

POSITION DESCRIPTION

DIRECTOR - MINNEAPOLIS YOUTH CHORUS and PRELUDE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Minnesota Chorale is conducting a search for a Director of its youth choirs: the Minneapolis Youth Chorus (grades 6 through 10) and the Prelude Children's Choir (grades 3, 4 and 5).

The successful candidate will have demonstrated the skills and disposition to build and advance an excellent youth choral program that is inclusive and diverse. This candidate will join the leadership of the family of choirs that comprise the Minnesota Chorale organization, reflecting our mission:

We sing together to unite people and amplify diverse voices
through rigorous artistic practice and joyful collaboration.

The Ensembles

Launched by the Minnesota Chorale in 2007, the Minneapolis Youth Chorus is an auditioned ensemble open to Minneapolis Public School and charter school students in grades 6 through 10. Prelude, a choir for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders new to the MYC program, was established in 2012. It is designed as an introductory choral experience for younger singers.

Minnesota Chorale youth ensembles seek to enrich the lives of participants by providing participants with opportunities to develop their musical gifts in an environment dedicated to the celebration of diversity and the pursuit of artistic excellence. The program is offered at no charge to participants: all costs are borne by the Minnesota Chorale.

Position Responsibilities

1. Promote youth choral programming and recruit participants:
 - a. Build and maintain close connections with the Minneapolis Public Schools, including charter schools, parent organizations, and other local organizations that engage youth participants
 - b. Communicate with parents and family members about the goals and progress of the ensembles; provide volunteer opportunities for families
 - c. Devise and employ innovative ways to use social media and/or virtual connections to share information about the programs with prospective singers, their families, and the public
2. Meet with and hear all singers prior to enrollment
3. Select repertoire that:
 - a. Meets the vocal capabilities of the singers and enables vocal technique to improve
 - b. Aligns with the developmental, social, and musical levels of singers
 - c. Addresses the diversity, equity, access, and inclusion goals of the organization

4. Rehearse ensembles weekly and prepare for all performances
5. Plan and execute annual week-long summer choir day camp
6. Work with the Minnesota Chorale's Director of Operations on logistics pertaining to the ensembles, including communication, marketing, purchasing of music and supplies, and rehearsal/performance venues
7. Select and supervise the accompanist and any other necessary music performers or music/non-music partners for the ensembles
8. Attend Minnesota Chorale Artistic Advisory Committee and Diversity, Equity, Access & Inclusivity Committee meetings
9. Participate in annual goal setting and accomplishment reviews
10. Work with Minnesota Chorale Artistic Director on planning and performing joint repertoire or concerts with Minnesota Chorale adult choruses.

Preferred Qualifications

1. Demonstrated excellence in leading inclusive and diverse youth choral ensembles
2. Demonstrated excellence in vocal pedagogy for youth
3. Strong vocal and piano skills
4. Strong organizational skills
5. Strong verbal and written communication skills
6. Ability to recruit for increased diversity in youth ensembles
7. Ability to work within a team leading the Minnesota Chorale's family of choirs
8. Ability to share a personal passion for vocal music-making

Position Details

1. 25% position (10 hours per week, September to May; 2 hours per week, June to August, except as noted in timeline below):
 - a. MYC - 2 contact hours, 5 hours of preparation and administration
 - b. Prelude – 1 contact hour, 2 hours of preparation and administration
2. Salary range: \$15,000-\$20,000 per annum, based on qualifications
3. Reports to the Executive Director with consulting responsibilities to the Artistic Director

Timeline

- Application deadline: January 17, 2023
- February and March, 2023: Interviews and auditions
- April, 2023: candidate selected
- Position start date: July 1, 2023
- Choir day camp: one week in August, 2023; dates to be determined in consultation with successful candidate
- First rehearsal of 2023-24 school year: Monday, September 12, 2023