

Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra Association  
JOB DESCRIPTION: Conductor of Philharmonia  
December 2011  
Reports To: Executive Director

The Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra Association's Youth Orchestras program is currently looking for a conductor to provide direction and leadership as the conductor of Philharmonia, our beginning all-strings orchestra.

Statement of the Job: Responsible for leading Philharmonia and providing artistic leadership. He or she will ensure the highest quality youth orchestra experience and instruction for children in grades 6-9, support parent involvement and work closely with teaching artists and the Director of Youth & Education and Executive Director. The conductor for Philharmonia must represent and communicate the organization's values for the FVSOA Youth Orchestras program. This person will carry out all required duties in a manner consistent with the policies, procedures, goals and objectives established by the Board of Directors.

The FVS Youth Orchestras program is the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra Association's initiative to provide exceptional instrumental and orchestral education to students in the greater Fox Valley region. This person will conduct the introductory ensemble, Philharmonia, an audition-based all-strings orchestra. This orchestra currently consists of about 40 middle school level students. The orchestra meets the first Sunday after Labor Day for 10 weeks for 1.75 hours. The second semester begins the first Sunday after New Year's Day for 10 weeks. Participants come mainly from within a 20-30 mile radius of Appleton and represent public, private and charter schools in Appleton, Kaukauna, Neenah, Menasha and beyond.

#### Essential Functions

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Leading the audition-based string orchestra (1.75 hour rehearsal, 20 week schedule on Sundays).
- Additional hours per week of preparation and communication with Director of Youth & Education. This includes recruitment of new students to the program.
- Preparing two (2) concerts per year including the fall and spring concerts in addition to a bi-annual day tour in spring visiting Fox Cities area businesses and schools.
- Selecting repertoire for Philharmonia and working with the conductors of the Concert Orchestra and Youth Orchestra to plan a comprehensive curriculum.
- Collaborating with the Director of Youth & Education in program design elements such as curriculum, pedagogy, concerts, special guest artist visits, sectional coach visits, tours and other events/projects related to the Youth Orchestras program.
- Communicating in a timely manner with the Director of Youth & Education about weekly orchestra rehearsals.
- Work with the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra Association's Executive Director and its' Board of Directors.
- Attend monthly or bi-monthly Education Committee meetings.
- Adhere to the Youth Orchestras budget as set forth by the Executive Director.
- Act as an adjudicator for the two days of annual spring auditions.

Requirements:

- Demonstrated excellent musicianship and artistry as a conductor and educator.
- A minimum of two (2) years professional experience working in the field of arts education.
- A four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent required.
- A strong understanding of string orchestra repertoire (grades 6-9), instrumental curriculum and teaching artist pedagogy.
- Must have a working knowledge of all string instruments and techniques.
- Ability to work effectively with a diverse team on curriculum, program and concert design.
- Ability to effectively communicate with multiple constituent groups including the general public, public and private music instructors, sectional coaches, students, parents and all Youth Orchestras conductors and staff.
- Ability to reflect FVS Youth Orchestras values of excellence, community and creativity.
- Interest and ability to be a motivational mentor/role model for students, parents, conductors of FVS YO and sectional coaches.

#### An Equal Opportunity Employer

It is the policy of the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra Association to provide all persons with equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, age or veteran status.