PORTLAND **BAROQUE** ORCHESTRA

GREAT MUSIC. PERIOD.

Call for Auditions: Principal Contrabass

Portland Baroque Orchestra (Portland, Oregon)

Portland Baroque Orchestra (PBO) invites qualified candidates to apply for the position of **Principal Contrabass**. To apply, please send your CV along with links to video and/or sound files (up to 3 links in total) to auditions@pbo.org by December 31, 2026. Selected candidates will be hired to play with the orchestra in the position for which they are being considered during the 2027/28 Season.

Position Requirements

Candidates must demonstrate:

- **Artistic Expertise:** Extensive knowledge of and proficiency in performing 17th, 18th, and early 19th-century repertoire using historically informed performance (HIP) practices on period contrabass. Candidates with access to and experience playing violone would be desirable; however, this is not a requirement.
- **Versatility:** A willingness to perform select 20th- and 21st-century works on period instruments.
- **Equipment:** Possession of, or consistent access to, a performance-quality period contrabass capable of tuning at A=415 and 430Hz.
- **Availability:** The ability to perform in at least 50% of the projects offered over a three season period.
- **Engagement:** A commitment to participate in occasional community outreach activities, compensated at standard PBO rates outlined in the CBA.
- **Chamber Music Proficiency:** Selected candidate(s) will be invited to participate in a 1-hour collaborative chamber music session with the Artistic Director on the harpsichord and Principal Cellist during their performance residency in Portland. Extracts will be sent out at least one month before this session, and will include one piece in the French style. These sessions are observed by PBO's core musicians, who provide formal feedback to the Artistic Director and Musician Search Committee.

Tenure Process

Probationary Period & Core Status:

The newly hired Principal Contrabass will be assessed for a probationary period of one full season, or two full sets, whichever is longer. At least one of the productions during the probationary period will be with the Artistic Director leading the orchestra.

A probationary musician shall have all the rights and obligations of a Core Member, with the exception that the probationary musician shall not be automatically renewed for subsequent seasons until granted tenure.

Halfway through the probationary period, a Musicians Probationary Committee will meet with the Artistic Director to discuss the probationary musician's performance. The Artistic Director will then deliver feedback to the probationary musician.

At the end of the probationary period the Musicians Probationary Committee will deliver further feedback to the Artistic Director, who will then make a final decision whether to grant tenure.

About Portland Baroque Orchestra

For more than forty years, Portland Baroque Orchestra has reigned as the Pacific Northwest's premier period ensemble, expertly reimagining the music of the Baroque and Early Classical periods with passion and excellence in intimate venues. Founded in 1984, PBO is a jewel amongst Oregon's arts organizations, celebrated for its masterful fusion of rich musical history and innovative artistry in every program. Specializing in historically inspired performance, the orchestra also explores music beyond the Baroque, performing on period instruments or replicas with extraordinary artistry and spontaneity. PBO audiences enjoy the rich textures of the Baroque counterparts of modern instruments, including violins with gut strings and flutes made of wood and bone, in harmony with historical rarities such as the theorbo and harpsichord. In December 2022, PBO appointed the dynamic Julian Perkins as Artistic Director following the retirement of Monica Huggett. Join PBO to travel back in time and savor the uniquely delicate and jubilant sounds of the orchestra as it was first conceived and experienced!

Portland Baroque Orchestra is committed to supporting a diverse workforce. PBO does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. PBO is an equal opportunity employer.