**Nikki Lord - Nomination for President’s Award**

**Bolton Symphony Orchestra**

Bolton Symphony Orchestra’s membership incorporates the very best of amateur, semi-professional and professional musicians drawn from throughout the North of England. The Orchestra is totally self-financed, funded by a mixture of subscriptions, sponsorship, box office and our Friends Association.

BSO contributes significantly to the cultural life of Bolton and the North West. Under the artistic direction of Ben Crick, assisted by Paul Witkiewicz we aim to play programmes of less well-known works together with major classics. The 2024 programme includes works by Mahler, Boulanger, Coleridge Taylor, Dvorak, and Beethoven’s 9th Symphony, which we shall be performing with a local choir.

**Testimonial**

Since becoming Orchestra Manager Nikki has worked tirelessly to promote the orchestra, increase the diversity of audience and membership and improve the welfare of players. She researched and organised the purchase of a set of timpani for the orchestra and acoustic screens. All under 19s are free at our concerts, but Nikki introduced a ticket offer so that children who have music lessons with local authority music services have a free adult ticket.

Working with an excellent committee and The Friends of BSO, she has ensured sponsorship for a number of concerts enabling young professional soloists to showcase their talents and putting on an afternoon children’s concert using 6 choirs from Bolton primary schools, our resident tuba player as “Tubby” and a local soprano as narrator.

Nikki has raised the profile of the orchestra by regular appearances on our local Radio Station, Bolton FM, and numerous posts on social media where until she took over we barely had a presence. She works very closely with the staff at The Victoria Hall ensuring any problems are dealt with efficiently and discretely. She does all this whilst raising a young family and carrying out a job as an oboe teacher.