

Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies – Conductor Opening

Position: **GTCYS Concertino East Conductor**
Reports to: Artistic Director
Status: Part-time
Start Date: August 2020

About Concertino

Concertino is GTCYS' second full orchestra level with strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion. Students develop rehearsal, listening, and ensemble skills, while developing musical elements of style and phrasing. Concertino performs arrangements and original educational repertoire for youth orchestra and arrangements of classic symphonic repertoire, generally at difficulty levels III – III 1/2. Concertino string players typically have 4-7 years' experience, and woodwinds, brass, percussion have played their instruments for 2-4 years. Students are typically in grades 7 – 9, with some younger and older. GTCYS' orchestras, including Concertino East, are increasing in racial and ethnic diversity, especially students from Latinx/Hispanic and African American communities. A new addition in fall 2020, Concertino East will serve musicians in the east metro and parallel Concertino West, becoming GTCYS' tenth school-year orchestra. The Concertino East conductor is responsible for leading the orchestra to develop students' orchestral skills, while instilling lifelong values such as discipline, teamwork, and service. The conductor will be a role model for students and a member of GTCYS' esteemed Artistic Team comprised of nine conductors. GTCYS is dedicated to breaking down barriers, connecting with underrepresented students in meaningful ways, and including diverse perspectives in our programming. To help our team carry out this important work, we are seeking a conductor with direct experience working with this ability/age level and with different racial and ethnic communities to foster a diverse and inclusive learning environment.

About the Role

The ideal candidate would be an active member of the instrumental music education and/or performing community with 5+ years of direct experience working with middle school ensembles. She/he/they would bring to GTCYS an authentic passion for orchestral music education, the skill and energy to inspire young students to a high artistic level, a commitment to access and inclusion, ability to creatively contribute to GTCYS' artistic vision, and a desire to commit to the position for at least 3 years.

Responsibilities

- Conduct all Concertino East activities, including rehearsals (1.75 hour weekly rehearsals in the east metro, September through May; weekday evening tbd), retreats and up to six performances a year, including at Orchestra Hall
- Teach, motivate, and communicate with students in a clear, positive, and respectful manner
- Serve as a positive role model for students and proactively work to create an inclusive, equitable, and respectful environment for students and parents/guardians
- Select repertoire and communicate with GTCYS' music librarian regarding bowings, arrangements, etc.
- Plan an annual special artistic project for the orchestra
- Communicate rehearsal goals to sectional coaches in advance
- Write weekly rehearsal follow-up e-mails to students
- Oversee the Concertino Rehearsal Assistant who manages on-site logistics (set up, attendance, etc.)

- Communicate and work collaboratively with GTCYS' administrative staff to plan Concertino's schedule of activities (sectionals, concerts, retreats, special projects, social activities, leadership opportunities)
- Assist with auditions and placement of GTCYS students, including serving as an audition judge (spring, August, December)
- Actively assist with recruitment of new GTCYS members by distributing brochures, encouraging students to participate, connecting with teachers, and serving as a guest clinician in schools as your schedule permits
- Maintain and enhance communication with area instrumental music teachers, parents and other members of the community with an eye towards mutual professional development, problem solving, and maintaining and heightening GTCYS' profile in the music education community
- Serve as a member of the Artistic Team; attend monthly conductor meetings and annual retreat
- Understand and adhere to GTCYS' Policies and Procedures as set forth in the Student Handbook, in the Child Protection Policy and/or by the Executive and Artistic Directors

Qualifications

- Master's degree preferred in music education, conducting, and/or performance, or comparable experience
- 5+ years of teaching and/or conducting experience with middle school or high school students in an educational and large ensemble setting
- Ability to effectively conduct, teach, inspire, and motivate young students ages 11 – 15 in a full orchestra
- Aptitude for teaching all orchestral instruments, including strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion
- Excellent communication skills
- Nurturing persona and belief in a student-centric approach
- Ability to work flexibly and creatively with fellow conductors, rehearsal assistants, staff, parents, and volunteers
- Availability to attend evening and weekend activities including two orchestra retreats, auditions and concerts, plus monthly conductor meetings and annual retreat
- Ability to successfully pass a criminal background check

GTCYS is dedicated to building an inclusive, culturally diverse, and equitable environment. We encourage qualified applicants to apply, especially applicants of color and those with experience working with underrepresented communities underrepresented in orchestral music.

To Apply

Email a cover letter, resume, and names of three professional references to Executive Director Megen Balda at megen@gtcys.org. Application deadline is January 14, 2020. The selection process will include screening interviews, in-person interviews, teaching observations, and an in-person audition with Concertino. A final decision will be made by April 2020. Learn more about GTCYS at www.gtcys.org.

December 2019