

Director of Columbia Chorale

Organization: Choral Arts Alliance of Missouri (CAAM)

Location: Columbia, MO

Job Type: Part-Time/Contract

Reports To: Artistic Director & CAAM Board

Position Summary

Choral Arts Alliance of Missouri (CAAM) seeks a visionary and dynamic choral conductor to serve as the Director of Columbia Chorale, its premier mixed-voice adult community choir. The successful candidate will provide artistic leadership, inspire musical excellence, and foster an inclusive and engaging choir culture that aligns with CAAM's mission of making choral arts accessible to all.

The Director of Columbia Chorale will oversee all musical operations of the ensemble, including repertoire selection, conducting rehearsals and performances, recruiting and retaining singers, and collaborating with CAAM leadership and artistic staff. This role requires a passionate and skilled musician who values both artistic excellence and community engagement, ensuring that Columbia Chorale continues to thrive as the region's leading adult community choir.

Key Responsibilities

Artistic & Musical Leadership

- Develop and implement an artistic vision that aligns with CAAM's mission and Columbia Chorale's legacy.
- In collaboration with the Artistic Director, select and program diverse, engaging, and accessible repertoire that challenges and inspires singers.
- Conduct weekly rehearsals, emphasizing vocal technique, ensemble skills, and musical interpretation.
- Lead performances, collaborating with accompanists, instrumentalists, and guest artists as needed.
- Hire and coordinate soloists, instrumentalists, and guest artists as needed for each concert.
- Serve as producer of all concerts, overseeing all artistic elements including:
 - Musical personnel coordination
 - Finalizing program order and content
 - Writing and editing program notes
 - Submitting program details and materials by deadlines
 - Coordinating technical needs (acoustic, staging, lighting, etc.) with CAAM staff
- Foster a supportive and welcoming choir culture, ensuring accessibility for all interested singers.
- Stay current with industry trends and best practices in community choral music.

Program Development & Community Engagement

- Actively recruit and retain choir members and ensure steady participation by singers from a range of abilities, training, ages, voice parts, and backgrounds.
- Represent Columbia Chorale in the local and regional arts community, building partnerships with schools, universities, and arts organizations.
- Develop outreach initiatives to engage broader audiences and expand the choir's impact.
- Work with CAAM leadership to explore touring, collaborations, and special projects that enhance the choir's visibility.

Organizational Collaboration & Administration

- Collaborate with the Artistic Director and CAAM leadership to set strategic artistic goals.
- Assist in scheduling rehearsals, performances, and special events in coordination with CAAM staff.
- Work closely with other CAAM ensembles, artistic staff, and guest conductors for joint performances and cross-ensemble projects.
- Effectively communicate clear, timely, and accurate information to a variety of stakeholders, including singers, CAAM staff, and community partners.

Financial & Fundraising Support

- Partner with the CAAM Board to secure funding through grants, sponsorships, and donor engagement.
- Assist in managing the choir's artistic budget and operational needs.
- Participate in fundraising and outreach events to promote Columbia Chorale's mission.

Qualifications

- Master's degree or higher in music, choral conducting, or a related field.
- Significant experience conducting collegiate, adult community community choirs, or auditioned choirs.
- Deep knowledge of choral repertoire across various styles and traditions.
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to engage and inspire singers of varying skill levels.
- Excellent communication, collaboration, and organizational skills.
- Familiarity with vocal pedagogy and rehearsal techniques that support singers' development.
- Established network within the choral and arts community (preferred).

Compensation & Benefits

- Salary range: \$7,000-\$10,000 commensurate with experience.
- Flexible schedule with weekly rehearsals (on Monday nights) and seasonal performances.
- Opportunities for professional development and networking within the choral arts community.