

SAN DIEGO YOUTH SYMPHONY AND CONSERVATORY

Job Title: Community Teaching Artist

Reports to: Community Program Manager

Status: Part-time, non-exempt

The San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory (SDYS)'s mission is to instill excellence in the musical and personal development of students through rigorous and inspiring musical training experiences. It does this through both its Conservatory Program and Community Program. SDYS knows that there are vast educational, social, community, and personal transformations that take place when music education is taught collaboratively and with high quality and excellence.

Since 2010, SDYS has been committed to making music education accessible and affordable for all youth in San Diego. Through el Sistema-inspired practices, SDYS partners with local school districts and education organizations to make this vision a reality. Because of SDYS' vision and passion, and through our partnership with the Chula Vista Elementary School District, in just five years, 46 schools (and 29,000 students) went from having zero employed credentialed arts teachers to now providing every school with at least one arts class to every student every week.

About This Position:

Because we are committed to making music education accessible and affordable for all, SDYS runs intentional, after-school, instrumental music programs that aim to rally families and school leaders to provide in-school music education for all students. The Teaching Artists on the Community Program team serve in a number of roles that lead this mission. Some of the roles include: teaching group sectionals; conducting full string and wind ensembles; coaching chamber ensembles; leading small group lessons; and constantly forming and strengthening relationships with their colleagues, student musicians, and musicians' families. We are looking for motivated Teaching Artists who are excellent performers on their instrument, effective student motivators, collaborative with their colleagues, intuitive to the surroundings around them, and culturally sensitive to diverse backgrounds. We are not looking for a Teaching Artist to just teach music. Our team works to build musical skill, teach foundational knowledge, provide opportunities for creativity, serve as a mentor and role model to both their musicians and their musicians' families, and transform lives through building community that leads to making systemic change through schools.

Community Program Teaching Artist Responsibilities:

- Teach 3rd-6th grade students 2-5 days per week from 3:15-5:45 pm (times, locations, and tasks vary depending on the specific hiring need, which will be determined upon interviewing).

- Implement and teach appropriate pedagogy to students in a small group setting, while writing lesson plans when necessary and pacing lessons based on the unique needs of their musicians that are aligned with the Community Program standards and benchmarks.
- Form, build, and maintain relationships with their musicians, musicians' families, team of talented Teaching Artists, program administration, and others from the community.
- Take and record student attendance at each rehearsal, and check in and check out musicians at the beginning and end of rehearsals.
- Make follow-up email, phone, or personal communication to families of students of concern.
- Work with the Opus Coordinator to provide consistent and clear communication with students and parents regarding schedules, upcoming events, and other important information.
- Set up and break down the physical rehearsal space.
- Leave your teaching space in the same manner that it was found, if not cleaner.
- Arrive on time and prepared to all rehearsals.
- Learn and use the first names of your musicians and their families.
- Meet for 30 minutes per week with the Teaching Artist team to discuss the ensembles and sectionals, and plan for future rehearsals and performances.
- Encourage musician behavior and performance activities that promote positive learning and build self-confidence, self-esteem, and leadership.
- Actively supervise students at all rehearsals, concerts, and collaboration events.
- Participate in ongoing professional growth and development activities, to include performing on your primary instrument for your students and their families.
- Foster student participation in school music programs and champion music education as a tool for community building.
- Encourage student participation in the SDYS Community and/or Conservatory ensembles when appropriate.
- Encourage student and family attendance at appropriate concerts and arts events both within SDYS and the community.
- Before employment, go through proper protocol for fingerprinting at the district and county offices.

Qualifications:

- Great musical skill on a string or wind instrument
- Teaching experience and/or training
- Culturally sensitive
- Role model to students, as musician and citizen
- Desire to share and initiate non-musicians into the world of music
- Able to initiate conversations with musicians' families
- Willingness to problem solve when situations change or do not go as planned
- Ability to communicate effectively over the phone and/or with email
- Passion to change the world for the better through music education
- Ability to mesh with a team that is equally or more passionate about making music education accessible and affordable for all youth because we know that it provides opportunities and changes lives

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience teaching diverse learners beginning music skills
- Bilingual (Spanish or Korean a plus)
- Comfortable teaching beginning pedagogy without the use of string or wind instruments in your students' hands

Benefits of Being on Our Team:

- Opportunities for other work within the SDYS organization
- Collaboration and networking with other musicians
- Professional development opportunities
- Free admission to Balboa Park museums (including the San Diego Zoo) per the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership.

Hours of Employment:

Vary, based on position. Preference will be given to Teaching Artists who are available Monday through Thursday. Hours could include:

- Monday 3:15-5:45pm and Wednesday 3:15-6:15 at an Elementary School in Chula Vista. Esperanza (beginning) Band and sectionals.
- Tuesday 3:15-5:45pm and Thursday 3:15-6:15 at Rogers Elementary School in Chula Vista. Esperanza (beginning) and Alegria (intermediate) Bands and sectionals.
- Monday 3:15-5:45pm and Wednesday 3:15-6:15 at Kellogg Elementary School in Chula Vista. Alegria (intermediate) and Festejo (advancing intermediate) String Ensembles and sectionals.
- Tuesday 3:15-5:45pm and Thursdays 3:15-6:15 at Veterans Elementary School in Chula Vista. Esperanza (beginning) and Alegria (intermediate) String Ensembles and sectionals.
- TBD 3:15-5:45pm and TBD 3:15-6:15 at Otay Ranch Academy for the Arts in Chula Vista. Beginning strings.
- Friday afternoons and evenings, various level chamber ensembles.
- Tuesday and Thursdays 3:15-6:00 pm at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church in Solana Beach, beginning strings group lesson and string ensemble.
- Early childhood classes for caregivers and children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old. Times and locations TBD.

Does this sound like you? If so, please email your resume and a thoughtful cover letter to hr@sdys.org. We're excited about starting the conversation!