

Detroit Opera

Title: Conductor for Detroit Opera Chorus (DOYC) Principal Chorus

Department: DOYC Youth Chorus

Classification: Non-Exempt, Hourly, Part-Time

Work Schedule: Mondays, 5:30PM-8:30PM, Occasional Saturdays and performances

Salary: \$1,000 Monthly

How to Apply: Qualified applicants should submit their resume, cover letter, references, and a link to a video of you conducting to employment@detroitopera.org

Position Summary:

-Detroit Opera Youth Chorus:

The Detroit Opera Youth Chorus is an ensemble for Metro Detroit youth interested in vocal musical theatrical art. Accepting children by audition ages 8-18, the choir performs as a separate ensemble and in Detroit Opera productions that require a children's chorus.

The DOYC Preparatory Chorus accepts up to 30 children 8-12 years old and the Principal Chorus accepts up to 50 children 11-18 years old. Children accepted into the DOYC learn the various aspects of opera and voice training, including voice studies, movement, and music theory in a professional environment.

-Detroit Opera Youth Chorus Principal Chorus:

The DOYC Principal Chorus provides a comprehensive program of vocal training and performance protocol to 11-18 years old youth. The chorus rehearses once a week on Mondays from 5:30-8pm and sings a variety of repertoire with and without accompaniment. A portion of the rehearsal is devoted to studying music theory which includes sight reading, terminology, and learning key musical concepts. Choristers explore text and music interpretation and receive exposure to foreign languages through repertoire study. Correct posture, diction, tone placement, and breath management will be taught and developed so that participants can sing accurately with good breath control and resonance throughout the singing ranges. The Principal Chorus participates each season in *A Winter Fantasy* concert during the fall season, and in the spring, presents its own opera, professionally produced on the Detroit Opera main stage. There are occasional performance opportunities throughout the community.

When the Principal Chorus has additional opportunities of singing on Detroit Opera main stage performances, they are trained by the DO Chorus Master and not DOYC Conductor.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Primary Responsibilities:
- Select repertoire suitable for children’s voices and appropriate for training students in choral singing
- Provide instruction and develop the vocal and ensemble skills of young singers
- Incorporate theory instruction. Currently DOYC uses A Young Singer’s Journey
- Plan and execute weekly rehearsals
- Prepare singers to perform at concerts, DOYC opera, and other performances throughout the season
- Conduct all Principal Chorus performances which may include the annual children’s opera
- Keep current with new choral repertoire and collaborate with DOYC staff on programming
- Assist staff with concert-related logistics as needed
- Communicate regularly and clearly with families of singers regarding musical issues
- Communicate with accompanist regarding rehearsals and concerts

Required Qualifications:

- Minimum of Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education; Bachelor of Music Degree in Vocal Performance with classroom teaching experience; or Bachelor of Music Degree in Choral Conducting (Master of Music degree in any of the above programs is preferred.)
- Experience and knowledge in working with the young developing child voice
- Excellent conducting skills
- Proficient in piano
- Capable of teaching music theory and solfege
- Experience in opera and theatrical setting
- Passion for working with children and strong belief in and understanding of the benefits of performance-based music education
- Strong knowledge of vocal production and choral technique
- Knowledge of choral techniques, vocal pedagogy and a broad range of age appropriate choral repertoire for children 8-18 years.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- The ability to work as a member of a team
- Excellent organizational skills and ability to do advanced planning
- Ability to work on Microsoft 365 and Google Docs
- Ability to understand diverse perspectives and acknowledge the significance of differences and complexities in background, cultures, values and viewpoints as the foundation for an inclusive environment.

Physical Demands/Work Environment:

- The person in this position must be able to remain in a stationary position for periods of time.

- The person in this position occasionally moves through the building.
- The person should be prepared to work some nights and weekends.

Application Deadline:

Job openings are posted for a minimum of seven calendar days. This job may be removed from posting boards and filled any time after the minimum posting period has ended. Applications will be reviewed as received throughout the posting period and continue until the position is filled.

Additional Information:

Detroit Opera is committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce and encourages all employees to fully incorporate their diverse backgrounds, skills, and life experiences into their work and towards the fulfillment of the DO mission.

For more information, please visit <https://detroitopera.org/auditions-employment/>