

Apprentice Conductor

Location: Ottawa, ON, Canada

Term: September 2026 – May 2027

Pay: \$1,500 Honorarium

Application Deadline: March 2nd, 2026

Purpose/Mandate of Apprentice Conductor Program

The Ewashko Singers' Apprentice Conductor Program is designed to provide a prospective choral conductor at the beginning of their career with the valuable experience of working with a semi-professional choir and with additional one-on-one mentoring, under the supervision of Artistic Director Laurence Ewashko.

Duties

The Apprentice Conductor will

- be a singing member of Ewashko Singers (S, A, T or B) and attend all rehearsals (Monday evenings from 7 to 9:30 plus a few additional dates according to the schedule)
- lead a portion of some rehearsals
- take some sectional rehearsals
- assist Artistic Director with preparing the choir for engagements with other arts organizations
- conduct rehearsal if Artistic Director is unavailable, when ready
- be hired to accompany rehearsal if accompanist unavailable (depending on keyboard skills)
- attend Ewashko Singers board meetings as required

Training and Mentoring

In addition to the training provided at regular rehearsals, the Apprentice Conductor will

- receive regular one-on-one mentoring sessions with Laurence Ewashko
- be a member-at-large of the Ewashko Singers' Board of Directors and attend some board meetings to become familiar with the inner working of a choir
- potentially be given opportunities to conduct the choir in concert for specific selections
- attend auditions for choristers and learn what to look for in prospective choral singers

Qualifications

- Undergraduate degree in music (minimum) or equivalent experience
- Openness and willingness to learn
- Basic keyboard skills (minimum)
- Language skills (German, French, English, Italian, Latin)
- Resides within the National Capital Region

Additional Valued Attributes

- Teaching experience
- Arts Administration experience

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

Ewashko Singers is committed to diversity within its community and encourages and welcomes applications from racialized persons, persons of colour, women, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, 2SLGBTQI+ persons, and others.

Application Process

Please submit the following by email to infoewashkosingers@gmail.com with Subject line "Apprentice Conductor Program" before the application deadline:

- CV
- Cover Letter including a discussion of career aspirations: (e.g. music teacher, choir conductor...)
- References
- Audio or Video showing musical and conducting attributes (2 pieces)

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an Ewashko Singers rehearsal and work with the choir. The successful candidate will be chosen before the end of the 2025-2026 season.