

Choir Director/Music Coordinator

Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

Reports to Senior Minister. Compensation: Part-time, hourly, no fringe benefits, 37-42 hours per month. Wage: \$22-\$24 per hour, based on experience and other qualifications. Position is for 10 months a year, August-May. Date of Posting: May 18, 2015. Application Deadline: June 1 or until position is filled.

Position Summary:

The Choir Director/Music Coordinator will provide dynamic leadership and oversight to the UUSS choir and provide administrative support to the music program of this Unitarian Universalist congregation.

Essential Functions:

- Lead the UUSS choir, including conducting, coaching, and blending voices in sectional rehearsals. Conduct the choir at Sunday services twice monthly; lead weekly two-hour choir rehearsals on 40-44 Wednesday evenings a year, or as arranged for special rehearsals; foster individual connections with choir members; schedule workshops or arrange assistance for those that may need extra help; be present at 25-30 Sunday services per year, including choir Sundays.
- Lead congregation in hymns occasionally, in coordination with the ministers.
- Choose a variety of music for worship, embracing religious, musical, cultural and human diversity, while striving for spiritual and inspirational artistic excellence. Choose a variety of choral music that is appropriate for our volunteer adult choir.
- Recruit new singers and promote participation by UUSS members in our music program.
- Work creatively as part of the worship team with our ministers and accompanist when planning choral selections and other music; coordinate the music schedule for services and special events.
- Serve as the administrative head of the music program, supported by the Music Committee and ministers: Coordinate the overall schedule, budget, music library, in collaboration with lay ministry and sound technicians; provide music selections to the church office for the Order of Service by the designated deadline; communicate with other staff and relevant committees to coordinate music for special events.
- Attend monthly Music Committee Meetings, requesting assistance needed for support of program.
- Coordinate volunteer and professional guest musicians.
- Communicate about the music program and events via emails, and maintain music program web page on www.uuss.org
- Arrange for care and maintenance of church instruments.

Other Information about the Position:

- The Choir Director is expected to join the Unitarian Universalist Musicians' Network. (UUSS reimburses the cost of the annual membership dues.)
- Creative ideas and possible new responsibilities for this position are subject to negotiation and mutual agreement with the ministers, depending on budgeted hours available in the position. We do aspire to enlarge the number and quality of musical offerings and broaden the participation of adults and youth. We seek a professional director/coordinator willing to grow in responsibility and inspiration of others.

Qualifications:

- Experience in planning for, rehearsing and conducting choirs; thorough knowledge and resourcefulness, including music from a variety of genres and cultural traditions.
- Expert musicianship; experience as a performer or leader; ability to teach challenging music with patience and to empower volunteer musicians to grow in musical ability.
- Strong interpersonal skills, including a professional, reliable, collaborative, inclusive work style.
- Knowledge of and respect for the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. An added benefit is experience in UU congregations or in other membership-based organizations.
- Experience with online and social media computer skills or the ability and eagerness to learn and use them.

About Our Congregation:

UUSS is a contributing member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, which recognizes us as a Welcoming Congregation to LGBT persons and a Green Sanctuary Congregation on earth-justice issues. Our Mission Statement is: "We come together to deepen our lives and be a force for healing in the world." UUSS was founded in 1868. Located near the Sacramento city limits, Sacramento State University and the American River, we are a regional congregation of 500 members and contributing friends, including children and youth. Our sanctuary and main building are undergoing a major expansion and renovation, with a planned return home and rededication in September. The congregation reflects a variety of religious and philosophical perspectives, and we highly value music in our worship services. Please read more about our congregation at www.uuss.org.

To Apply:

Send your cover letter, resume and list of references to *UUSS Music Hiring Team* at office@uuss.org or by mail to UUSS, 2425 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95825. Brief supplemental material is welcome also, in digital video or audio formats. Please contact our Senior Minister at the above email address if any of this information is unclear.