

Job Posting: Vocal Music Faculty – Choral Direction Focus

About GSA

Kentucky's Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) is an immersive residential summer program that empowers the Commonwealth's next generation of creative leaders. The GSA summer program convenes a community of high school rising juniors and seniors from across the state to live in residency for three weeks of intensive college-level training under the guidance of a faculty of professional teaching artists.

At its core, GSA is a youth empowerment program; we strive to affirm, inspire, and uplift our students toward embracing their identity, power, and potential as artists. The program emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration, the impact that artist-citizens can make in their communities, and accessible college/career pathways that leverage students' creative gifts.

Students are selected through a competitive application process in one of GSA's nine core artforms: Architecture + Design, Creative Writing, Dance, Drama, Film + Photography, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art, and Vocal Music. The program represents a partnership between Kentucky's Tourism, Arts, & Heritage Cabinet and Kentucky Performing Arts, a non-profit organization based in Louisville, KY with a statewide mission. The summer program doubled in size last year and will accept a total of over 500 students for two separate summer sessions in 2023.

About GSA's Vocal Music Program

The Vocal Music program at GSA is designed to develop each student's fundamental vocal musicianship and to encourage healthy and natural tone production. Students participate in private voice lessons and in group ensembles, performing a wide range of vocal music styles from Renaissance to 21st Century, with a strong emphasis on classical technique. GSA vocalists may receive an introduction to singing in languages other than English, as well as instruction in a wide variety of topics including music theory and sight-singing. Students attend performances by and learn from guest artists, leading professionals, and college professors. Along with the Vocal Music faculty, these guests share their personal experiences as performers to assist discussions about college and career planning. Students present a performance of solo, chamber, and choral work on the final day of the program.

About this position

The Vocal Music Faculty consists of four independent contractor positions, which are supported by a teaching assistant. Each faculty member contributes to teaching special topics (i.e. choir, diction, history, theory) as well as providing individualized voice lessons to a group of Vocal Music students. This open position is for a faculty member who will lead the choral component of the Vocal Music program, in addition to providing voice lessons to a limited number of students. The other three faculty members will collaborate with this position to fully round out the curriculum.

This position leads daily choral rehearsals, selects choral repertoire, and leads the choir toward a public performance on the final day of the summer program. Smaller chamber works (i.e. quartets) may be included in the repertoire.

The 2023 Vocal Music program will take place at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY. While two GSA sessions will be offered, this open position is for the **second session** specifically. Important dates for this commitment are as follows:

March 19, 2023: Faculty Planning Kick-Off Meeting (in-person in Lexington, KY or virtual attendance via Zoom)

April/May: Faculty work together to plan curriculum; this work can take place remotely and the pace/distribution of planning tasks is mostly self-directed by faculty.

Summer Program

July 7 & 8: Faculty arrival, orientation, and studio set-up

July 9 - 29: GSA program

July 30: Faculty depart campus

This position pays a base stipend of \$4,800; housing, food, laundry facilities, and campus parking are provided at no expense to faculty. A transportation stipend is provided to faculty who live more than 60 miles round trip from Lexington, KY. During the summer program, instructional days start as early as 9:00 a.m. and end as late as 10:00 p.m. Studio sessions take place seven days a week, although there are breaks scheduled in for faculty.

Position requirements:

- Master's Degree or equivalent in experience.
- Previous experience working with high-school aged singers, as well as knowledge of issues related to vocal development of high-school aged students, strongly preferred.
- Experience with choral conducting and extensive knowledge of choral repertoire.
- Experience providing individualized vocal training and/or coaching to singers.
- Ability and desire to collaborate with colleagues and proficiently function in a high-paced and intense learning environment.
- Ability and desire to mentor, teach, and lead a diverse group of students while maintaining a safe, affirming, and supportive classroom environment.
- Ability to live in residence during three weeks of summer program.
- This position will be offered contingent upon satisfactory results of a background check. The background check is only required if the position is offered; GSA covers the expense of the check.

To apply:

Please submit the following materials via [this link](#). Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their materials by end of day Tuesday, January 17th, although applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

- Cover letter, including specification of what voice types you have experience teaching.
- Resume
- Reference List
- Video/audio recordings of recent performances strongly preferred. These can include performances by the applicants, as well as performances led by the applicant (i.e. a choral performance conducted by the applicant).

While application materials should be submitted via the above link, please direct any questions to gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org or 502.566.5192.