



Position Description: Music Director Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento

Date of Posting: July 2021. Review of applications will begin on July 25.
Position is open until filled.

Position Summary:

The Music Director will provide dynamic leadership and administrative oversight to the UUSS choir and instrumental music programs in support of worship services and other programs of the congregation.

Essential Functions:

- Direct the all-volunteer adult choir, including conducting, coaching, and coordinating voices. Prepare the choir for performance at Sunday services twice monthly; lead weekly choir rehearsals on Wednesday evenings August-May, or as arranged for special situations.
- Foster individual connections with choir members, schedule workshops or arrange assistance for those that may need extra help. Build community among the choir. Recruit new singers and promote participation by UUSS members in our music program.
- Develop the instrumental music program by facilitating opportunities for volunteers to share their music in groups, or at Sunday services.
- Choose a variety of music for worship to embrace religious, musical, cultural and human diversity, while striving for spiritual and artistic expression. Select choral music that is both approachable as well as a learning challenge for our volunteer adult choir.
- Work as part of the worship team with our ministers and pianist in creative partnership in planning music for worship services; coordinate the music schedule for services and special events. Coordinate volunteer and professional guest musicians at Sunday services and other events.
- Serve as the administrative head of the music program: coordinate the overall schedule, budget, music library, and collaboration with other groups within the congregation. Communicate with other staff and relevant committees to coordinate music for special events.
- Supervise and communicate with staff pianist.
- Promote the music program and events via emails, Facebook, www.uuss.org, etc.
- Arrange for care and maintenance of church instruments.

Other Information about the Position:

- The Choir Director is expected to join the Association of Unitarian Universalist Music Ministers (AUUMM) using funds from professional expenses. <https://www.auumm.org/>
- Creative ideas and possible new responsibilities for this position are subject to negotiation. We do aspire to enlarge the number and quality of musical offerings and broaden the participation of adults, youth and children, so we seek a professional who is willing to grow in responsibility and be able to inspire others and expand our program.

Qualifications:

- Experience in planning for, rehearsing and conducting choir. Ability to teach challenging music with patience and to help volunteer musicians grow in musical ability.
- Knowledge and/or resourcefulness regarding music from a variety of genres and cultural traditions.
- Expert musicianship; experience as a performer or leader.
- Strong interpersonal skills, with a professional, reliable, collaborative, inclusive work style.
- Experience in congregations or in other membership-based organizations. Knowledge of and respect for the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition and congregations preferred.
- Online and social media computer skills or the ability and eagerness to learn.

About Our Congregation:

UUSS is a contributing member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, which recognizes us as a Welcoming Congregation to LGBTQ 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. We have total attendance of 200-300 at Sunday morning services. 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.

Compensation:

Part-time, 15 hours per week.

Wage: \$24-\$26 per hour, based on experience and other qualifications.

Position is for 11 months a year, August-June. 11 Sundays free per year.

Professional expenses of \$1,000 per year in addition to the music budget.

Congregation pays FICA of 7.65%; no other benefits provided.

To Apply:

Send your cover letter and resume 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.

For more information contact Rev Lucy Bunch: lucy@uuss.org