

SAN DIEGO YOUTH SYMPHONY AND CONSERVATORY

Job Opening: Community Teaching Artist

Reports to: Community Opus Program Manager

Employment Status: Part-time, non-exempt

About This Position:

The Teaching Artists on the Community Program team teach group sectionals and/or conduct and teach full ensembles, primarily to beginner and intermediate musicians. Our team builds musical skills, teaches fundamentals, brings out creativity, serves as mentors and role models, and builds community. We do not hire Teaching Artists to just teach music.

Artistic Responsibilities:

- Teach sectionals or conduct full ensembles
- Implement and teach appropriate pedagogy aligned with Opus benchmarks; pace lessons to meet student needs.
- Inspire musicians through selecting and using great literature and etudes.
- Create a consistent, positive rehearsal environment with procedures and expectations.

Administrative Responsibilities:

- Go through proper protocol for fingerprinting at the district and county offices.
- Arrive on time and prepared.
- Learn and use the first names of your musicians and their families.
- Actively supervise students; take and record student attendance at each rehearsal.

Citizenship Responsibilities:

- Keep the “Artist” in the title “Teaching Artist” by maintaining and growing your own personal performance skills and taking advantage of performance opportunities.
- Foster student participation in school music programs.
- Form, build, and maintain relationships with all Opus stakeholders.

Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Strong musical skills on a string or wind instrument
- Group lesson or full ensemble teaching experience
- Culturally sensitive
- Flexibility and problem solving skills for situations that change or do not go as planned
- Ability to be a team player and enhance a team that is passionate about making music education accessible and affordable for all youth

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience teaching diverse learners beginning music skills, preferably with elementary school students
- Bilingual (Spanish)

A Few Benefits of Being on the Team:

- Collaboration with other musicians on the Teaching Artist team
- Professional development opportunities
- Free admission to Balboa Park museums (including the San Diego Zoo) per the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership.
- Opportunities for additional work within the SDYS organization

Hours of Employment:

Vary, based on position. Hours could include:

- Monday 3:15-5:45 p.m. and Wednesday 3:15-6:15 at an elementary school in Chula Vista.
- Tuesday 3:15-5:45 p.m. and Thursday 3:15-6:15 at an elementary school in Chula Vista.
- Additional time after 5:45 p.m. or on Friday afternoons or evenings may be possible.

Does this sound like you? If so, we'd love to meet you. Email your resume and a thoughtful cover letter to hr@sdys.org.

We are always collecting resumes of great Teaching Artists. We have immediate openings for:

- Violin Teaching Artist
- Beginning Elementary School String Conductor

About the San Diego Youth Symphony and Community Opus Project:

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. We do this through both our traditional youth symphony programming (Conservatory Programs) and our neighborhood-centered programming (Community Programs). We know firsthand that education, social, community, and personal transformations happen when music is taught collaboratively and with excellence. We are adding more of that to the world.

SDYS' vision is that music education is accessible and affordable for all youth in San Diego. Our Community Programs use el Sistema-inspired practices as we partner with local school districts and education organizations to make this vision a reality. Through our partnership with the Chula Vista Elementary School District, in just five years, 45 schools (and 29,000 students) went from having no credentialed arts teachers to now having at least one credentialed arts teacher teaching at all schools! We intentionally rally families and school leaders behind this mission to make in-school music education a reality for all students.

SDYS offers after-school, instrumental music programs that aim to teach fundamental ensemble-based music classes. Opus musicians are enrolled in introductory (Esperanza), beginner (Alegria), advanced beginner (Festejo) and intermediate string and wind ensembles.