

CAPITAL HARMONY WORKS

HOME OF:



Position: String Teaching Artist

Pay: \$100-200/session, depending on experience and length of session

Reports To: Trenton Music Makers Artistic Director

Collaborates With: Trenton Music Makers Teaching Artists, Program Manager, and site staff

Organization Summary:

Capital Harmony Works is a creative youth development organization that empowers young people as teams of musicians, providing an environment of high expectations and abundant opportunity, and enriching the community through the joyful pursuit of excellence together. It was formed in February of 2022 by the joining together of Trenton Children's Chorus with Trenton Music Makers.

The organization is now the home of three flagship programs, all of which are well known in the region:

Trenton Children's Chorus: founded in 1989, Trenton Children's Chorus provides exceptional choral music education, performance opportunities, and collaborative events across the region. The Chorus is frequently invited to perform with collaborating organizations, and has sung at the White House for President and Mrs. Obama, at the United Nations, and at the National Cathedral.

Music for the Very Young: developed in collaboration with the Trenton Public Schools Office of Early Childhood, this program provides high-quality and interesting first musical experiences for preschool children, support for their classroom teachers in integrating music across the preschool curriculum, and opportunities for children's families to participate in the music-making.

Trenton Music Makers Orchestra: engages K-12 students Monday through Friday after school. They participate in studio lessons, orchestra rehearsals, drumming circles, collective composition, chamber music and theory instruction. As members of El Sistema USA, the El Sistema NJ Alliance, and the Carnegie Hall PlayUSA cohort, they travel to play with their peers in the region and around the nation.

Trenton Music Makers Orchestra and Trenton Children's Chorus members receive transportation from selected schools, and all receive a hot meal upon arrival at their program sites. They have the opportunity to participate in Capital Harmony Works' Learning Academy, which pairs students with academic coaches from universities and independent schools in the

surrounding communities. They also receive scholarship support for four years of post-secondary education. Music for the Very Young participants receive priority status in registering for both after-school programs. Capital Harmony Works welcomes any young person to participate, with no audition and a minimal family contribution.

Capital Harmony Works is part of the global El Sistema movement, which is inspired by the renowned system of youth orchestras and choirs that began in Venezuela in the 1970's, seeking to affect social change through intensive ensemble-based music. We emphasize social development and democratized teaching, in which every skill learned provides a peer teaching opportunity. Students who demonstrate special care and leadership can also achieve the privilege of becoming paid rehearsal interns or administrative interns.

Honoring and reinforcing the promising elements already present in young people's lives -- the network of caring parents and teachers, and the desire to develop skills that make them an asset to their communities -- we add proven curricula, access to musical instruments, the opportunity to travel outside of their local environment, and instruction by professional teaching artists. We empower young people to find and use their voice, and to transform their own lives through collaboration and peer leadership.

Position Summary:

The String Teaching Artist is one of a team of Teaching Artists responsible for group instruction, private or semi-private lessons on that site, according to the teaching format(s) and hours stipulated in his/her employment agreement. Trenton Music Makers Orchestra began on September 12, 2022, and will end on or around May 26, 2023. Program will not take place on days on which the Trenton Public Schools are closed.

All Trenton Music Makers teaching artists ensure that each student receives excellent instruction, and aid in the delivery of curriculum that supports the musical and social goals of Trenton Music Makers Orchestra, and the overall mission of Capital Harmony Works to support social development through ensemble music. They represent Capital Harmony Works' core values and serve as an ambassador for the organization, both internally and to the general public.

Work Environment:

Capital Harmony Works values joy and friendship, teamwork, imagination, mutual respect, and the collective striving for excellence. It actively celebrates cultural diversity and embraces the CATS model (citizen/artist/teacher/scholar) for all adults, both artistic and management professionals.

Position Duties and Responsibilities:

- Teach studio lessons, in groups of up to 10 students at a time
- Develop a daily lesson plan in alignment with the program curriculum that challenges students and encourages creativity
- Maintain accurate student attendance records
- Communicate with parents as appropriate

- Join the orchestra for scheduled performances whenever possible
- Inspire students to develop their musicianship, technical skill, confidence, focus, and citizenship
- Maintain a healthy learning environment, and a positive atmosphere that fosters mutual respect among teachers, students, parents and colleagues
- Work creatively with outside consultants, musicians and organizations to enhance the delivery of the program
- Collaborate in any documentation of the program that may take place, to include photography, filming, or recording
- Other duties as assigned

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in string instrument performance, music education, or equivalent experience
- Respect for young people from racially and culturally diverse communities
- Passion for creating impact on the lives of young people through music
- Strong organization skills, matched by kindness, a sense of humor, and readiness to adapt
- Openness to evaluation and the learning process
- Professionalism and commitment to excellence
- Reliable communication habits through email, phone and WhatsApp
- Successfully pass a background check

Strong Positives:

- Experience teaching group lessons
- Experience in El Sistema or El Sistema-inspired programs
- Bilingual in English and Spanish

Does this sound like you??

Please send a resume and cover letter to hello@capitalharmony.works, with the subject line "TMM String Teaching Artist Application."