

Call for Applications: Choir Director

AVIVA Chorus, June 2024

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AVIVA Chorus is looking for a new choir director. The choir had its debut in September 2005, and meets a need for people of diverse gender identities/expressions and sexual orientations, and their allies, to have a safe and enjoyable place to socialize and sing. Preference will be given to candidates who are of diverse gender identities and/or sexual orientations. AVIVA Chorus creates an affirming space primarily for people of diverse gender and sexual identities, while welcoming allies who support our community. Therefore our director needs to be aware of the many societal issues that negatively affect this population and, if not a member themselves, know what it means to be a good ally. Creating a positive space that emphasizes equality and inclusion is an important value of this chorus. Convinced that everyone can sing, our new director should be ready to work with singers of all levels of confidence and competency.

AVIVA Chorus performs locally for community events and also participates in Unison, a national 2SLGBTQ+ choral festival, which is held in various Canadian cities every four years. The choir usually has a concert in December and another in May.

Position Summary:

Responsible for providing musical direction, guidance and vocal instruction for an approximately 20 to 40-voice community choir. This position is part-time for a four-month term that will be renewed for the right director. Fall term is from September to December and winter/spring term is from January to May. Rehearsals are held on Saturday mornings at Pacific Gardens Cohousing in South Nanaimo. In the past, AVIVA Chorus has worked with a piano accompanist but does not have one at present.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Provides musical advice and leadership to the choir board and choir members;
2. Assists in the selection of appropriate songs within the choir's capabilities;
3. Creates practice tracks of songs chosen by the music selection committee;
4. Conducts weekly rehearsals from 10 to noon on Saturday mornings;
5. Conducts additional sectional rehearsals as needed;
6. Assists and directs the choir during performances;
7. Exemplifies the attitude that all people can sing;
8. Provides a fun and safe environment for choir members to grow in both skill and confidence;
9. Fulfills other duties regarding musical advice and performance as agreed to with the board of directors.

Education, Training and Experience:

1. Skilled team leader with a demonstrated ability to provide a safe musical environment;
2. Ability to create a singing environment that balances fun with learning;
3. Experience, training and/or education in music and music theory at the post-secondary level;
4. Previous experience in choral and/or vocal leadership;
5. Positive attitude;
6. Experience teaching in an adult environment;
7. Experience in working with and supporting our diverse community, or willingness to learn pro-actively.

Remuneration: To be determined.

Applications should be sent by email to Avivachorus2017@gmail.com.