

SAN DIEGO YOUTH SYMPHONY AND CONSERVATORY

Job Title: Concert Winds Conductor
Reports to: Associate Director of Conservatory Programs
Status: Part-time, non exempt

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory (SDYS)'s mission is to instill excellence in the musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences. SDYS has a 71-year history of setting the region's highest standards for excellence in music education. We have seen that student adherence to high standards, self-discipline, and teamwork required for musical success provide unparalleled training for future success in any field or educational path. As a result, SDYS is devoted to being a catalyst for community investment in student achievement through music.

Concert Winds is an ensemble in SDYS' Showcase Program featuring our intermediate-level woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians while they continue to develop ensemble skills and instrument technique. Wind ensemble literature focuses on traditional band and modern contemporary works. Musicians gain experience in articulation, intonation, rhythm, tone production, and dynamics in an ensemble setting. Musicians also advance important concepts of technique, articulation, tone production, intonation, balance, and blend. Students are approximately ages 10-19 in Concert Winds; rehearsals take place on Saturday afternoons in Balboa Park.

The Concert Winds Conductor is responsible to the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs for the auditions, rehearsals, recruitment, and concert performances of the ensemble. Key responsibilities include the following:

Artistic Responsibilities

- Design and implement appropriate audition requirements for Concert Winds in consultation with the Music Director and the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs to align with SDYS' aspirational ensemble design.
- Audition potential and current students for accurate placement in Concert Winds as scheduled.
- In accordance with SDYS' sequential and educational standards, select repertoire that is appropriate for the level of ensembles according to the SDYS Repertoire Progression Template. The repertoire should inspire students to achieve their maximum potential and foster the growth of their technical ability and musicality.
- Work with the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs to evaluate consistent ensemble artistic growth, concert repertoire readiness, and accurate performance durations for upcoming concerts.
- Conduct all rehearsals for the ensembles according to the season calendar and work with instrument coaches on regular sectionals (if applicable).

- Work with Percussion Coach to instruct percussion students and lead sectionals when needed.
- Conduct all concert performances according to the season calendar.
- Attend all conductor meetings and maintain a positive working relationship with the Music Director and the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs.
- Collaborate with the administrative team to balance ensemble instrumentation by identifying students for cross-instrument training.
- Serve as a substitute conductor for other ensembles when available and as requested.

Administrative Responsibilities

- Communicate with the Music Librarian to request music purchases for the ensemble within the designated budget, ordering timelines, and protocols.
- Work with the Production and Operations Manager regarding any rehearsal and concert set-up requirements, and populate percussion riders (with help from Percussion Coach), instrument or equipment repairs/purchases, and rehearsal/concert/event timelines.
- Communicate with the Conservatory Program Coordinator regarding student attendance issues.
- Work with the Conservatory Program Coordinator to provide consistent and clear communication with students and parents regarding schedules, auditions, upcoming events and other important information.
- Set the standard for all students and families regarding attendance, punctuality, and dress at all rehearsals, sound checks, and concerts.
- Refer to the Conductors' Handbook for resources, protocols, procedures, and direct questions or concerns to the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs.
- Work with the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs to familiarize policies, timelines, and other important program information in the Showcase Musicians' Handbook.

Citizenship Responsibilities

- Play a vital and supporting role as an artistic liaison to the community and to the ensemble's students and parents. Encourage student attendance at appropriate concerts and musical events both within SDYS and the community as a whole that do not conflict with SDYS activities.
- Proactive engagement and recruitment of new students from the community for all ensembles in SDYS.
- Recommend and participate in approved community outreach events or performances in consultation with the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs.
- Encourage students to advance through the sequential structure of ensembles within SDYS as their skills and social development merit.
- Create a consistent, positive rehearsal environment with protocols and expectations clearly outlined for students to foster appropriate behavior and citizenship for ensemble learning.

- Pursue outside professional development that does not conflict with SDYS activities, such as conducting workshops, judging competitions, and guest conducting.

Other duties as assigned by the Associate Director of Conservatory Programs.

Qualifications:

- Experience in ensemble conducting
- Ensemble teaching experience and/or training in wind and or concert band instruction, preferably with middle school students
- Outstanding musical skill on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument
- Culturally sensitive
- Role model to students as a musician, mentor and citizen
- Ability to work well with a team that is passionate about making music education accessible and affordable for all

Hours of this position are most Saturdays from 3:15-5:15pm September to June plus some Sundays and additional audition dates. We will begin reviewing applications on April 18, 2017. To apply, please send an email with a current resume and thoughtful cover letter to hr@sdys.org.