



Choir Assistant

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title:	Choir Assistant
Classification:	Independent Contractor
Supervised by:	Director of Educational Programming
Hours:	Approximately 6-10 hours per week* (90 day probation period) <i>*Variability of hours depends upon final schedule</i>
Teaching Artist Rate:	TBD. Per class rate.
Start Date:	Teaching Artist Training Week begins August 22 nd to August 26 th Liberty City – Classes start on August 22 nd , 2016 Doral, Little Haiti, Little Havana - Classes start on September 6 th , 2016
Inquiry:	Please send your resume and cover letter to steven@miamimusicproject.org ; Please use the words “Choir Assistant” in the subject line. <i>Teaching interviews will be held in Miami, FL during the month of August 2016</i>

Organization and Program Overview:

Miami Music Project (MMP) uses music as a tool for social transformation, empowering children to acquire values and achieve their full potential, positively affecting society, through the study and practice of music. Miami Music Project is a Florida-based non-profit education and arts-organization founded by world-renowned conductor James Judd in 2008. In 2010, Miami Music Project developed and implemented its core music education program modeled after the El Sistema philosophy to make classical music training available to all, especially those of low socio-economic status.

Designed as an intensive, tuition-free, after-school music program, MMP provides hundreds of children from at-risk demographics with a fully integrated music curriculum, excellent training from professional musicians and music educators, and opportunities for leadership and social development. The program builds the transferable practical skills needed to improve academic motivation, classroom success and social preparedness, and creates new avenues of cultural awareness in the city’s most vulnerable communities. Ultimately, by enriching the lives of individual children and creating a network of stand-alone orchestras in Greater Miami’s most underserved communities, the program seeks to create social change within the communities served.

Miami Music Project currently serves a total of 450 students participating across four community chapters located in under-served immigrant communities (Little Haiti, Doral, Liberty City, and Little Havana) with distinct populations - predominantly African American and Hispanic. MMP students train after-school with lessons taught by a team of professional musicians—Teaching Artists—following the El Sistema philosophy. Additionally, students participate in ensemble-based community performances throughout the school year. The chapters work in harmony to further a shared vision, goals, curriculum, repertoire and experiences.

Position Summary:

Choir Conductor is responsible for coaching beginning/intermediate vocal pedagogy and music theory at assigned chapter(s). He or she will ensure the highest quality choral experience for students, implement curriculum and pedagogy set by MMP and in collaboration with the Director of Educational Programming and other music faculty to support each child holistically. He or she will be an advocate of the MMP philosophy and help facilitate community and family involvement.

MMP's curriculum is inspired by El Sistema philosophy and focused on cultivating a caring, cooperative and fun community. Curriculum will include: chorus, early childhood music pedagogy, music language and vocal instruction. The program is free to all participating students as long as they uphold the agreement to take care of the instrument, practice and participate in programming. Classes take place on weekdays. Numerous performances may take place during weekends and participation will be required.

Essential Functions:

- Assist the Choir Teaching Artist in beginning/intermediate/advanced group(s) as designated chapter locations,
- Ensure the utmost safety and security of each child of the program while working, especially students in his/her care at all times, in and out of the classroom,
- Assist the Choir Conductor and Director of Educational Programming in selecting repertoire, implementing the curriculum, pedagogy and culture inspired by the ideals of *El Sistema*,
- Communicate consistently with staff, fellow teaching artists, parents and students in order to serve and support each class, child and family holistically,

In addition to the above responsibilities, Teaching Artists will perform other similar and related duties, as directed by MMP staff, not requiring materially different qualifications from those described above.

Qualifications and desired skills include:

- Strong commitment to El Sistema philosophy and mission of the Miami Music Project,
- Bachelor's degree or higher in music field, a degree in music education is a plus,
- A high level of musicianship and artistry as a teacher,
- Experience teaching choir to large groups of elementary-age students,
- The willingness to teach with a focus on the creative learning process, emphasizing striving over achieving,
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community and the willingness to collaborate with and learn from one's colleagues,
- Strong knowledge of choral repertoire, curriculum and standard music pedagogy (Kodaly, Suzuki, etc.) with certification preferred,
- Experience working with children from diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds,
- Ability to work under frequent observation,
- Interest and ability to be a motivational mentor and role model for students, parents, and peers as an artist, teacher and citizen,
- Bilingual in English and Spanish and/or Haitian-Creole a plus.

Upon hiring, a Criminal Background check, Miami-Dade County Public Schools fingerprinting (level 2 screening), First Aid Certification, and CPR Certification will be required of the candidate prior to working within public school grounds (costs will be reimbursed by MMP).

TO APPLY:

Send your Resume AND Cover Letter to: steven@miamimusicproject.org

Use the words "Choir Assistant" in the subject line.