

# POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title</b>	Lead Teaching Artist (Senior Ensemble)	<b>Date</b>	January 2022
<b>Department</b>	Learning, Engagement & Innovation (LEI)	<b>Reports to:</b>	Teaching Artist Team Leader, Schools Program Manager, LEI
<b>Location</b>	Meadows Primary School/Zoom as necessary	<b>Role Status:</b>	Casual

## 1. POSITION PURPOSE

*The Pizzicato Effect* is the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra's (MSO) flagship community music program working proudly in partnership with the City of Hume, Meadows Primary School, Second Bite and Spectrum. The program provides free string instrumental and musicianship tuition to children living in the City of Hume in Victoria, Australia. Research undertaken by The University of Melbourne (2015) cites *The Pizzicato Effect* as a proven pathway to enhanced academic performance and social-emotional well-being for participating children.

*The Pizzicato Effect* has three clear aims:

- Social development of young people and their communities through musical accomplishments
- Access to musical instruction, without cost as a barrier to participation
- Provision of a safe, positive, inspiring, fun and high-aspiring learning environment that promotes engagement with school and community life

This role delivers *The Pizzicato Effect* program based at Meadows Primary School, Broadmeadows on Monday and Wednesday afternoons during term time and/or online via Zoom as per Covid-19 restrictions guidelines.

The role includes

- Planning, direction and vision of ensemble
- Leadership of TA team within ensemble and wider Pizzicato Effect team
- Assuming responsibility for day-to-day delivery of lessons and classes

## 2. MSO VALUES and BEHAVIOURS

<b>Excellence</b>	We are the best we can be, artistically and commercially
<b>Leadership</b>	We lead by example as proud and passionate advocates of our art form and our people, in Australia and on the global stage
<b>Innovation</b>	We are creative and seek new ways to inspire and engage our stakeholders
<b>Collaboration</b>	We are one orchestra, and work cohesively with our partners and communities to achieve our goals.

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<b>Respect</b>	We respect all those with whom we interact. We are ethical, honest, and transparent.
<b>Integrity</b>	We will be open and honest, reliable and respectful, and ethical at all times
<b>Accountability</b>	We are responsible and accountable.
<b>Diversity</b>	We reflect the diversity of our stakeholders to remain relevant, vibrant and inclusive, and engage all aspects of the Victorian community we represent.

### 3. DIMENSIONS and WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

<b>Reports to</b>	Teaching Artist Team Leader and Schools Program Manager
<b>Direct Working Relationships</b>	The Pizzicato Effect teaching team, students and MSO Learning, Engagement & Innovation staff

### 4. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY AREAS

The Lead Teaching Artist role provides leadership for the Senior ensemble in all areas, including planning and program delivery. It is expected the Lead TA will conduct the ensemble during all performances and assume ultimate decision making for the ensemble in consultation with team TAs and the TA Team Leader.

Specifically, the role is responsible for:

- Ensuring that all personal conduct and teaching practice reflects the MSO's core values and aims, supporting The Pizzicato Effect's aims and values (see Teaching Artist Handbook)
- Providing long-term high-level planning for the ensemble including repertoire choice and technical direction with guidance from TA Team Leader
- Giving direction to and communicating with ensemble TAs, including clear vision for term, semester and yearly goals for students
- Providing a clear framework for session or weekly outcomes
- Delegating responsibility to team members
- Preparing students for all concerts and performance events as part of the ensemble team

<b>KEY RESULTS AREA</b>	<b>MAJOR ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>Student responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare students for all performances in association with Teaching Artist team</li> <li>• Engage students in lifelong learning and love of music</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for self-expression and student contribution</li> <li>• Ensure safety of the learning environment and manage behaviour in accordance with The Pizzicato Effect's program policy</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong leadership and communication skills as well as a willingness to work in a flexible and supportive team environment</li> </ul>
<b>Staff/team responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and share ensemble goals collaboratively including short, mid, and long term goals</li> <li>• Collaborate with The Pizzicato Effect team and broader MSO Company to maintain an evolving, shared curriculum</li> <li>• Participate fully in scheduled planning meetings, termly professional development</li> <li>• Facilitate bi-termly planning meetings to ensure goals are met</li> </ul>
<b>Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop/Select repertoire in consultation with team for Mid-year and End of Year concerts at Meadows Primary School</li> <li>• Be available and work collaboratively with outside artists when required for events/workshops outside program hours as required</li> <li>• Provide support for key program events including the mid-year and end-of-year performances and other events as required.</li> <li>• Act as a polished and professional advocate and ambassador for MSO and its Education initiatives</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	Carry out any other associated duties as reasonably requested.
<b>Occupational Health and Safety</b>	Comply with all MSO policy and procedures to ensure that all occupational health and safety (OHS) risks are minimised through awareness and application of safe working practices Ensure the successful completion of emergency and evacuation drills

### 7. ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- Experience in string instrumental and general musicianship group teaching
- Ability to instruct across all stringed instruments as required
- High level of performance and currently working as a performer
- Experience with behavioural management
- A desire to contribute meaningfully to students' wellbeing beyond musical knowledge and instruction
- Willingness to work as part of a close-knit team
- Strong communication skills alongside patience, resilience, maturity, lateral thinking
- Current valid Victorian Working With Children Check (WWCC)
- Be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless holding an authorised or approved exemption

### 8. DESIRABLE CRITERIA

- Competency on multiple instruments would be highly valued but not essential
- A strong interest in community music education
- Passion and experience working with children in an educational / community context
- A background and/or qualification in education would be highly regarded
- A current First Aid Certificate, or a willingness to undertake official First Aid training

### **9. PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS**

- Strong leadership and an ability to empower others
- Ability to act as an approachable and professional representative for Melbourne Symphony Orchestra’s Pizzicato Effect program by providing an exceptional level of care for students
- Ability to create and maintain strong relationships with students, families and team members
- Ability to shoulder responsibility and delegate
- Understanding of, or a willingness to learn about cultural needs and differences
- Adaptability in a dynamic, challenging and highly rewarding setting
- Ability to work in a team with key program stakeholders in an ethnically and culturally diverse community and with internal MSO stakeholders
- Ability to respond calmly and efficiently at times of key responsibility relating to managing and safeguarding young people

### **10. POSITION DESCRIPTION MAINTENANCE**

<b>Date of last review:</b>	January 2022
<b>Conducted By:</b>	Schools Program Coordinator, Acting Senior Manager Learning, Engagement and Innovation
<b>Date for next review:</b>	TBC