Middle School (Like-Voice) and High School (Like-Voice) Conductor, ORS Youth Choir Music Education Program

Position Title: Middle School (Like-Voice) and High School (Like-Voice) Choir Conductor, Oregon Repertory Singers Youth Choir Music Education Program
Reports To: Artistic Director Aubrey Patterson, Oregon Repertory Singers Youth Choir
Status: Part time, 3 hours per week, includes preparation time, rehearsals, and concerts. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at Moreland Presbyterian Church in Sellwood. Like-voice middle school ensemble (SA or changed voice) 5-6:00 pm. Like-voice high school ensemble (SA or TB) 6-7:00 pm. Compensation will be salaried at $150/week.

Summary

Do you enjoy building and growing a program, helping serve all Portland area students? The like-voice choir conductor oversees and coordinates the SA or changed voice middle school ensemble, and the SA or TB high school ensemble. This will be in conjunction with the 9-12th grade conductor (Aubrey Patterson). Responsibilities include selecting pedagogically and age-appropriate choral repertoire with vocal development at the forefront, consistently working literacy and musicianship, and the planning and execution of effective rehearsals. The like-voice ensemble will serve as an environment for vocal discovery, theory and sight reading, potential sectionals, and its own choir with its own repertoire. There will be many combined opportunities (K-8, 6-12, K-12) that will require collaborative rehearsal and repertoire planning and execution. The like-voice conductor is also active in promoting ORS in the community, supporting ORS fundraising, and supporting community engagement. Join our passionate artistic team in our 30th season!

Position Responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

1. **Choral Rehearsal and Literacy**: Lead effective choral rehearsals that help students develop expertise in vocal technique, choral technique, and choral literature. Plan, implement, and evaluate musical concepts that integrate smoothly with the literature studied as well as build toward long-term success in music literacy.

2. **Recruitment and Retention**: Communicate with local teachers, families, members of cultural centers, and others to attract new and diverse students into the program. Build community and growth to keep current students enrolled and achieve excellence. Work effectively with parents to listen, respond, and engage for the good of the singers and program.

3. **Performance**: Work directly with the AD to schedule and plan informances, performances and concerts. Select, rehearse and perform age- and skill-appropriate concert repertoire, thematically appropriate as determined by the AD. Collaborate with AD in monitoring vocal change and development of young singers.

4. **Curriculum development and assessment**: Plan, deliver, and assess growth during the year in accordance with ORSYC Choral Curriculum. Integrate musicianship and literacy development in meaningful ways as a part of every choral rehearsal.
5. Administration. Work with AD to achieve program goals within budget constraints. Support fundraising and grant writing activities for the YC program. Assist and chaperone retreats, concerts, and other events as requested.

Experience and Qualifications

Required
- Hold and maintain a current, unrestricted educator license in the state of Oregon or Washington
- Demonstrate strong classroom management skills
- Demonstrate strong vocal model
- Demonstrate intermediate or better piano skills. There will be no accompanist for like-voice rehearsals for the upcoming season. Open to hiring accompanists in future seasons if need is demonstrated.
- Document at least three years of successful choral/general music education
- Value collaboration, showing eagerness to work positively with the Artistic Director, accompanists, administrative staff, and other directors.

Preferred
- Knowledge of solfege and Curwen hand signs
- Knowledge of Hungarian rhythm syllables (ta, ti-ti, etc) or another effective rhythm reading/exploring method
- Research based techniques for choral music literacy
- A love for working with singers of all ages
- Desire to work with a diverse group of singers representing various musical and educational backgrounds

Interested candidates should send the following documents to jessica@orsingers.org with the subject line as follows, “Like Voice Conductor: Name”:
- Resume
- Cover letter (please indicate your preference of voice type and age groups)
- Two (2) letters of references
- A Statement on Equitable Practice in the Classroom

If selected for interviews, please be prepared with the following:
- Demonstrate piano and vocal skills with age-appropriate vocalise
- Teach a short (5-10 minute) lesson on repertoire of your choosing that best demonstrates your teaching style
- Share a recruitment tool you would plan to use to encourage new singers

No calls please. Applications due by June 30, 2023. Interviews will be scheduled for dates on or after July 7, 2023.

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Oregon Repertory Singers
ORSingers.org | PO Box 445, Gladstone, OR 97027 | 503-230-0652