

The Amabilis Singers Community Choir is looking for a New Artistic Director

Are you a passionate and experienced choral conductor with a vision for artistic excellence? The Amabilis Singers are seeking a dedicated Artistic Director to lead our choir into a new era of musical achievement and community engagement. We are seeking an enthusiastic, skilled leader with a broad knowledge of choral repertoire, capable of guiding the Amabilis Singers towards artistic excellence and fostering a positive, engaging environment.

Position Title: Artistic Director

Remuneration: \$16,200 Annually (\$1,350 per month)

Reports to: Amabilis Singers Board of Directors

Employment Type: Part-Time Independent Contractor

Rehearsal and Concert Location: New Westminster Christian Reformed Church, Burnaby BC

Application Deadline: June 30, 2024 11:59 pm

Start Date: January 1, 2025

1. About the Amabilis Singers:

The Amabilis Singers is an auditioned SATB adult choir of 60-70 members based in Burnaby / New Westminster. We are a diverse and dynamic SATB choir dedicated to performing a wide range of repertoire, from classical to contemporary works. We aim to inspire audiences through exceptional performances and to foster a love of choral music within our community.

Mission Statement:

We are a friendly and supportive choral community whose purpose is to create beauty through the performance of diverse repertoire for the benefit of our audiences while advancing the musical growth of our members.

Equity Statement:

We welcome and encourage applications from qualified individuals of all backgrounds and abilities.

Website: <https://amabilissingers.org/>

Sample Programmes Link: [Amabilis Singers Sample Programmes](#)

2. Position Summary:

The Artistic Director will be responsible for fostering an inspiring and inclusive environment that nurtures both individual and ensemble growth while celebrating the joy of singing and the spirit of community. The ideal candidate will have a strong choral background and conducting experience, excellent communication skills, and the ability to inspire and motivate singers of all levels. This role demands a balance of artistic vision, organizational skills, and the ability to connect deeply with both choir members and the audience.

3. Key Duties:

Artistic Leadership:

- Select and prepare diverse, challenging and engaging choral repertoire while staying within budget.
- Conduct the choir in all performances, maintaining high artistic standards.
- Choose repertoire that aligns with the choir's abilities, encourages growth, and maintains enthusiasm.
- Report to The Board of Directors on artistic direction.

Administrative:

- Recruit and audition prospective and current choir members to maintain and develop SATB balance.
- Support The Board of Directors with administrative tasks related to the choir, including, programs, budgeting and music acquisition.
- Attend eight Board meetings and one Annual General Meeting.
- Advise the Board on budget, programming, and available grants.
- Provide information for program and publicity material creation.
- Recommend and audition soloists, instrumentalists and other performers.
- Approve public release of recordings and artistic representations.

Concerts, Rehearsals, and Retreats:

- Organize and lead two major concerts annually, each potentially having up to two performances, along with two intensive seven-hour rehearsal retreats.
- Conduct weekly rehearsals, currently scheduled for Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 9:15 pm, and one all-day Saturday retreat per term.
- Develop and disseminate a weekly rehearsal plan.
- Ensure a qualified substitute is available for any absences.

Vocal Training and Support:

- Provide vocal training and technical support to choir members.
- Foster the musical growth and confidence of singers through effective rehearsal techniques.

Community Engagement:

- Promote the choir through community outreach and marketing efforts.
- Develop and maintain relationships with local arts organizations, schools, and other community groups.
- Foster collaborations with other choirs, conductors, composers, and instrumentalists.

Time Commitment:

- Commit to approximately 20 hours per month carrying out the duties.

4. Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Music or Music Education ((preference may be given to candidates with a Master's degree) or equivalent professional qualifications and experience.
- Proven experience in preparing and conducting various choral ensembles, (preference may be given to candidates with community choir experience).
- Strong knowledge of choral literature and vocal techniques and a wide range of choral repertoire.
- Excellent leadership, communication, and organizational skills.
- Ability to inspire and motivate singers of varying skill levels.
- Experience with vocal training and coaching.
- Proficiency in conducting techniques and rehearsal strategies.
- Ability to work collaboratively with accompanists, vocal coaches, and other music staff.
- Commitment to fostering a positive, safe and inclusive environment.

5. Application Process

Interested candidates should submit the following materials to Elvis Dutra 1965elvis@gmail.com with the subject line "Artistic Director Application - Your Name" no later than the application deadline.

Application Stage:

- **Resume:** Detailing relevant experience in choral conducting and leadership roles.
- **Cover Letter:** Outlining your artistic vision, teaching philosophy, and approach to choral leadership.
- **Audio/Visual Recordings:** If available, provide recordings of recent conducting performances, demonstrating your range and versatility as a conductor. Preferably include two contrasting pieces (10 minutes maximum).
- **References:** Please provide contact information for professional references who can attest to your qualifications and direct work experience.
- **Portfolio of Past Programs:** Include examples of choral programs you have curated, showcasing your repertoire selection, thematic programming, and artistic vision covering a period of approximately two years.

Audition and Interview Stage:

- **Trial Rehearsal Session:** Shortlisted candidates will be invited to conduct a trial rehearsal session(s) with the choir, focusing on a vocal warmup, a known piece selected by the choir and a piece selected by the candidate from our library to introduce to the choir. This session(s) will evaluate candidates' rehearsal techniques, communication skills, and ability to connect with choir members.
- **Interview:** You may be interviewed by the selection Committee.
- The successful candidate must be legally entitled to work in Canada.

For more information contact Elvis Dutra 1965elvis@gmail.com.

