



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	October	2023		30	September	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

North London Symphony Orchestra

Other names charity is known by

NLSO

Registered charity number (if any)

283455

Charity's principal address

14 Rectory Gardens

London

Postcode

N8 7PJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Pauline Stockman	Chairman		
2	Michael Henderson	Treasurer		
3	Caroline Soresby	Secretary		
4	Denise Burns			
6	Dominic Wells			
7	William Attwell		1/10/23 – 6/11/23	
8	Sheila Wallace			
9	Kate Ryle			
10	Lysander Tennant			
11	Raissa Harvey		6/11/23 – 30/09/24	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution adopted on 8 June 1981, amended on 6 March 1995
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually by election of the members at the Annual General Meeting held in November.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Membership of the orchestra is open to all adults subject to an informal audition process. The trustees oversee the day-to-day running of the orchestra. The trustees seek the views of members, usually on an annual basis, as to the choices of the music to be played and other aspects of the life of the orchestra. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Membership numbers vary from time to time and range from around 60 to 70. Extra players (including percussion and harp if required) are brought in for specific concerts as needed.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To educate the public in the arts and sciences, and in particular the art and science of music, by the presentation of concerts and other activities

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The orchestra prepares for and presents concerts of a varied nature in the North London area. Repertoire for the concerts is chosen by the Trustees in discussion with the conductor, and after soliciting views from members. The aim is to choose programmes which are interesting, varied, and challenging to members. Through professionally led rehearsals and concerts, the orchestra seeks to develop players' musical skills, and confidence in orchestral playing, and knowledge of music. Programmes are chosen also to be instructive and entertaining to our public audiences, extending their knowledge of orchestral music repertoire wherever possible. The orchestra seeks to engage a concerto soloist (generally for each programme) who is either an up-and-coming or established professional soloist. This gives members an excellent opportunity to develop and practice skills in accompanying soloists in performance at a high level.

The orchestra presents at least three concerts per year, each one preceded by 9 weekly rehearsals.

The orchestra is conducted by a professional conductor, and led by a professional violinist. Full rehearsals are led by a professional conductor, and the sectional rehearsals are led either by the conductor or leader (for strings) and a professional coach or other music professional (for woodwind and brass).

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission where relevant, when making decisions regarding the above activities, in order to ensure that these activities continue to further the orchestra's objects and provide benefit to the public.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The trustees would like to thank the following who greatly support the orchestra each year:

- Our patrons, many of whom are long-standing, and who give generous financial contributions to the orchestra.
- Our supportive audiences, many of whom have been long-time attendees of our concerts.
- The relatives and friends of trustees and members who give of their time freely to assist in the preparations for concerts and volunteer on concert days.
- Volunteers from the venues where we present concerts for their time and assistance on concert days, including our regular venue at St James Church in Muswell Hill.

Section D

Achievements and performance

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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We prepared for and presented three concerts in our regular concert programme:

Autumn: The programme featured Berlioz: "Le Corsaire" overture; Barber: Violin Concerto (soloist: Aki Blendis) and Bruckner: Symphony no. 6. The concert took place at St John's Church, Friern Barnet.

Spring: The programme featured Milhaud: Le Boeuf sur le Toit; Shostakovich: Cello Concerto (soloist: Ariana Kashefi) and Dvorak: Symphony no.9. The concert took place at St James Church, Muswell Hill.

Summer: The programme featured Mozart: La Clemenza di Tito overture, Walton: Violin Concerto (soloist: Eunsley Park) and Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique. The concert took place at St James Church, Muswell Hill.

All concerts were well attended and well received. The year included a number of challenging pieces that the orchestra had not performed before including the Bruckner, Milhaud and Walton. However, these challenges were met with enthusiasm and the Trustees feel that this was a very successful year musically for the orchestra.

In addition to the main concerts listed above, the orchestra was also involved in other events. In February we presented an informal chamber music concert at our rehearsal venue, the Union Church and Community Centre in Crouch End. This concert featured various chamber groups drawn from members of the orchestra. Three chamber groups also performed as part of the Crouch End Festival. And in September we held a special rehearsal in which members of the orchestra were invited to play solo pieces and movements from concertos, accompanied by the orchestra.

The Trustees feel that the quality of orchestral performance has continued to increase over the year. Also, feedback given as part of the annual member survey has shown a high level of satisfaction from members as to the programmes being chosen, and other matters concerning the operation and management of the orchestra.

The membership of the orchestra remained strong with all string sections at or near capacity, full woodwind and horn sections and a nearly full brass section. The presence of such a full orchestra helped to enable productive and successful rehearsals, and the increased subscription income from members, coupled with a reduced requirement to bring in extra players for concerts, contributed to another good outcome financially.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The orchestra aims to maintain a reserve of at least £9000 to cover the operating costs of putting on a concert, including rehearsals. Membership subscriptions and ticket prices are reviewed regularly in the light of operating costs to ensure adequate reserves.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

[There are no funds in deficit.]

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

In August 2018 the orchestra received a bequest of £15,000 from the will of Dr Vivian Moses, a long-time patron and supporter of the orchestra. During the period of this report, the Trustees continued to develop plans to use the bequest for purposes beneficial to the development of the orchestra and its activities.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

M. Henderson

Full name(s)

MICHAEL HENDERSON

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

TREASURER

Date

29.07.2025

NORTH LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA					
STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS for period 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024					
RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
	2023/24	2022/23		2023/24	2022/23
Concert Income			Concert Expenses		
December concert	2,098.81	2,411.98	December concert	3,144.83	3,473.34
March concert	2,952.94	2,765.27	March concert	4,078.65	4,251.49
June concert	2,741.13	3,407.44	June concert	4,835.71	4,842.17
Chamber concert	124.58	215.23	Chamber concert	115.62	90.62
Membership Subscriptions (inc early)	13,578.56	12,741.06	Rehearsals		
Donations (including solo event)	852.80	526.96	Professional fees	8,486.00	7,218.75
Refreshment sales at rehearsals (net)	100.37	55.00	Union Church / Highgate URC	2,430.50	2,452.00
Tax repayments (Gift Aid)	3,332.57	3,230.12	Making Music subscription	652.68	338.32
Patrons Scheme	1,858.82	2,330.84	Solo evening music hire/purchase	159.35	n/a
Miscellaneous			2022-23 cost of refreshments	347.15	n/a
Giving Machine	35.17	17.01	Production Co. registration fee	71.00	n/a
Bank interest	610.77	240.04	Refund of duplicate solo payment	25.00	n/a
			Loan to Production Company	1,000.00	n/a
			Miscellaneous		
			Bank charges	63.75	62.00
			MHFGA subscription	25.00	25.00
			December concert venue deposit	50.00	207.00
			Gift to photographer	n/a	18.50
			2021-22 cheque cashed late	n/a	90.00
TOTAL	28,286.52	27,940.95	TOTAL	25,485.24	23,069.19
Surplus / Loss	2,801.28	4,871.76			
BANK RECONCILIATION:					
CASH at Bank at 1 October 2023	23,283.67				
Surplus from season 2023-24	2,801.28				
CASH at Bank at 30 September 2024	26,084.95				

STATEMENT OF ASSETS and LIABILITIES as at 30 September 2024

Cash at bank: £26,084.95

Other Monetary Assets: None

Investment Assets: None

Assets retained for NLSO's own use: Double bass + cover, sheet music, backing cards,
music stands, lighting.

Liabilities: None

Signed on behalf of all the Trustees:



Michael Henderson, Treasurer

Date: 29.07.2025

NOTE: All amounts in the Statement of Receipts and Payments, and in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, relate to Unrestricted Funds (funds which the trustees are able to spend at their discretion for any of the charity's purposes).



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

NORTH LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

On accounts for the year
ended

30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Charity no
(if any)

283455

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

A. Ladell

Date:

29/7/2025

Name:

AMANDA JANE LADELL

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

N/A

Address:

40 ORPINGTON ROAD
WINCHMORE HILL
LONDON N21 3PG