

Rochester Gay Men's Chorus

Job Description:	PRINCIPAL PIANIST
Supervised by:	Artistic Director
Purpose of Position:	To provide piano accompaniment for chorus rehearsals and concerts, and administrative tasks to assist the rehearsal process.
Time Commitment:	Approximately five hours per week
Paid Position Status:	Part-Time Staff Employee. Contract renewed annually
Chorus Mission:	The Rochester Gay Men's Chorus creates social change through excellence in the choral arts.

The Principal Pianist reports to the Artistic Director. This position is responsible for accompanying the Rochester Gay Men's Chorus (RGMC) on piano and other instruments as required at all rehearsals and performances. The Principal Pianist is responsible for the quality and professionalism of their performance contributions, and is expected to become a significant participant in the RGMC. For the purpose of this job description, the word "accompany" indicates a musical accompaniment on a piano.

Responsibilities include:

The Principal Pianist for the Chorus is responsible for the following duties:

1. Accompany all Chorus rehearsals. This will include but is not limited to playing parts, possibly open score, as well as accompaniments, depending on the needs of the conductor, within the following capacities:
 - Provide piano accompaniment for all rehearsals
 - Thursday evening rehearsals, from 7 – 9:30 pm, weekly.
 - At least one Saturday Retreat rehearsal per concert cycle.
 - 2-4 rehearsals with soloists or small ensembles in preparation for each concert.
 - At least one dress/tech rehearsal per concert cycle.
 - Lead and/or accompany a minimum of one sectional per section per concert cycle
2. Accompany Chorus performances.
 - Three major concerts in fall, winter and spring, up to three performances and a dress rehearsal per concert.
 - Up to 6-8 additional community performances per year.
3. Meetings and communication
 - Participate as needed or desired as a member of the Music Committee (approximately 8 meetings per year).
 - Meet as needed with the Artistic Director
4. Provide other assistance as requested and agreed to.

Compensation:

Compensation for the Principal Pianist is determined through an agreed-upon schedule of remuneration, as approved by the RGMC Board of Directors.

Education and Experience:

- A bachelor level degree in Piano, or equivalent training and experience.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- A knowledge of common choral music rehearsal practices,
- Functional knowledge of music theory, musical terms, signs, and abbreviations.
- The skills necessary to accompany choirs, soloists and small ensembles.
- Advanced piano skills
- The ability to sight-read and prepare complex musical scores for performances
- Ability to follow oral and written instructions
- Ability to establish and maintain interpersonal relationships using tact, patience and courtesy
- Must have the ability to work cooperatively with others.

Preferred Qualifications:

- A knowledge of proper diction
- An understanding of foreign languages in relation to musical pieces.
- Advanced knowledge of music theory, musical terms, signs, and abbreviations.
- Proficiency in vocal techniques and vocal coaching.
- The ability to assist the Artistic Director in teaching vocal music interpretation if needed.

Physical Requirements:

- Able to sit at the piano for long periods of time, and occasionally stand
- Able to set-up the work space, chairs, piano bench and push or pull a piano.
- Requires some repetitive twisting/pressure involving wrists/hands, use of arms, hands and shoulders.
- Able to see small details
- Able to tolerate exposure to loud noise (e.g. chorus members, music.)
- Able to follow direction from the Artistic Director.
- Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential tasks.

Special Requirements:

The ability to travel short distances may be required

Note

This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive. Employee may perform other related duties as requested to meet the ongoing needs of the organization.