



## Maruki Incorporated – Maruki Community Orchestra – Frequently asked questions from sponsors

### 1. What is your community activity and for what are you seeking funding?

The Maruki Community Orchestra (MCO) is a non-profit community-based organisation founded in June 2005 which has as its principal objective to provide local musicians with an opportunity to play with others in a large group, and to experience the delights of playing music from the classical repertoire. The MCO is devoted to musicians from our Canberra community, who play classical musical instruments, regardless of their level of skills, age, or experience. It fills a vital gap in the community music facility in the Canberra region for the Canberra Community.

We are currently working with the Belconnen Community Centre on a large scale community version of David Fanshawe's "African Sanctus" in 2008, and the MCO will play a major role in this.

We already have a remarkable track record in learning and performing a wide repertoire of music from scratch and having performed 15 public concerts, since our inception. We have a wonderful music director (ex-London Symphony Orchestra / Sydney Symphony Orchestra) and over 75 enthusiastic amateur musicians aged from 10 to 80 – with a wide range of capability and experience.

The typical MCO musician is around 25-50 years old, male or female, who played an instrument at school, sometimes ongoing in the Canberra Youth Orchestra (CYO). They "put their instrument down" for a few years and now want to play it again – in an orchestra or ensemble. Many are professionals, some housewives, and some working their way through part-time university. Many have stated that without the MCO, they would have nothing but solo playing at home – reasons being that they are too old to play in CYO and not experienced enough to play in National Capital Orchestra or the Canberra Symphony Orchestra.

The MCO is currently running purely on personal contributions, funds generated through orchestral membership from players and friends, donations through our DGR and from concerts at the Belconnen Community Centre Theatre. We have been granted **Deductible Gift Recipient** status by the Australian Tax Office; previous donations to this fund have been used to purchase some percussion instruments and sheet music.

### 2. What are your organisations objectives and why do you need funding?

The major objectives of the MCO are to:

1. Provide an opportunity for community players who are interested in playing in a classical orchestral environment, but who may not qualify to play in other orchestras in our region;
2. Develop the talents and skills of its musicians, in a positive and encouraging environment
3. Provide an environment where players can participate not only in a full orchestra, but also smaller ensembles and groups.
4. Provide a process by which musicians in the Canberra community can develop greater knowledge, appreciation and awareness of classical music and its disciplines.
5. Join with other arts- and music-based community groups to perform collaborative performances wherever possible.

The funding being sought will enable the orchestra to further develop these objectives by

- **Increasing the range** of music able to be played by providing a fuller percussion section.
- **Providing greater depth** to the orchestra's repertoire by enabling it to purchase (rather than hire) music – thus being able to establish its own music library available to all its membership.
- **Providing ongoing tuition** of members enabling them to receive detailed tuition from expert musicians in a supportive group environment: A community and individual outcome.



### 3. How will your business plan be realised?

- **Through our experience and Capacity to deliver –**

The MCO performs and operates under the leadership of the Maruki Inc. Board of Directors, the Orchestra Manager, and the Music Director. The Orchestra performs approximately eight concerts each year, all of which offer programming to suit a wide variety of musical tastes.

The MCO is an evolving developmental orchestra. It commenced with about 45 musicians and now supports over 75 members with new members joining every week. By way of example, over the past month we have had 6 new members – 2 violins, 1 viola, 1 'cello, a French horn and a bassoon. As it expands there is an ever increasing need to provide additional ensemble work – quartets, quintets and chamber orchestras in both string and wind areas. This requires an extra layer of effort and management – and of course, expense. We have shown ourselves to be more than capable of carrying out the construction, application and development of our musical organisation. The funding we are applying for enables us to further extend this and will help afford the necessary level of remuneration for such expansion – in music, tuition and equipment.

- **Through the key people who are involved –**

After a wealth of experience in the world of classical music throughout the world (see CV follows), more recently in Orange with the establishment of the conservatorium of music there, and in the Canberra Youth Music programme, John Gould has established one of Canberra's most unique and special community music projects - the MCO. Made up of musicians from all ages, experience levels and musical backgrounds, MCO is a true developmental orchestra; the orchestra strives to work with some of the most beautiful classical repertoire available – some difficult and some easier. This caters to all levels within the orchestra who unite in their endeavour to successfully play the music.

Our management committee is populated by experienced professionals some of whom are also musicians, and music teachers – the experience and commitment is expanded upon in the CVs below:

#### *2007 MCO Management Committee*

NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
<b>Executive:</b>		
John Gould - President	02 6260 8911	<a href="mailto:jkgould@aapt.net.au">jkgould@aapt.net.au</a>
Catherine Keely - Secretary	02 6161 7122	<a href="mailto:catherine_keely@hotmail.com">catherine_keely@hotmail.com</a>
Chris Nicholls – Vice President	02 6295 6456	<a href="mailto:chrisn@lgp.com.au">chrisn@lgp.com.au</a>
Katherine Gould – Treasurer and Public Officer	02 6288 2539	<a href="mailto:katherinegould@iprimus.com.au">katherinegould@iprimus.com.au</a>
<b>General Committee:</b>		
Bruce Fisher – Music Librarian	02 6161 9753	<a href="mailto:bandc@netspeed.com.au">bandc@netspeed.com.au</a>
David Hatherly – Membership	02 6294 9849	<a href="mailto:dhatherly@gmail.com">dhatherly@gmail.com</a>
Sharon Bainbridge – Fundraising	02 6292 4864	<a href="mailto:Se.bainbridge@optusnet.com.au">Se.bainbridge@optusnet.com.au</a>
Sharon France – Publications	02 6295 6456	<a href="mailto:Sharon@lgp.com.au">Sharon@lgp.com.au</a>



# Maruki Community Orchestra



## *Our Management Team:*

### **John Gould** – *President and Musical Director*

John began his music career as a violinist in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in 1958. Since then he has played principal viola with most of Australia's major orchestras and ensembles including contemporary groups. He has worked and toured with several leading European orchestras including four years with the London Symphony Orchestra and was a founding member of the Carl Pini String Quartet. John has also been extensively recorded by the ABC and has been a concerto soloist with the London and Sydney Symphony Orchestras. He has given master classes in Europe and America and been a National Music Camp tutor for 13 years. He recently led the expansion of classical music teaching and performance in Orange as music director of the Orange Regional Music Centre for nine years. Currently he has a private viola and violin teaching studio in Canberra and working with Canberra Youth Music as a conductor and leader of two string orchestras.

### **Christopher Nicholls** – *Vice President / Orchestra Manager*

Being passionate about classical music (especially anything to do with symphonic works), he is the powerhouse behind the MCO as Orchestra Manager. Last year he started learning to play the Viola, a new passion in life - and has become a devoted MCO musician in the Viola section. Chris has worked in the IT industry for over 22 years in a sales management and marketing capacity, but is vitally interested in the classical music and orchestra world, believing that it is a calming artistic force in a difficult world. He joined up with John to establish this vital community music programme to enable the Canberra community to experience the joys and beauty of Classical music.

### **Katherine Gould** – *Treasurer*

Katherine Gould's passions are language, mathematics, music and law - and making the world a happier place. Her experience includes eight years as an owner/operator of two small businesses, 11 years of writing and editing for regional daily newspapers, and (currently) three years as company secretary for a non-profit charity with 14 offices nationwide and in New Zealand and South Africa.

### **Catherine Keely** – *Secretary*

Catherine is a very committed member of the MCO. She is their sole double bassist, and a confident one at that. Catherine is a kind natured person whose life passion is music and helping others. After completing her Bachelor of Music at the ANU she enrolled herself in a Diploma of Music Industry, with a business major. She aims to combine her knowledge of music, the music industry and event managing with her desire to help people; to create, or be involved in projects that involve music and the local community.

It is because of the values she upholds and the direction she wants to take her own life, she believes strongly in what the MCO is about and what it aims to achieve. She has offered time and energy to the orchestra outside the commitment of playing and is on the committee as secretary.

### **David Hatherly** – *Membership Secretary*

David has recently arrived in Canberra, and was delighted to find the MCO and the opportunity it provided him to take up his oboe again - an instrument he has played for about 40 years! David has been involved with the organisation of music for many years, having been both a player and a committee member of various groups in the Blue Mountains, Bathurst, Wagga, Auckland and now Canberra. He is recently retired, but had worked for many years in tertiary education and management.



# Maruki Community Orchestra



## **Sharon Bainbridge** – *Fundraising Coordinator*

Sharon has been a member of the Canberra community for 17 years. She was very excited to have the opportunity to join the MCO and enjoy the experience of playing classical music with a group of fellow musicians. Sharon was keenly involved in music as a teenager and was a member of the Grafton Youth Orchestra. During her adult years she has pursued her love of music by continuing with piano and clarinet lessons with the vision of joining a group such as MCO. She has worked for many years in the IT industry in Sydney and Canberra and brings these skills to the committee and Orchestra as the Fundraising Coordinator.

## **Bruce Fisher** – *Music Librarian*

Bruce is a senior architect and a part-time cellist in the MCO. Stoic and yet the holder of a wonderful wit, he is one of the more vital members of the Orchestra community – being the holder of the music! A passionate professional, Bruce's managerial background gives him great insights into organisation method and how to navigate the often difficult progress of community-based organisations.

## **Sharon France** – *Committee Member and Publications Manager*

Sharon has been a publication designer for over 20 years. She has worked with government and private clients to achieve communication pieces that work on several levels. She now owns and runs a busy Canberra-based graphic design and publishing company and is devoted to its great success!

Her forte is communication and problem solving – her passion is to make publications work by attending to the client's needs and expectations, and ensuring delivery of materials that not only look good but are typographically correct.

## **In conclusion**

Whilst we have been running now for over two years (since June 2005), we planned our course both financially and performance-wise over three years. This was and is essential as we needed to plan our resources at least 18 months ahead for performance venues, visiting regionally, and for festivals and annual events. We know where we are going and how to get there!



In 2005, we went about organising and setting up our fledgling symphony orchestra, and now nearly two years later we are a successfully-run community orchestra which has enhanced the musical and cultural lives of over 75 of its members and played to many hundreds of people in the Canberra community. And the best thing about it is that anyone who plays a musical instrument, regardless of age or ability, can join. MCO can greatly enhance the wellbeing of its players and also the audiences and supporters of the MCO.

*We respectfully ask you for your support of this vital, worthwhile and fabulous orchestra.*