



Position Title: Assistant Conductor/Accompanist & Programs Coordinator

Reports to: TBC Artistic Director and FWAFA Music Department Chair (dotted line report to FWAFA Principal)

Who We Are:

Texas Center for Arts + Academics is a multi-faceted organization focused on youth development through arts-based programs which has been in operation for more than 70 years. Beginning first as the Texas Boys Choir, a GRAMMY Award-winning professional choir, the mission and purpose of the organization expanded to include a variety of programs including two arts-based public charter schools, two new conservatories, summer camps, and numerous community outreach efforts.

Position Summary: The Assistant Conductor/Accompanist & Programs Coordinator will serve Texas Boys Choir (TBC) and the Music Department of the Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts (FWAFA) in both an instructional and an administrative capacity. As an educator, this individual will provide the highest quality music experience and training for students of TBC and FWAFA by facilitating positive individual, family, and community growth through guidance and role modeling. In collaboration with other faculty and administration, the individual in this position will conduct and/or accompany for ensembles and teach music courses as assigned, supporting the school's mission through repertoire selection and curriculum development in alignment with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and the National Core Arts Standards. This individual will also provide administrative support for both choral programs, particularly in the oversight and management of external activities such as TBC's satellite program and student/ensemble participation in University Interscholastic League (UIL) events.

Position Profile:

Assistant Conductor/Accompanist:

Unique in its environment, Texas Boys Choir (TBC) members attend school at Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts (FWAFA), a public charter school that enrolls talented students by audition. The boys in TBC receive daily training and direction in musicianship, vocal technique, choral collaboration, performing for and engaging with an audience, and self-discipline. Music history and theory are also woven into the curriculum, to ensure that each boy increases his cultural and musical literacy. TBC and FWAFA seek an educator who will continue to build upon our legacy of choral excellence. The Assistant Conductor/Accompanist will teach, challenge, and inspire students both artistically and academically in TBC and FWAFA music courses as assigned.

TBC consists of a Training Choir of boys in grades 3-4 who learn choral repertoire for performance while receiving rigorous training in aural skills, sight-reading, and vocal technique; a Cambiata Ensemble of boys in grades 7-8 who are in the early stages of voice change; and a Tour Choir consisting of a Treble Ensemble of boys in grades 5-8 and a Men's Ensemble of boys in grades 9-12 who rehearse and perform separately as well as together as a mixed choir. Mid-year voice changes are a frequent occurrence in a boychoir, requiring the artistic staff to be sensitive to the physiology, emotions, and wellbeing of singers as their voices evolve.

The ideal candidate will bring the necessary skills to lead the TBC Cambiata Ensemble, accompany rehearsals and performances for the TBC Training Choir, join the Artistic Director & Associate Artistic Director in the ongoing assessment process of individual singers, and participate in auditions and re-auditions for all ensembles.

The Assistant Conductor will select diverse repertoire for the Cambiata Ensemble, to include sacred and secular choral works from all historical periods, music specifically written for the boy's changing voice, and music that explores the world's cultures. He/she should be dedicated to programming that is vibrant, diverse, complex, and interesting, and that expands the academic, cultural and artistic horizons of singers and audiences alike. In addition to exposing our communities to choral masterpieces, the organization also seeks to engage its audiences and share a love for choral music in all its forms.

Programs Coordinator:

As Programs Coordinator, the ideal candidate will be strategic-minded, detail-oriented, highly organized, self-aware, and flexible, with a sense of humor, strong work ethic, and a passion for collaboration. TBC currently offers an after-school satellite choir program at its sister charter school, Texas School of the Arts; while strengthening partnerships internally with fine arts programs and externally with arts and community organizations, TBC seeks to launch additional satellite programs throughout the region, and the Programs Coordinator will play a key role in this initiative. He/she will also oversee administrative details for all student/ensemble participation in Texas UIL events for the FWAFA Music Department, including planning, registration, scheduling transportation, coordinating access to appropriate materials and resources, and other duties as needed and assigned.

Essential Job Functions:

- Conduct and accompany rehearsals for Texas Boys Choir Cambiata Ensemble three days per week
- Accompany daily Texas Boys Choir Training Choir rehearsals
- Create and implement effective lesson plans that promote the highest levels of skill development in choral singing and musicianship, as well as music history, theory, and composition
- Prepare and lead students in concerts and events, on campus, in the community, and abroad
- Collaborate with other faculty to create curriculum, select appropriate repertoire, and design creative learning opportunities for students
- Attend staff meetings and professional development conferences and workshops as required
- Create a schedule for all annual UIL events, assemble necessary information and materials, and communicate with students and parents to ensure that all deadlines and requirements are met in a timely manner
- Create and maintain positive communication with administration, staff, faculty, students, parents, and members of the community
- Manage operations for Texas Boys Choir's community satellite program, including oversight of part-time contract conductors, coordination of administrative details, and research of potential locations for launching new programs
- Provide support to the TBC Artistic Director/FWAFA Music Department Chair and TBC Associate Artistic Director, assuming responsibility for administrative projects and responsibilities as delegated or assigned.

Essential Job Requirements:

- Education – Bachelor’s degree required with a concentration in Music or Music Education; Master’s degree preferred; Teacher certification or highly qualified designation desired
- Experience – Minimum of five years’ experience teaching music at the Elementary and/or Middle School levels and eight or more years’ experience conducting choirs preferred; limited conducting experience taken into consideration with sufficient teaching, administrative, and accompanying experience
- Required Skills and Capabilities – fine artistic skills as vocalist and choral director/conductor; strong music theory background; experience with Kodály and Orff methods; strong classroom management skills; ability to work collaboratively with a diverse team; excellent verbal and written communication; solid organizational skills and strategies; significant evening/weekend commitments for performances and other special events, as well as regional, national, and international travel for touring activities; significant experience with choral accompanying
- Preferred Skills and Capabilities – proven experience collaborating with others to develop interdisciplinary artistic products
- Physical Requirements – ability to carry up to 25 lbs.; valid driver license

Position Category: 12-month contract, exempt, full-time

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Preferred Start Date: August 1, 2019

Application Deadline: Open until filled

To apply, please send the following materials to the attention of the Search Committee at admin@ArtsAcademics.org:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- A list of three professional references, at least one of whom can speak to the candidate’s administrative skills and experience
- A link to video of the applicant conducting a choral rehearsal or teaching a music class of elementary, middle school, or high school students (at least 10-15 minutes)
- A link to video or audio of the applicant accompanying one or more pieces in a choral rehearsal or performance
- Optional: A link to video of the applicant conducting one or more choral pieces in performance