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

**Position Title:** Middle School (Like-Voice and Combined) 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 of your speciality (SA or changed voice) 5-6 pm. SATB Middle School Choir 6-7 pm. Compensation will be salaried at $150/week.

**Summary**

Do you enjoy building and growing a program, helping serve all Portland area students? The middle school choir conductor oversees and coordinates 6-8th grade singers 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 reinforcing literacy and musicianship, and the planning and execution of effective rehearsals. The middle school director will rehearse a like-voice ensemble (SA or changed voice) of middle schoolers, serving as an environment for vocal discovery, theory and sight reading, potential sectionals, and its own ensemble with its own repertoire. There will be many combined ensemble opportunities (K-8, 6-12, K-12) that will require collaborative rehearsal and repertoire planning and execution. The middle school conductor is also active in promoting ORS in the community, supporting ORS fundraising, and supporting community engagement. Join our passionate artistic team in our 50th 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 choir community to engage with and retain current students. 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 infornances, performances and concerts. Select, rehearse and perform age- and skill-appropriate concert repertoire, thematically appropriate as determined by the AD.

4. **Curriculum development and assessment.** Plan, deliver, and assess growth during the year in accordance with ORSYC Choral Curriculum. Collaborate with AD in monitoring vocal change and development of young singers. 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 Youth Choir 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 rehearsal, but an accompanist will be provided for the combined middle school ensemble.
- 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, “Central Middle School Director: Name”:
- Resume
- Cover letter (please indicate your preferred like-voice ensemble)
- 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.

Oregon Repertory Singers (ORS) 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. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, clients, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, and clients.