

Mayflower Chorus (San Rafael, CA) seeks Choral Director

Mayflower Chorus, located in San Rafael California, is currently seeking a dynamic Choral Director to lead the chorus starting December 2018. We are looking for a creative leader, with experience teaching and conducting a 60+ member, volunteer, nonprofit chorus. The group is a quality, non-auditioned community chorus pursuing the next level of excellence in the performance of a variety of music genres with imbedded show elements such as movement, dance, sketches and spoken word.

About the Mayflower Chorus

Now in its 38th season, the Mayflower Chorus is the performing entity of the Mayflower Choral Society, a non-profit organization devoted to supporting the educational and cultural benefits of musical performance to its members, the North Bay Area community and its audiences. The Chorus has grown in membership by over 50% in the past three years, and continues to increase its audience size and support from the community.

The Mayflower Chorus is overseen by an active Board of Directors, with day to day activities coordinated by a volunteer Chorus Administrator. The Choral Director works as a part of a collaborative, creative team which includes the Band Director, Show Director, Technical Director, and possibly others depending on the requirements of the season.

Mayflower's typical season includes three performances in Marin County each winter and spring. Performances are accompanied by keyboard, band, percussionists, and frequently include guest artists.

The Mayflower Chorus rehearses on Tuesday nights, 7:30-10:00 PM, in San Rafael.

We invite all candidates to become familiar with our organization and learn more about us by visiting our website at <http://www.MayflowerChorus.org> and attending a rehearsal.

About the Position

This is a part-time position and the successful candidate will work with the Creative Team, the Chorus Administrator, the Chorus, Section Leaders, the Board, and other related parties as an independent contractor. Compensation range will be negotiated and based on level of experience and qualifications.

The Choral Director reports to the Mayflower Choral Society Board of Directors but, with the Creative Team, provides overall artistic direction and leadership to the Mayflower Chorus and retains significant autonomy over artistic vision and direction.

Responsibilities include:

- Long-range, collaborative planning and development of the shows for each season, including themes and appropriate repertoire
- Leading Tuesday evening choral rehearsals starting in February for the May show, and September for the December show, as well as attending additional small group and blocking rehearsals as needed, and conducting during tech week and performances.

- Providing forthright, honest and respectful feedback to singers (collectively and individually) to ensure preparation for high-quality performance
- Providing overall supervision and guidance for soloist and guest artist optimum performance
- Supervising assistant choral director and accompanist
- Working closely with the chorus administrator to coordinate rehearsal schedules, select appropriate venues, and other combined artistic/administrative tasks
- Recruiting and integrating new singers into the chorus in keeping with the artistic/musical vision for Mayflower's size and desired sound
- Occasional availability to direct the chorus in community outreach performances, events or fundraising activities
- Openness to traveling with the chorus approximately every three years (e.g. Cuba, Croatia)

The successful candidate will possess a combination of the following experience and skills:

- Experience and success conducting vocal ensembles and show choruses
- Undergraduate degree in music/conducting, or equivalent experience with choral-conducting and providing artistic direction for vocal ensembles and show choruses
- Experience teaching vocal technique and performance
- Familiarity and experience with a wide variety of music: Broadway, American songbook, classical, jazz, gospel, rock, pop and contemporary.
- Ability to collaboratively plan and execute a show, based on a theme
- Ability to collaboratively develop innovative programming to suit the chorus and its audience
- Ability to be creative within seasonal chorus budget
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to encourage musical excellence from differing levels of musicianship in a positive manner
- Strong network of colleagues across the musical community
- Some experience in composing and arranging is desirable

To Apply

Candidates are asked to submit a letter of interest and a resume via email, to Chorus Administrator Gretchen Klein at gretchk50@gmail.com, no later than **August 15, 2018**. Please reference Mayflower Director Position in email subject line.

Please submit questions or information requests to Gretchen Klein - gretchk50@gmail.com.

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The Mayflower Chorus sings to delight and inspire and to share the passion of music whether as a singer, musician or listener. We believe that in harmony ordinary people can do extraordinary things.