

Job Opening: Youth Chorus Director for the Lebanon County Choral Society, June 4, 2023

Overview:

The Lebanon County Choral Society was founded in 1899 and has been dedicated to bringing quality choral music to the Lebanon Valley ever since. Masterworks are a regular feature of the repertoire and have included Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Vaughan Williams's *Dona Nobis Pacem*, and many others. The Society produces two concerts a year, one in December and the other in May.

In 2011, LCCS added a children's chorus and a youth chorus to its educational outreach program. These ensembles were later merged and are now known as the Youth Chorus of the Lebanon County Choral Society, welcoming students in grades 3-8. Since its inception, the ensemble has maintained a paid director and accompanist, as well as a coordinator (a volunteer position).

Mission:

The Youth Chorus of the Lebanon County Choral Society provides quality music education through the preparation and performance of pieces in the Society's seasonal concerts, as well as at special programs of their own. Students are exposed to high quality repertoire, in a variety of languages, with diverse accompaniments. In addition, the ensemble maintains a focus on healthy, age-appropriate vocal technique, poise and professionalism in performance, and a generous measure of youthful fun. The goal is to make the experience a welcome addition to the school music programs in the area, as well as to provide a choral experience to students without access to school ensembles.

Qualifications:

- A degree in music, or equivalent training and experience, is required.
- Knowledge of and respect for traditional choral literature is required.
- Experience in choral music—particularly with young singers—is strongly preferred, as is a proven record with recruitment and retention of participants.
- A satisfactory report of criminal history from the Pennsylvania State Police and a Child Abuse History certification from the Department of Human Services, or a willingness to obtain these before beginning the position, is required.

Expectations:

- In collaboration with the Youth Chorus coordinator, recruit young singers for the organization.
- Select youth repertoire based on themes chosen by the artistic director and in collaboration with the artistic director. Repertoire typically includes a range of difficulty and seriousness to maintain singers' engagement and enjoyment. Typically, four pieces are performed at the main concert and additional repertoire is prepared for stand-alone programs—usually 30-45 minutes total—each semester.
- Plan, organize, and lead a one-day music clinic at a church in Lebanon, with the help of parent and LCCS volunteers. This is typically held on a weekday in August.
- Prepare and lead weekly rehearsals. The Youth Chorus currently rehearses from 5:30 to 6:30 pm on Mondays from September to December and February to May; there may be some flexibility in the exact rehearsal time. Rehearsals are held at Hebron UM Church, Lebanon.
- Prepare and lead the Youth Chorus in dress rehearsals and concerts. These are usually the second weekend in December and the third weekend in May. Dress rehearsals are on Saturday mornings and concerts are Sundays at 3 pm.
- Prepare and lead approximately one 30-to-45-minute Youth Chorus concert per semester. Repertoire includes pieces performed at the main concert.
- Attend board meetings and present a Youth Chorus director's report. Board meetings are generally held no more than monthly during the season and once over the summer.
- Encourage student and parent participation in fundraising and volunteering as needed.
- With the help of the business manager and the Youth Chorus coordinator, seek out venues for spring and fall Youth Chorus concerts.
- Meet deadlines for singer names, concert order, etc., for concert programs as set by the business manager.
- Collaborate with the Youth Chorus coordinator, treasurer, and business manager for advertising and other administrative needs of the Youth Chorus.

Application:

Applicants are asked to submit:

- a letter of interest
- a resume

- optional: The titles and composers/arrangers of 1 to 3 pieces of youth repertoire, congruent with the theme “The Holly and the Ivy—Holiday Selections of Joy and Reflection.”

Please email applications to Sean Hackett at adultchoruslccs@gmail.com.

Compensation: \$50 per service. Please note that this is a contracted (1099) position.

Deadline for Applications: open until filled