

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Music Director

The Music Director is responsible for the artistic planning and performance of the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra. He/She exercises authority over artistic matters in close cooperation with the Executive Director and members of the Board. The Music Director will work within the limits established by the orchestra's budget, its bylaws, its internal policies and the musicians' union agreement. The Music Director will work with the board leadership and Executive Director to establish and articulate an artistic vision for the orchestra. This vision should guide the artistic programming and specific activities in which he/she and the musicians engage. This vision should inform the Music Director's three principal areas of activity:

Monitoring and developing the overall artistic quality of the orchestra personnel.

Specifically, he or she will:

- Conduct auditions and hire new musicians
- Maintain records of players with performance issues and provide specific actionable feedback
- Dismiss players who have not responded to feedback or have otherwise significantly compromised the artistic quality of the orchestra
- Determine the discretionary seating of auditioned musicians and substitutes musicians in consultation with section principals
- Perform all such activities within the parameters of the Musicians Agreement
- Advise the Executive Director and board of musical personnel issues as they arise
- Suggest to the Executive Director any modifications to the musician's agreement which may improve the quality of the orchestra

Leading the collaborative process of season planning and execution with the Executive Director. The concert season may include subscription concerts, education concerts and programs, contracted engagements, special events, chamber concerts, pops concerts, and any other performances by the orchestra or under its aegis.

He or she will:

- Select music to be performed at concerts that he/she is to conduct
- Determine the rehearsal schedule required to adequately prepare programs
- Advise the Executive Director in the selection of guest conductors and soloists
- Providing guests conductors and soloists with advice concerning repertoire, rehearsal needs and orchestra personnel concerns
- Serve as the orchestra's principal conductor

Developing and maintaining a strong presence in the orchestra and the communities it serves to benefit all of the organization's activities. He or she will:

- Represent and speak on behalf of the organization in the media, and at concerts, public events and civic functions
- Meet with and assist in donor cultivation activities
- Working with community educators and those serving to promote the orchestra's education programs
- Encourage and acknowledge the activities of volunteers
- Work with the leadership of collaborative cultural organizations
- Attend the organization's board and/or committee meetings as requested

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate for the position of Music Director will possess many if not all of the following qualities:

- The ability to communicate a clear artistic vision which inspires others to engage with the orchestra
- Strong musical and conducting skills which integrate a thorough understanding of orchestral repertoire and familiarity with stylistic performance requirements of symphonic music, choral music, music for chamber orchestra and other styles which may interest the region's audiences
- Effective and efficient rehearsal technique that emphasizes a working collaboratively with musicians
- A temperament and demonstrated ability to collaborate with a board of directors, management, volunteers and musicians of an orchestra to create an artistically and financially robust organization
- A desire to balance tradition with new programming ideas
- An understanding of marketing needs/effort and a willingness to provide information which supports
- An enthusiasm for speaking at and interacting with others at donor functions, internal and community meetings, and collaborations with civic organizations, arts & educational institutions
- Confidence with public speaking, with large groups and in small settings
- The ability to manage situations of disagreement or conflict with maturity and diplomacy
- Mastery of one or more instruments and experience as a solo performer
- The ability to assess strengths and weaknesses of artistic personnel
- A proactive and flexible approach to planning and problem solving
- While residency is not required, significant local, non-conducting time is expected.

SALARY/BENEFITS

Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits are negotiable.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Deadline: Applications should be received by May 30, 2015
Preference will be given to applications received by May 15, 2015

Materials: Resume and references required of all applicants.
Letters of recommendation are welcome.
No video or audio should be included with your initial application, please.

Applications may be delivered by email to jobs@ipomusic.org

Or mailed to: Henry Fogel, Artistic Consultant
c/o Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra
377 Artists Walk
Park Forest, IL 60466

If your resume is included as an attachment to an email, please also provide your name, mailing address, phone number and email address in the body of the email message. The subject header should read "Music Director Search" followed by your name in parentheses, i.e. Music Director Search (John Doe). The orchestra will provide confirmation of receipt of applications within 2-3 weeks. Candidate

conducting assignments will be scheduled for the 2016-17 Season with anticipated selection of a Music Director by the 2017-18 Season.

ABOUT THE ILLINOIS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

The mission of the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra is to provide vibrant, professional, orchestral music of beauty and excellence to the diverse communities of the Chicago Southland region; to stimulate appreciation for the musical performing arts; and to become an indispensable creative resource for the community.

Founded in 1978 in the Village of Park Forest, the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra is now a 69-member professional ensemble, the largest performing arts organization in the Chicago Southland. From October through May, the orchestra serves audiences from over 68 south and southwest suburbs, Chicago, and Northwest Indiana with a seven-concert Saturday evening series at the 900-seat Lincoln-Way North Performing Arts Center in Frankfort, Illinois. Series concerts include six Symphonic Classics programs and a December Holiday Pops concert. In addition, the Orchestra repeats selected programs on its Sunday Matinee Series at the Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet, IL. The orchestra also serves its communities through education programs which include Artist-in-School program, Meet the Maestro, Symphonic Youth Concerts, an in-school docent program and pre-concert lectures.

The Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra was named the 2010 Professional Orchestra of the Year by the Illinois Council of Orchestras. Additional information about the orchestra and its programs is available at www.ipomusic.org.