



## Conductor Training Programme

### Level Four: Extending

Sing for Pleasure provides training which is accessible, flexible and applicable to all settings. This is focussed on the development of well-rounded and adaptable musical leaders across four key areas of learning: Planning and Preparation, Teaching, Gesture, and Leadership. These run through each level, building upon one another to provide a holistic training programme for conductors.

#### Who is this course for?

For those who have received a Level Four recommendation. This course is for those with significant conducting experience, who have completed Level Three courses and demonstrate a secure grasp of the competencies required to work at that level. The course is designed to give experience of leading complex repertoire and large-scale choral works, including a cappella, accompanied and orchestral.

#### What skills do I need to have for this course?

Participants should be able to:

- apply an informed and nuanced approach to the preparation and planning of music
- teach efficiently and effectively demonstrating a keen ability to listen, analyse and respond to the music making
- demonstrate a wide and varied gestural language in response to different musical contexts
- consistently exhibit the characteristics of good leadership including the ability to reflect upon one's own practice

#### What does this course aim to do?

On this course you will focus on the following:

- exploring the challenges of preparing and producing multiple performances with a variety of choral repertoire
- applying consistently informed, nuanced and inventive teaching and rehearsal strategies within more complex repertoire for a variety of settings

- developing an extensive, purposeful and creative gestural language refined and adapted to fit a broad range of musical styles and formats
- building a well-rounded, informed and authentic approach to musical leadership which can be adapted for a wide variety of musical styles and performance environments

## What skills and experience will I gain?

Through this course you will develop a number of strategies and skills including:

- how to prepare multiple pieces of music effectively, anticipating musical challenges and planning accordingly
- techniques to teach music in different settings, including to large groups and alongside instrumentalists
- how to adapt gesture to suit different acoustics, musical forces, and styles
- how to adapt your leadership style to suit different scenarios
- how to find creative and imaginative ways to teach, conduct and present choral music

## Course Delivery

The Level Four course takes place at SfP's week-long Summer School. The course consists of technique sessions and workshops working with the full course and orchestra as well as smaller groups. Participants working at this level are also encouraged to consider exploring our weekend Level events.

## Repertoire

At Level Four, the repertoire is carefully designed and selected for participants with significant experience, focusing on complex and large-scale accompanied choral works. The course offers challenging material that fosters a deep understanding of diverse musical styles and contexts, while encouraging imaginative thinking about the music, rehearsals, and gesture.

## What's next?

After completing the Level Four course, participants can discuss further development opportunities with their tutor. This may include returning to Level Four for additional experience, taking a Level Three weekend course to focus on specific areas, or exploring other appropriate training options. There is no limit to how many times participants can access the Level Four course - each experience offers new opportunities for growth and refinement.