

RIVER CITY CHORALE
JOB DESCRIPTION-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
MAY 2019, draft as of May 6, 2019

QUALIFICATIONS:

- **EDUCATION:** Bachelors of Music degree is required. Additional training in choral conducting is preferred.
- **EXPERIENCE:** Experience working with adult choral groups and instrumentalists. A broad background of choral music is essential, including classical and modern, sacred and secular genres.

COMPENSATION:

- The Artistic Director shall be compensated by an annual salary set by the Board of Directors.
- The Artistic Director will be compensated for travel expenses to and from rehearsals and performances.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To lead the River City Chorale in preparing and presenting three concert series of music, geared to challenge singers and please audiences each performing year. The performing year is mid-September to early December, and early January to mid-May, for a total of 7-8 performances.
- To select section leaders, who along with the board president, will form a Director's Advisory Group to be responsible for securing venues, auditioning potential new members, auditioning soloists and assisting in music selection.
- To contribute ideas and suggestions to help the River City Chorale further its mission related to sponsoring/helping young artists and youth choirs in the community.
- To encourage additional performances that may be contracted as outreach for community building or as fundraisers. The Artistic Director will make every effort to lead these additional performances. Additional compensation will be given.
- Director will make every effort to be available to lead the RCC on tours, which are offered every two to three years. The cost of the tour package will be covered for the director.

Overview:

- To select and obtain music for each concert season, with guidance from the Director's Advisory Group, that will meet and expand the Chorale's abilities and geared to wide audience appeal. The selection of music should be varied, including sacred and secular, classical and modern.
- To prepare the choir to sing, conducting Monday night rehearsals, 7:00-9:30 p.m. and one Saturday 'retreat' each concert season, during the choir's performing year.
- To hire orchestras or combos when appropriate, as approved by the board of directors.
- To conduct rehearsals of the Chamber Choir (currently every other Monday, 6:00-7:00 pm, or more as needed).
- To advise the Board of Directors on hiring an accompanist if a new one is needed.

- If additional performances are contracted, whether by RCC or Chamber Choir, to rehearse and conduct the performances.

Conducting Skills:

- To listen and demonstrate ability to discern correct pitches, rhythms, phrasing, pronunciation, harmonic presentation and musical interpretation.
- To make rehearsals fun, rewarding and encouraging.
- To give clear direction as to beat, dynamics and interpretation of the music.
- To demonstrate and use "musicality" (the sensitivity to, knowledge of, or talent for music).
- To help the choir singers improve vocal production and musicality.

Organizational Skills:

- To prepare for each rehearsal to ensure appropriate pacing, selection of what to rehearse, and appropriate time for rehearsal of each piece.
- To select and order music in a timely fashion so it can be catalogued and prepared for concerts.
- To use rehearsal time to the fullest.
- To inform accompanist and members of plans, concert order, and expectations for each rehearsal.
- To attend board meetings if requested by the board, and may attend at other times if desired.

Personal Skills:

- To work well with the accompanist.
- To treat people with respect.
- To correct chorale members and instrumentalists without being negative.
- To work cooperatively with the board and committees.
- To demonstrate a good sense of humor and the ability to laugh at him/herself.
- To demonstrate good communications skills. Can and will work with a variety of personalities and skills in a diplomatic way.
- To know members well enough to use their talents effectively.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

- The Artistic Director is hired by the Board, which will offer a yearly contract.
- The Artistic Director is accountable to the Board of Directors and may be asked to attend Board meetings, as needed.
- Annual reviews will be with the Board of Directors, with guidance from Section Leaders.