

The **UoM Junior College Orchestra** forms an integral part of the cultural agenda of the College. It is made up of some 35-40 young budding musicians, with over 300 performances to its credit! The orchestra performs a vast repertoire comprised of popular classics of instrumental and vocal music under the baton of Mro. Manoel Pirotta. Some of the more prestigious venues include **The Manoel Theatre, Palazzo Castellania, Dar l-Ewropa, Great Siege Square**, World Children’s Day Festival (**President’s Palace**), the **Palace courtyard**, Inauguration of **St. George’s Square**(Valletta), MCI Monday Ovations - since 2005 (**Le Meridien Hotel, St. Julians**), Gozo International Celebration (GIC) (**Qala Parish Church, Gozo**), *Milied Flimkien* - since 2004 (**St. John’s co-Cathedral, Valletta** and the **Basilica of the Blessed Virgin of Ta’ Pinu in Gharb, Gozo**), Christmas on Campus (**University Chapel**), the annual *Soirée* (**JC Auditorium**), **The Point Shopping Mall, Tigné**, Learning Expo (**Hilton Malta, Portomaso**), Intrapriża Malta (**MFCC, Ta’ Qali**), **National Book Festival 2013 (MCC)**, *Ġieħ Tas-Sliema 2015*(**The Palace Hotel**), and **Christ the Saviour Church, Ghasri** – the smallest village in Gozo! Since its inception in 1998, the orchestra has also toured France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Sicily. In 2013, the UoM Junior College Orchestra has launched its first CD album to mark its 15th. anniversary. Preparations are well under way for the launching of a second CD album due in 2018 to mark the orchestra’s 20th. anniversary.

Mro. Manoel Pirotta DNESM (Lyon) [M.A.] Dip CNR (Lyon) [B.A. (Hons.)] Hon VCM LFIBA CT, FVCM (Hons.) FTCL FLCMFNCM LTCL LMusLCM LMusTCL is holder of a Masters degree from the *Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Lyon* in pedagogy and composition (1994). He is senior lecturer at the University of Malta Junior College where he lectures the Matsec music programme. The Research & Advisory Board of the IBC Cambridge nominated him *International Musician of the year* for his outstanding musical achievements (2003). Awarded the *Grand Prix des Arts* for music composition and conducting at the 8th. Malta International Art Biennale (2007). He was conductor of the *Catholic Institute Youth Orchestra*(1987-9), the *Maltese Youth Orchestra* (1994-6), and *The Euro Academy Youth Orchestra* (2002-8). At present, he is musical director of the *College Orchestra* since 1998. His incidental music – *Antony and Cleopatra* won him an entry in the *Shakespeare Music Catalogue* issued by Victoria College, Canada It was revised and played by the orchestra *Città di Ravenna* (2005). His *La Lyonnaise* features in Murray MacLachlan’s CD Piano Music from Malta. Other works are also included in piano anthologies, among which, *Kinder Garden* and *A Musical Tribute to Mozart from Malta*. Other compositions include works for wind band. Mro. Pirotta is also musical director of the *Soċjetà Mużikali San Ġuzeppe* of Hamrun A.D. 1889.

