

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR POSITION - WOMANSONG of ASHEVILLE

www.Womansong.org

Our chorus seeks a part-time Artistic Director who is aligned with our [values and guiding principles](#)!

Start Date of Employment: July 1, 2022 is preferred

Compensation: \$1,800 - \$2,000/month, based on experience

Location: Asheville, North Carolina. It's a wonderful place to live (but because of popularity, not cheap anymore), offering diversity, outdoor recreation, scenic beauty, & a unique arts culture.

Application review: begins April 15, 2022

Please note that Womansong is a fully vaccinated (and boosted) choir for the 2022 season. All candidates must be fully vaccinated and comply with our [Covid guidelines](#), which are determined and revised as needed by our Womansong Wise Woman Council.

About: Founded in 1987, Womansong is Asheville's longest-running and largest women's community chorus, a welcoming choir and village, with a group of historically 75 singers, currently 40 and growing. Womansong is an amazing sisterhood of dynamic and interesting women who support each other. We are women of diverse ages, musical skill levels and abilities, backgrounds, and perspectives who sing together to nurture and uplift ourselves and our community. We have our own charity program, the [New Start Fund](#), which provides educational scholarships and immediate needs grants to local women and their families.

Womansong of Asheville's mission is **"Singing together for joy, social justice, and community!"** Because we believe that accepting and respecting individual differences enriches us, our music and our community, we actively embrace and encourage a diverse membership within Womansong. We affirm and support diversity with regards to age, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, ability, and spiritual beliefs. Please read more about our values and [principles](#).

We get things done, and we do it together, lovingly and respectfully. Through flexibility, resilience, dedicated sisterhood, and the support of our fans, Womansong is surviving the pandemic! Although our numbers are currently smaller, we are actively recruiting and admitting new members. We keep on singing as we continue to evolve. The listed duties assume that we will be able to resume a more "normal" season for Fall 2022.

Please understand that you do not need to meet every one of the qualifications in this job description. If you are interested in applying, we encourage you to do so, regardless of specific qualifications.

Duties of the Artistic Director

- **Artistic:**

- Determine a diversified repertoire and themes for 1 to 2 concerts per year, with input on song selection from the Music Team. Secure the necessary scores within budget constraints. Arrange/modify scores as desired (with support from Assistant Director & Accompanist).
- Audition and determine voice placement of new singers (We sing in 3 parts, each subdivided: Soprano 1&2, Middle 1&2, Alto 1&2).
- Oversee creation of rehearsal recordings of each vocal part for singers to learn repertoire for the current concert.
- Supervise and provide support for:
 - Section leaders (volunteers)
 - Accompanist and other Instrumentalists
 - Assistant Director
- Plan and Conduct all rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings, usually from mid August to early June.
- Lead or arrange leadership for Sectional Rehearsals (each section meets monthly off campus) in conjunction with Assistant Director,, Section Leaders, and/or Accompanist.
- Select guest artist(s) and/or instrumental accompanists. Arrange for their participation in rehearsals and performances.
- Audition, select, and coach soloists and ensembles.
- Select and supervise production values and logistics (staging, tech, props, etc.) for performances.
- Provide vision and oversight for song intros, skits, Powerpoint, choreography, etc. for the concert.
- Select, organize, and lead occasional community event performances.
- Visit and select performance venues, with Assistant Director and Performance Committee.
- Communicate pertinent information and direction to the Assistant Director, Concert Goddess, Media/Marketing volunteers, and Wise Woman Council.
- Engage in at least one professional development opportunity per year via workshop, conference, etc.

- **Marketing and Community Engagement:**

- Prepare a brief concert description for promotional materials and the website. Review and approve promotional materials.
- Coordinate with volunteers or staff to create a printed program.
- Be the spokesperson for Womansong of Asheville on an “as needed” basis regarding performances and in response to media requests.
- Cultivate relationships with other arts organizations and nonprofits to support and strengthen our mission and values.

- **Administrative Duties:**

- Provide leadership to maintain harmony in our Village in accordance with our values. Resolve disputes regarding music or concert as needed.
- Work with the Wise Woman Council to prepare a budget for the upcoming year.
- Attend and submit a written report to the monthly Wise Woman Council meeting, outlining current issues, concerns, concert preparation progress, and requests for community performances.
- Consult as needed with Webmaster, Social Media, and Marketing teams.
- Interface with our member organizations, Sister Singers Network (SSN) and GALA Choruses. Plan & conduct Womansong performance at SSN gatherings.

Required Qualifications:

- Experience in choral conducting
- Ability to guide singers of various skill levels and talents
- Basic piano skills
- Sense of humor
- Passion for promoting women's empowerment, sisterhood, and social justice
- Positive, centered, encouraging, and inclusive attitude
- Basic technical skills for Zoom, Finale, email

Desired Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Music, Music Performance, or Music Education.
- Two or more years' experience in choral conducting.
- Arranging and Composing Skills.
- Keyboard or other accompanying instrument skills.
- Experience working with adult voices.

Application Materials Requested:

- Resume
- 3 References (confidential until interview stage)
- Cover letter - Tell us who you are and where you want to go, how you align with our values and principles. Tell us about your musical experiences and skills, personal philosophies, thoughts about community choirs, music, and the world, and your vision for Womansong.
- Link to 2 videos of you conducting (concert or rehearsal; if possible, submit examples of both).
- At least one example of the set list/program for a themed concert you have directed with at least seven works.

Submit materials to: WomansongJob@gmail.com Subject: Director Position