

Seeking Director for Christmas Stars Children Choir

The Steering Committee for Christmas Stars is seeking a new Director for the Children Choir. Here are some specifics about what this position entails:

Choir Description:

The Children Choir consists of approximately 30 children in grades Grade Three through Grade five, from various schools throughout the Fox Valley. In any given year, approximately one-third to one-half of the group members will be new to vocal performing in front of a large audience.

The Choir learns approximately 3-6 songs for the performance each year. Three of the songs are performed by the Children Choir alone, and the remainders are included in a skit that the Children participate in, along with members of the Youth Choirs. The songs are all performed to instrumental performance tracks, so the Choir members need to learn the skill of singing with and keeping up with the track, as well as including gestures and simple choreographed movements.

Time Commitment Required:

- The Children Choir Director is required to attend occasional planning meetings with the Production Director and other Directors.
- The Children Choir Director is required to attend and lead all rehearsals of the Children, which are held on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m., from mid-September until the show dates, which are during the first two weeks of December.
- The Children Choir Director is required to direct the Children during all dress rehearsals and performances. Ten performances are held each year, from Thursday through Sunday of the first two weeks in December. Dress rehearsals are held on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings prior to the first performance, and a long (approximately seven hour) rehearsal is held on the afternoon and evening of the Sunday after Thanksgiving.
- The Children Choir Director is expected to devote the necessary preparation time to learning the musical selections and thus come to all rehearsals prepared to effectively teach them to the group within a fairly limited time frame.

Compensation:

The Children Choir Director is compensated on a contracted basis, with a one-time payment which is intended to cover all duties and time needed to prepare the Choir for its performances and lead them during the performances.

Qualifications:

The well-qualified candidate will have experience directing young school-age children to perform vocal music in front of an audience. Basic piano skills are needed, although a rehearsal accompanist is usually available. An ability to interact positively with young children, parents, and cast and crew members is essential. Experience in working with large groups of children with minimal adult supervision is also necessary. The ideal candidate will additionally have a degree in Music or Music Education.

Interested candidates may contact:

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