

Director of Johnstown Symphony Orchestra Youth Chorus Inclined to Sing

The Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, an outstanding regional ensemble serving Western Pennsylvania, seeks an individual to lead the youth choruses of *Inclined to Sing*.

The Director of Inclined to Sing will play a key role in the artistic leadership of the JSO, providing musical opportunities and training for young people with a passion for singing, and growing an already thriving program.

The successful candidate will have great musical skills, vocal pedagogy and technique, extensive experience working with children ages 7-12, a passion for teaching, a magnetic leadership capacity, and the ability to work with and administrate a program with a diverse group of parents and students.

Inclined to Sing was established in 2001 to provide children of the area a child-centerer singing experience performing high quality literature. Two choirs support age-appropriate learning and singing challenges. The group usually performs two concerts per season with additional appearances at community events. Inclined to Sing regularly performs with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra.

Founded in 1929, the JSO has enhanced the cultural environment of Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands for more than 90 years. In addition to lively classical, modern and popular music performances throughout the year, the JSO promotes music education for local youth and partners with local business and community groups in service to our community.

The Director of Inclined to Sing will report artistically to the Music Director and administratively to the Executive Director.

Opportunities

The Johnstown Symphony Orchestra is on the move and is poised for a period of growth. The Board is just completing a strategic planning process and has identified four priorities for the next three to five years. With an ongoing emphasis on education, Inclined to Sing is a crucial part of that ongoing growth and success.

Primary responsibilities

The Director of Inclined to Sing will:

- Lead rehearsals weekly (currently Tuesday afternoons 4-5pm and 5-6:30)
- Develop musical skills with children of all ages within the program
- Plan concerts and repertoire in coordination with the Music Director and Executive Director of the JSO
- Recruit new members, growing both the Apprentice Choir and Concert Choirs of ITS
- Perform at community events, retirement communities, schools, and elsewhere

- Coordinate with school music programs
- Create new performance opportunities
- Create fundraising opportunities (similar to JSYO's Notes Campaign)
- Develop relationships with parents who support activities of the chorus
- Manage operations of the children's chorus to a budget to be determined at the outset of each season
- Take the lead in identifying and work with JSO staff to secure effective rehearsal space

Key Colleagues

James Blachly, Music Director

Jessica Satava, Executive Director

Jeffrey Webb, Director of Johnstown Symphony Chorus

David Anderson, Director of Johnstown Symphony Youth Orchestra

Beth Pile, Director of Community Strings

Qualifications

The ideal candidate for the position of Director of Inclined to Sing should have

- Demonstrated experience in music education, particular voice and chorus
- Excellent teaching capacity and musical training
- Knowledge of the developing child voice and children's choral literature
- Administrative experience running a youth choral program
- Excellent writing and public speaking skills
- Ability to market and promote within the community

A bachelor's degree is required for this position with a minimum of 5 years experience in the field. A master's degree is preferred. Must have clearances to work with children.

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/default.aspx>

Salary and Benefits

The Johnstown Symphony Orchestra offers a competitive compensation package.

Location

In addition to running weekly rehearsals, the ability to be a presence in the Johnstown region is required.

Diversity and inclusion

The Johnstown Symphony Orchestra is committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in all areas of its work, including their artistic and education programs, recruitment of staff and volunteers, and the composition of their Board of Trustees.

The JSO provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, national



origin, age, marital status, handicap or disability, or status as a Vietnam-era or special disabled veteran in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. In addition, the Orchestra complies with applicable state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including but not limited to, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall and transfer, leaves of absence, compensation, and training.

Physical Requirements and Work Environment

- This position requires the manual dexterity to conduct and to accompany when an accompanist is not available.
- Must have and maintain a valid Driver's License and have own transportation
- This person must speak clearly using the English language to accurately convey information
- Generally good working conditions with little or no exposure to extremes in noises, temperature
- Little or no safety or health hazards
- Minimal lifting or climbing
- Work performed in an office setting as applicable determined by activities

Schedule and Hours

This position requires attendance at frequent evening and weekend events, and may require regional travel.

Application

All applications must be accompanied by a cover letter, two references, and a professional résumé. If possible, please include a video link conducting and/or a rehearsal with young people.

Review of applications will begin immediately and will be accepted until 12:00pm on July 12.

Please list availability for a live audition from 3-7pm on the following dates:

July 21, 22

July 28, 29

Applications should be sent to info@johnstownsymphony.org.

Questions regarding applications should be directed to JSO Music Director James Blachly at jblachly@johnstownsymphony.org.

All inquiries will be held in confidence

