including Beethoven, Copland, Elgar

and Vaughan Williams. A Beethoven concerto cycle with John Lill culminated in the **Emperor** in 2019, and Max Richter’s **Four Seasons Recomposed** (with soloist Thomas Gould) featured in the same year.

Robin also appears as a regular guest conductor, including in recent seasons with Milton Keynes City Orchestra, Oxford University Orchestra, Cambridge University Chamber Orchestra, and Ernest Read Symphony Orchestra in London. Since

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making his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Barbican Hall, Robin has conducted (amongst others) the Hallé, English Northern Philharmonia, Northern Sinfonia, Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Estonian National Youth Orchestra.

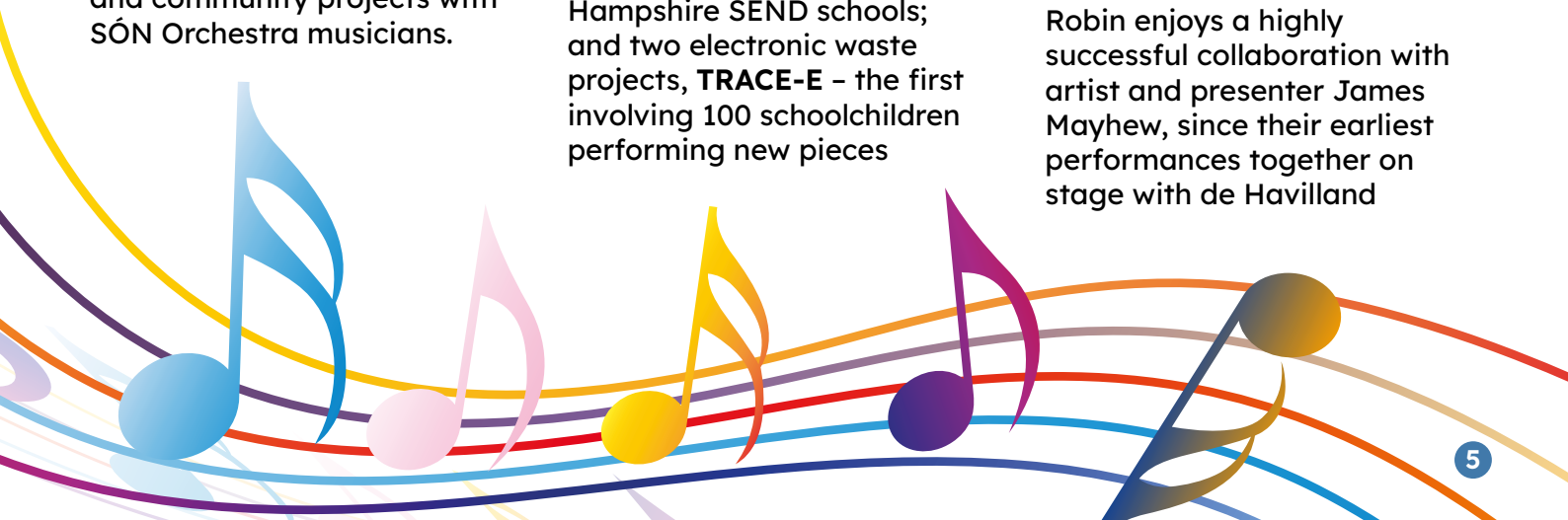
Driven by a deep belief in music education, Robin spearheads multiple outreach and community projects with SÓN Orchestra musicians.

Highlights include **SÓNic Interventions** – a four-concert series curated by Robin to celebrate the opening of Southampton's new **John Hansard Gallery**, featuring artwork by Gerhard Richter, with works chosen to explore space, minimalism and randomness; **Tales of a Young Person's Orchestra** – with **SoCo Music Project**, based around Beethoven's **Pastoral** Symphony in three Hampshire SEND schools; and two electronic waste projects, **TRACE-E** – the first involving 100 schoolchildren performing new pieces

about environment and the circular economy, the second featuring Robin as Musician-in-Residence composing and performing new works based on smartphone sounds.

An Album from this most recent project – **The TRACE-E EP** – can be found on Robin's Soundcloud page, and various associated films can be viewed on his YouTube channel.

Robin enjoys a highly successful collaboration with artist and presenter James Mayhew, since their earliest performances together on stage with de Havilland



Philharmonic over 15 years ago. In that time, in more than 50 concerts together, they have impacted and inspired the lives of youngsters through music, art and story-telling.

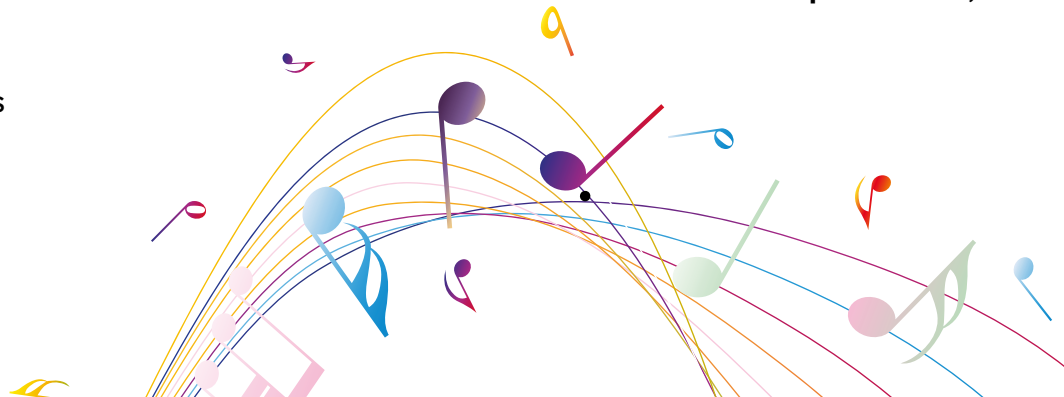
He has also worked with some of the world's greatest soloists, including violinists Savitri Grier, Jennifer Pike and Jack Liebeck; violists Laurence Power and Timothy Ridout; cellists Raphael Wallfisch and Guy Johnston; guitarist Craig Ogden; and upcoming horn players Annemarie Federle and Ben Goldscheider.

In addition to his conducting, arts-leadership and guest-conducting work, Robin enjoys a teaching career which has spanned almost three decades, inspiring countless young musicians to take up the baton. For over 20

years he held the position of conducting specialist teacher at University of Southampton, and has given workshops and masterclasses around the UK, including at Trinity Laban Conservatoire, University of Hertfordshire and at Winchester College. He now works exclusively with the conductors in the British Army, where he has been Conducting Professor since 2022.

Robin initially studied on an Italian Government Scholarship at **Accademia Chigiana**, Siena, with

Myung-Whun Chung and the legendary Ilya Musin. He furthered his training in the USA with Benjamin Zander and movement specialist Joseph Gifford. Robin was mentored for many years by Sir Charles Mackerras, deepened his technical conducting studies with Sian Edwards, and participated in masterclasses with Neeme Järvi and Paavo Järvi at the **Oistrakh Festival** in Pärnu, Estonia. He went on to assist Paavo Järvi on his Beethoven cycle with **Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie**,



and Nielsen Symphonies project with the Philharmonia Orchestra. Robin has also served as assistant conductor to Sakari Oramo on the UK premiere of Esa-Pekka Salonen's Violin Concerto with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Leila Josefowicz, and Sian Edwards in works by Maxwell Davies with London Sinfonietta at the BBC Proms.

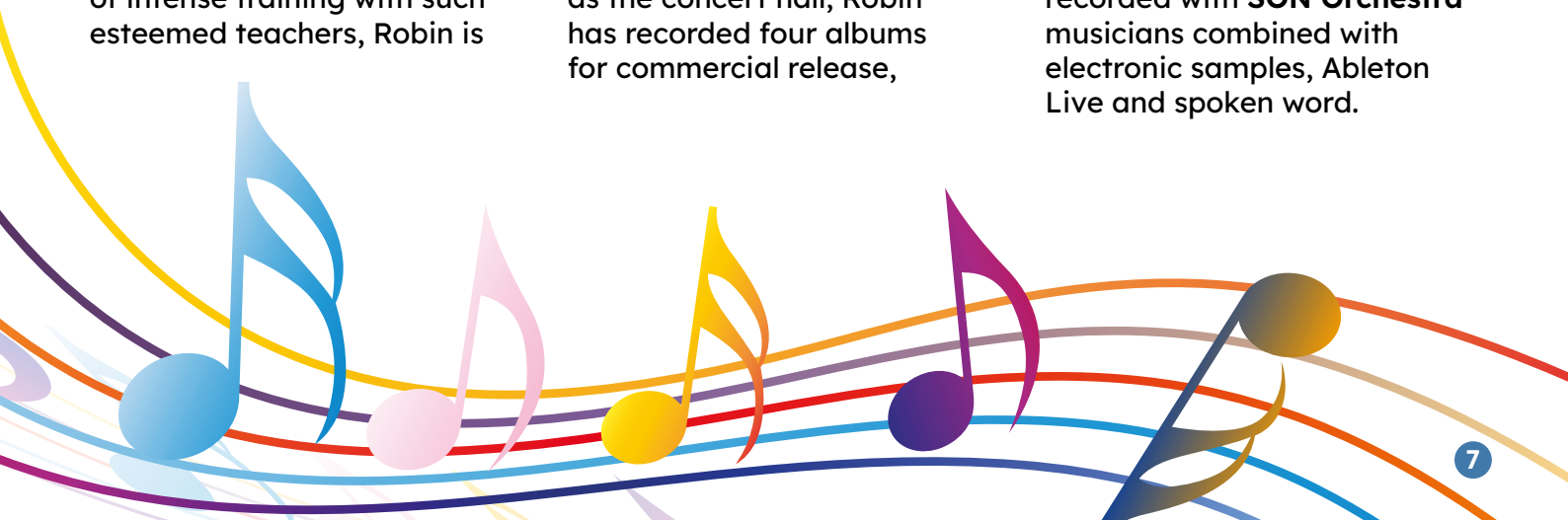
Having benefited from years of intense training with such esteemed teachers, Robin is

passionate about passing on his knowledge and experience to the next generation of musicians, infusing his pedagogy with a combination of technical rigour and expressive power. His students can be found today on the podiums of orchestras and bands across the UK and Europe.

Equally at home in the recording studio as much as the concert hall, Robin has recorded four albums for commercial release,

including selected world premiere performances with various ensembles, featuring composers such as Raymond Warren, John Hopkins and Howard Burrell. All are available on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon and other streaming platforms.

Robin's **TRACE-E** Musician-in-Residence project culminated in a recent album release, now available on Soundcloud, recorded with **SÓN Orchestra** musicians combined with electronic samples, Ableton Live and spoken word.





## **Jane Hammond**

### **EYO Assistant Conductor**

Jane Hammond is a first-year undergraduate music student at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University. She is a member of the Cambridge University Orchestra which has already involved concerts at West Road Concert Hall and King's College Chapel, and were conducted by Alice Farnham, Jac van Steen, Martyn Brabbins, and Bertie Baigent. She is also a clarinettist in the Cambridge New Music Ensemble, Cambridge Gilbert & Sullivan Society, for the Footlights, as well as many other projects.

Prior to university, she attended the Royal College of Music Junior Department which included playing principal clarinet in the Symphony Orchestra for concerts in Amaryllys Fleming Concert Hall and the Cadogan Hall, as well as playing bass clarinet in the chamber orchestra for Schoenberg's Chamber Symphony No 1.

Whilst at RCMJD, Jane played Brahms' Clarinet Quintet at the Wigmore Hall as the prize for runner-up in the chamber music competition which is one of her proudest moments. Jane was also a clarinettist in the National Youth Orchestra

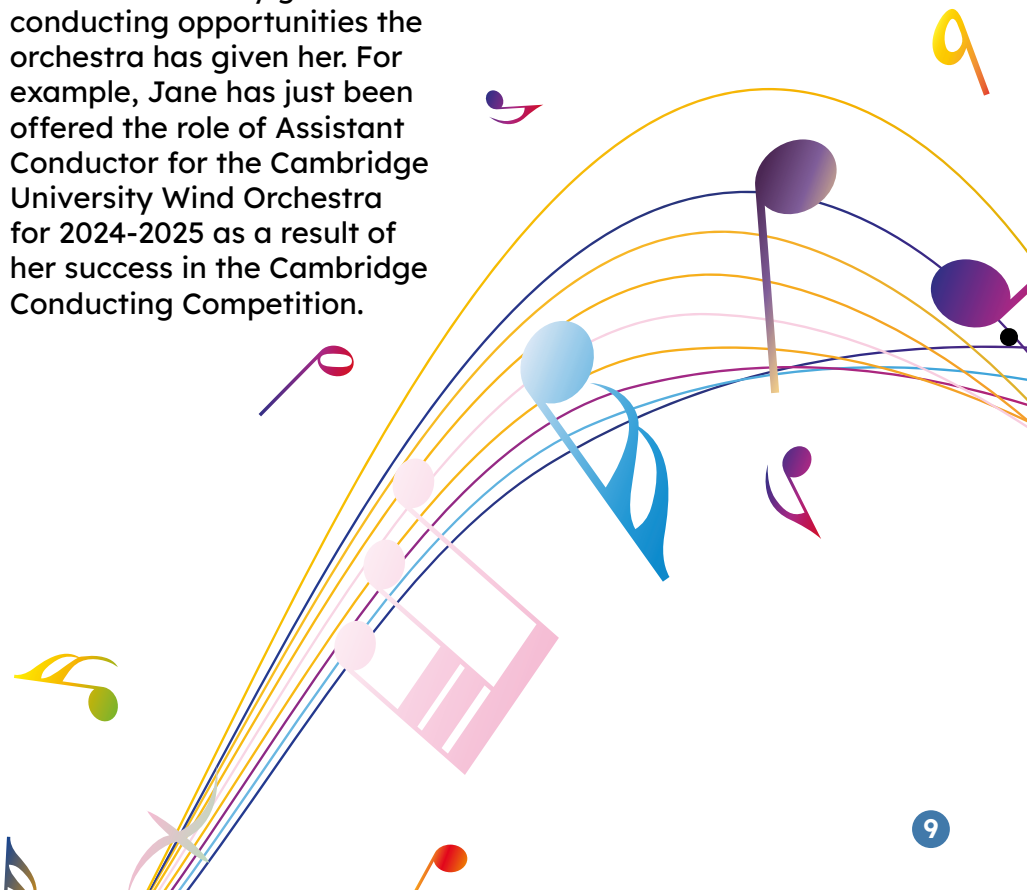
for 2023, playing the complete Firebird Ballet which was conducted by Andrew Gourlay at the Royal Festival Hall and Saffron Hall which was recorded for BBC Radio 3. 2023 was a busy year for Jane for exams as she achieved distinction in her DipABRSM Diploma in Clarinet, as well as a pass in her AMusTCL Theory diploma and a merit for her ARSM Piano diploma. In 2022, Jane performed the Krommer Clarinet Concerto with the St Botolph's Music Society Orchestra which was her first concerto with orchestra.

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Jane is also a proud member of Essex Music Service, having played in Essex Youth Orchestra and Essex Youth Symphonic Wind Orchestra as a clarinettist since 2019. This year, Jane is delighted to be acting as an Associate Conductor for Essex Youth Orchestra under Robin Browning, having already conducted the orchestra on tour in the Netherlands and Belgium for Pirates of the Caribbean, as well as more recently conducting the orchestra for Danzon No. 2 by Marquez in Chelmsford Cathedral at Christmas.

Jane is delighted to be returning the Essex Youth Orchestra for this Easter course and is very grateful for conducting opportunities the orchestra has given her. For example, Jane has just been offered the role of Assistant Conductor for the Cambridge University Wind Orchestra for 2024-2025 as a result of her success in the Cambridge Conducting Competition.





## Isabella Patrick

### Leader of Essex Youth Orchestra

Isabella started learning the violin at the age of 7, and is currently under the tutelage of Dominic Moore, with whom she is also learning the viola. She also learns piano with Christopher Weston, and organ with Jonathan Turner. As well as being a multi-instrumentalist and mezzo-soprano, Isabella also has a passion for choral music, as a composer and conductor, and most recently had a piece premiered by the Waltham Singers. She participates in the music at Brentwood Cathedral. Isabella is also learning choral conducting and, one day, hopes to direct a top

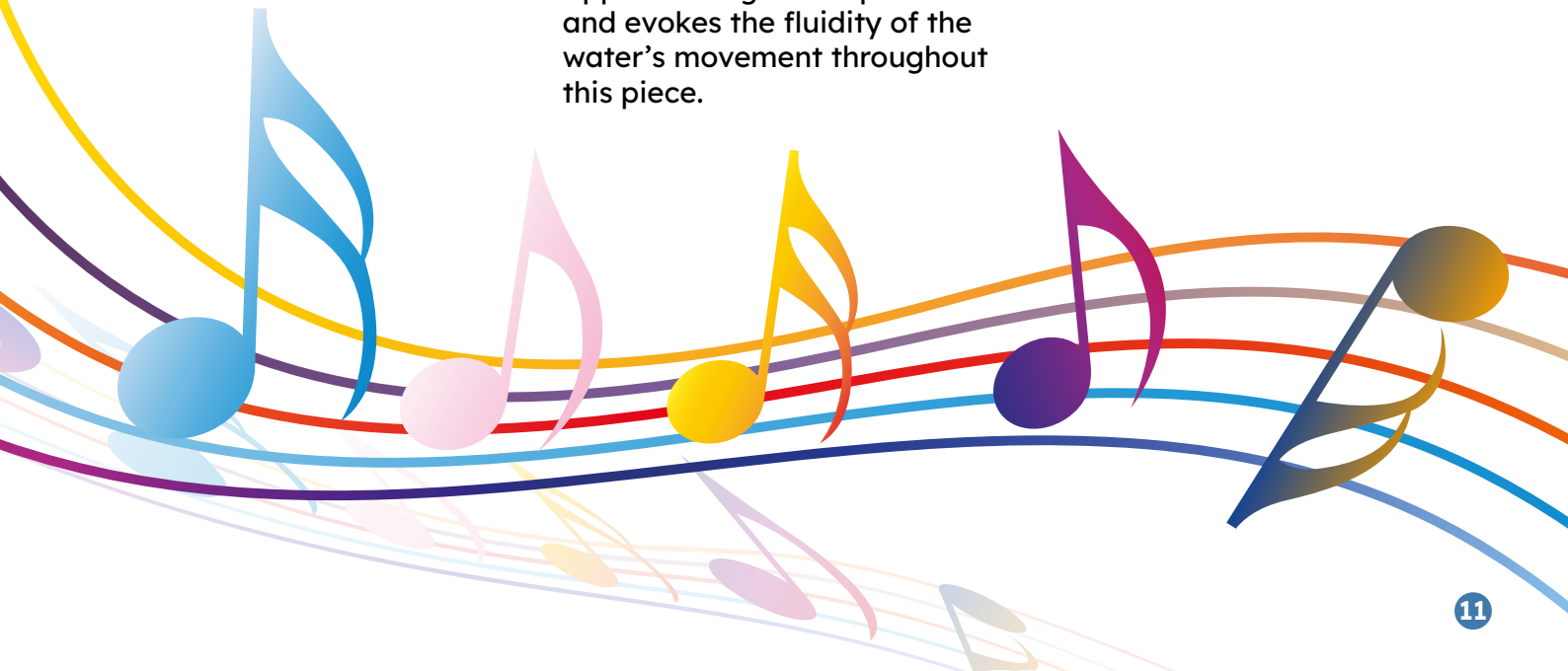
choir. Isabella plays in various ensembles and orchestras and leads the New Hall School Symphony Orchestra, Titan Sinfonia and the Essex Youth Orchestra. This year, she also joined the Essex Music Service's String Octet. Last year, Isabella competed in the final of the prestigious Pro Corda National Chamber Music Competition with the New Hall Piano Quartet. Alongside music, Isabella enjoys playing tennis and running. As a keen linguist, Isabella is studying Latin and Ancient Greek.

In this concert, Isabella's piece for String Octet will be premiered:

'Waves' for String Octet captures the journey of a wave: its ebbs and flows, its growth, fast modulation, and eventual return to its original stillness. On a more emotional level, this wave becomes a metaphor for human experience: the transition from serenity to turbulence, before finding equilibrium once again.

The ominous opening with scattered string entries evoke its first movements, before its climactic unison march. This opening is then almost directly mirrored at the end as the wave dissolves into nothingness, ending with an empty open 5th from the cellos.

Written in the Late Romantic style with impressionistic inflections, 'Waves' draws inspiration from the indulgent and expressive string writing of composers such as Edward Elgar and Gerald Finzi. The interplay of bowing techniques, at times unconventional, ripples through each part and evokes the fluidity of the water's movement throughout this piece.





## Matthew Andrews

### EYPO Conductor

Matthew Andrews is a graduate of London's Guildhall School of Music & Drama, where he chaired the Contemporary Music Society and studied composition (Dr Robert Saxton), piano (Susan Alexander Max) and conducting technique (Alan Hazeldine). He received further tuition with Simon Bainbridge, Hans Werner Henze and conductors Christopher Adey and Peter Stark.

In demand as an orchestral trainer, Matt is a visiting conductor to the Guildhall School of Music (Junior Dept.), Wells Cathedral School Symphony Orchestra and Essex Young People's Orchestra. He directs many courses and workshops, most recently with Norfolk County Youth Orchestra.

His début with Norwich Philharmonic Orchestra conducting Mahler's Resurrection Symphony led to Matt's immediate appointment as Principal Conductor,

a post he also holds with the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra. He is also a regular guest conductor with the Academy of St Thomas and has been de facto Artistic Director of the McKinsey Music Festival at the Alpine University in Kitzbühel since its inception eleven years ago.

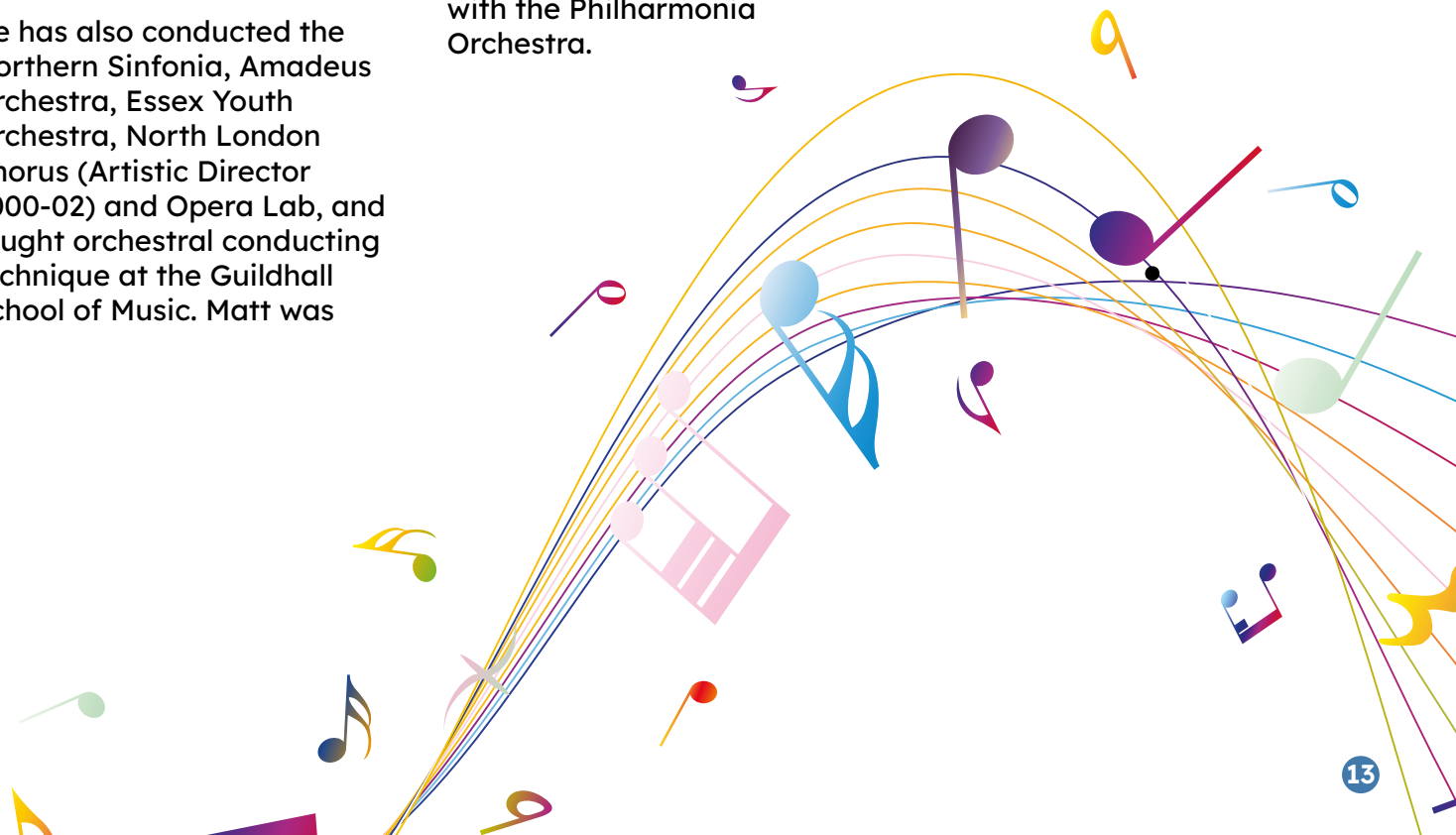
Matt is sought after for his realisations of modern music and leading complex musical projects, including the première of Neil Yates's Surroundings for antiphonal Big Band (Manchester Jazz

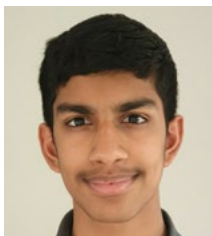
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Festival), the War Requiem for the Britten Centenary and will perform Mahler's 'Symphony of a Thousand' for the Norfolk & Norwich Festival 2016.

He has also conducted the Northern Sinfonia, Amadeus Orchestra, Essex Youth Orchestra, North London Chorus (Artistic Director 2000-02) and Opera Lab, and taught orchestral conducting technique at the Guildhall School of Music. Matt was

assistant to composer Geoffrey Burgon, recording with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, and the BAFTA award-winning soundtrack Longitude with the Philharmonia Orchestra.





## **Atharv Gupta**

### **EYPO Assistant Conductor**

Aged 15, Atharv is a young conductor, composer, trombonist and pianist. His musical journey began at age 5 in Redbridge's Young Music Makers program, but it was during lockdown at age 10 that he discovered his passion for composition and classical music, which have since become an integral part of his life.

In 2021, Atharv joined Essex Music Service, becoming part of the Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra, Youth Brass Ensemble, Youth Symphonic Wind Orchestra and Young Person's Orchestra. In the

following year, he joined the Essex Youth Orchestra where he enjoys playing Bass Trombone. Additionally, he attends Trinity Laban Junior Department on Saturdays, learning Conducting and Composition with Darren Bloom and Trombone with Andrew Connington.

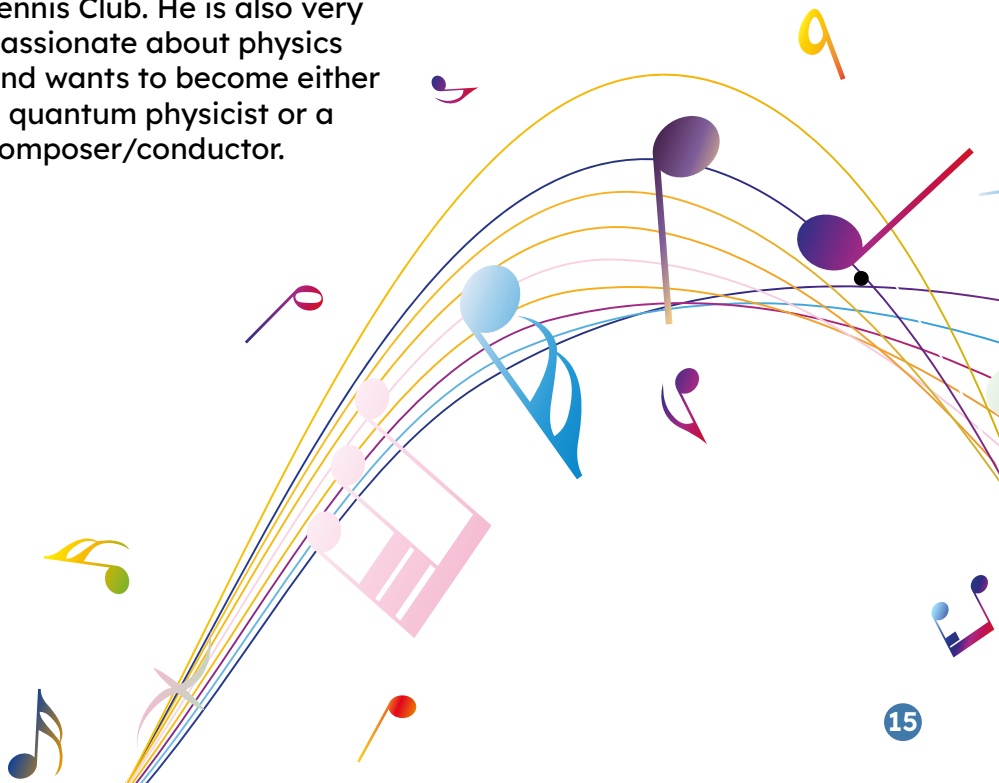
A major highlight of Atharv's musical life came last year when he was selected as one of the winners of the BBC Young Composer Award which has led to him taking part in a yearlong tailored development programme to work with a mentor composer on a piece that will be premiered by the BBC Concert Orchestra at the BBC Proms this summer. This

year, Atharv was chosen as one of the ORA Singers Young Composers 2024, which will result in him taking part in a mentorship programme with a professional composer and ORA Singers, culminating in a live performance and recording of a choral work he will write at Worcester Cathedral this summer.

Atharv made his conducting debut last summer when he had the opportunity to take part in a conducting masterclass with Robin Browning and conduct the Essex Young Person's Orchestra. Following on from the masterclass, Atharv was offered the position of the EYPO's apprentice conductor where he conducts them under the guidance of Matthew Andrews and is very grateful for the opportunity to be able

to work with such a talented group of young musicians.

Outside of music, Atharv debates and quizzes for his school and plays Table Tennis for Chelmsford Table Tennis Club. He is also very passionate about physics and wants to become either a quantum physicist or a composer/conductor.

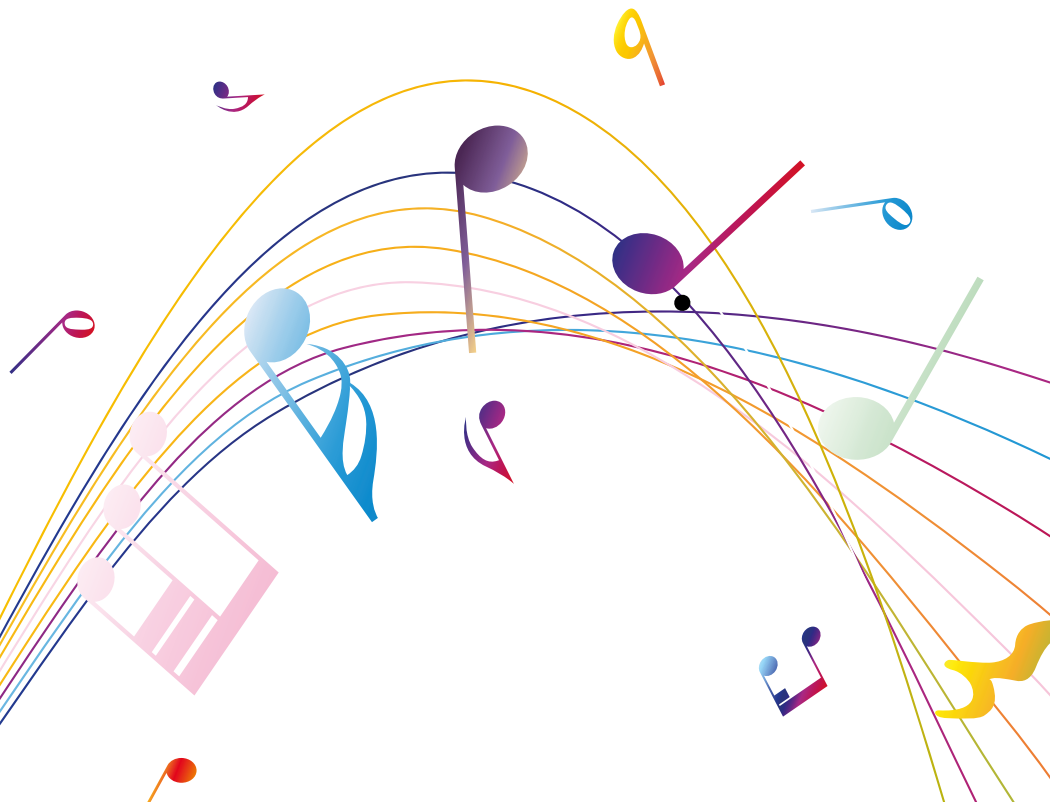




## Larry Au

Leader of Essex Young People's Orchestra

Larry began his violin studies at the age of two under the guidance of Pro Takoko Nishizaki. He has been actively involved in orchestras since primary school, where he quickly rose to become the first violinist. Larry's dedication and skill have earned him numerous gold medals in inter-school competitions, showcasing his passion and talent for music.





# ESSEX YOUTH ORCHESTRA

## 1st Violin

Isabella Patrick,  
leader  
Richard Carter  
Annabelle Gray  
Amy Hall  
Roisin Bridge  
Amelia Swiecka  
Theo Booth  
Louis Barnes  
Zakkai Amachree  
Hannah Brooks  
Maximilian Pietrzak  
Mark Amos

## 2nd Violin

Thomas O'Hagan  
Amy Bradshaw  
Felix Davey  
Kate O'Hanlon  
Niamh Williams  
Lauren Cook  
Katherine Carver  
Edward Kirtland  
Eliza Pampapathi  
Abigail Fordyce  
Alex Mitchell  
Miles Lewela

## Viola

Charlie Newman  
Euan Bookless  
Ellen Heppell  
Jayden Osayande  
Charles Lino

## Cello

David Ball  
Quinn Williams  
Jonathan Best  
Daniel Tidey  
Donall Childs  
Chris Gbeckor-Delgado

## Double Bass

Jesse Osayande  
Lily Clarke-Jones  
Blackwell  
Alex Beattie

## Flute

Ava Lambert  
Emily Brooks  
Freya Wadey  
Imogen Cookson

## Oboe

Harry Wilson  
Lydia Harverson  
Dia Tiwari  
Sophie Morley

## Clarinet

Charlotte Rebel  
Henry Li  
Jane Hammond  
Katie Watley

## Bassoon

Anoushka Jayakumar  
Katie Bishop  
Ore Johnson  
Sophie Kelly

## Horn

Darcie Vernon  
Ewan Cacace  
Leo Sheppard  
Matthew Gray  
James Wilson

## Trumpet

Alexander Rebel  
Bethan Spragg  
Lucas Rebel  
Oliver Toms

## Trombone

Atharv Gupta  
Saffi Frazer Brown  
Will Heaton

## Tuba

Erin Stoker  
Adi Grant

## Percussion

Harriet Wilson  
Mariella Bromfield  
Sam Irven  
Vincent Lilley

# ESSEX YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORCHESTRA

## 1st Violin

Larry Au  
Abigail Fordyce  
Alex Mitchell  
Eliza Pampapathi  
Taya de Silva  
Tamsin Nandha  
Elizabeth Weatherburn  
Oscar Atkinson  
Annabelle Gray

## 2nd Violin

Miles Lewela  
Ankhan Aswani  
Madeleine Padbury  
Lewis Perrott  
Christopher Ng  
Nathan Tam  
Francesco Pira  
Shaun Rose  
Caron Hiscock

## Viola

Charlie Newman  
Xavier Childs  
Evangeline Long  
Alessandro Vargas  
Ellen Heppell  
Mark Amos

## Violoncello

David Best  
Tokunbo Oluwakuyide  
Bethany Reynolds  
Donall Childs  
Jonathan Best  
David Ball  
Oliver Toms

## Double Bass

Alex Beattie

## Flute

Hannah Hogben  
Sarah Padbury  
Summer Pateman  
Zoe Harris  
Imogen Cookson

## Oboe

Hari Gumber  
Harry Wilson



## Clarinet

Katie Watley  
Toby Allen  
Tess Greene

## Bassoon

Anoushka Jayakumar  
Lizzie Watley

## Tenor Sax

David Onita

## Horn

James Simpkins  
Andy Heard  
Jasper Dixon  
Jemima Padbury

## Trumpet

Arianna Bhatt  
Henry Reynolds  
Lucas Rebel  
Rowan Walledge

## Trombone

Atharv Gupta  
Gabriel Goddard  
Ed Parr

## Tuba

Adi Grant

## Percussion / Timps

Dexter Douglas  
Emily O'Keefe  
Harriet Wilson  
Mariella Bromfield  
Wokafi Akanbi

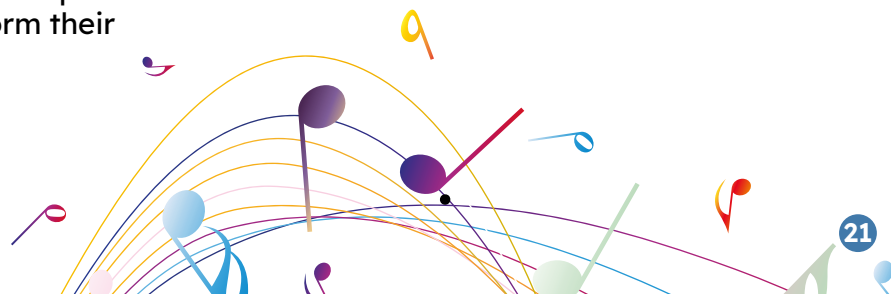
**Essex Youth Orchestra (EYO)** is the flagship ensemble for Essex Music Service, beginning in 1957. Over the years we have seen many of its players from all over Essex go on to become professionals in the music industry, benefitting from the high standard and opportunities gained from their experience. The orchestra play a wide range of classical styles and composers, performing at many different venues across Essex including Saffron Hall and Chelmsford Cathedral. The take part in residential courses and go on tour to Europe bi-annually, having visited countries such as Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Budapest and many more.

Players of **Grade 7** standard on **Woodwind, Strings, Brass** and **Percussion** from across Essex are invited to attend an **annual audition workshop** where they can learn audition tips from professional musicians and perform their prepared audition piece.

**Essex Youth Orchestra String Octet** is formed by experienced players from Essex Youth Orchestra. Led by Maximilian Pietrzak, they perform at prestigious events for Essex County Council developing their own musicianship and chamber music skill under the expert coaching of John Chillingworth, formally with the Guadagnini String Quartet and principal cellist with English National Opera.

In March 2023, they performed for King Charles III and his Queen Consort at their visit to Colchester to celebrate the town being awarded city status.

The Octet are Maximilian Pietrzak, Isabella Patrick, Annabelle Gray, Zakkai Amachree, Charlie Newman, Euan Bookless, Jonathan Best and Donall Childs.



Essex Young People's Orchestra is the training orchestra for Essex Youth Orchestra. This music group aims to develop the skills necessary to become an experienced orchestral player.

EYPO come together to rehearse a wide range of classical styles and composers and perform at many different venues across Essex. Players of Grade 4 standard and above are invited to participate.

Players meet for four short courses culminating with performances across Essex.

**Other County Music Groups include:** Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra, Young Essex Jazz, Essex Youth Symphonic Wind Orchestra, Essex Youth Brass Ensemble, Essex Youth Choir.

If you would like more information about joining a County Music Group, please contact: [musichub@essex.gov.uk](mailto:musichub@essex.gov.uk)

Special thanks to **Essex Young Musicians' Trust** for supporting players from Essex Youth Orchestra to attend the course in preparation for tonight's performance.

For more information about funding available through EYMT, please contact Lisa Green at Essex Community Foundation: [lisa@essexcf.org.uk](mailto:lisa@essexcf.org.uk)



This information is issued by:

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Greater Essex Music Hub

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