



## Woden Valley Youth Choir ROLE OPPORTUNITY

### ACTING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Woden Valley Youth Choir is seeking a highly-skilled, enthusiastic person to undertake the role of Acting Artistic Director from 28 August 2018 until 9 July 2019 to cover an absence of the current Artistic Director.

**Note:** this role can be undertaken in conjunction with the role of **Australis Voices & Spectra Ensemble Conductor** which is also available for the same time period. If you wish to apply for both roles, you need only submit one application.

**Remuneration:** \$5,000

WVYC music staff (including the Artistic Director) are paid as independent contractors.

#### **About Woden Valley Youth Choir**

Woden Valley Youth Choir is Canberra's best choir for young people and has been singing since 1969.

Woden Valley Youth Choir (WVYC) believes every young person is a musician and that singing is a way to bring people together. The Choir has been singing for nearly 50 years and has always been committed to training strong musicians, nurturing their growth as caring individuals and empowering them to develop a joy of music that lasts a lifetime.

The Choir is also dedicated to promoting and commissioning new Australian works and to providing its young singers with the opportunities to perform at significant events and alongside renowned artists.

We are a not-for-profit organisation and, as such, the Choir belongs not only to the choristers, but also to their parents, families, friends, staff and volunteers. It relies on the talents of the entire community, as it is together that we are able to create magic with music. We speak of choristers past, present, and future being at the heart of what we do.

WVYC regularly rehearses each Tuesday from 4:30 until 8:30 during school terms.

WVYC teaches 6 ensembles:

- Nova Voices (for ages 5 to 9)
- Borealis Voices (for ages 8 to 13)
- Australis Voices (for ages 11 to 25)
- Centauri Voices (for young men with transitioning voices)
- Aurora Vocal Ensemble (for selected choristers aged 6 to 13)
- Spectra Vocal Ensemble (for selected choristers aged 12 to 25)

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

The Artistic Director is responsible for holistic artistic leadership and direction of Woden Valley Youth Choir. The Artistic Director reports to the WVYC Management Committee.

### **Responsibilities include:**

- Management of the music team, providing guidance and expertise, as well as leadership
- Be the public face of WVYC to the public and media as required
- Use networks to recruit new choristers
- Selection of music of suitable genres, standard and quality for the choir within the framework of Woden Valley Youth Choir's repertoire policy and in consultation with the conductors of the Choir's ensembles
- Planning a balanced and interesting musical program to include at least 3 concerts a year including an annual concert, Christmas Concert and Carols by Candlelight
- Identify and arrange performance opportunities each term for the Choir's six ensembles
- Preparing a schedule of rehearsals appropriate for each performance
- Attendance at weekly rehearsals and scheduled performances as necessary
- Source and hire orchestral players and vocal soloists as required
- Select appropriate venues for concerts
- Attendance at meetings of the Management Committee as required
- Work with the music team to organise and run the WVYC camps
- Collaborate in the preparation of grant submissions as required.

### **Time Requirements**

As with roles of this nature, there are busy times and quiet times. However, the role is expected to require, on average, approximately 3-4 hours per week in addition to attendance at weekly rehearsals (Tuesday evenings during public school terms).

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Knowledge of, and passion for, choral music, across a variety of genres and periods
- Experience in people management
- Appropriate tertiary qualifications in music
- Experience in choral conducting of youth/children's choirs
- Experience in teaching young people especially in the areas of musicianship, music theory and sight-singing
- Experience in programming for choral concerts across a variety of genres
- Ability and skills to encourage choir members to develop their musical and vocal ability
- Well-developed communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to foster a friendly and cooperative spirit within the choir, which seeks to be a "choral community" as much as a community choir
- Ability to work collaboratively with all other music staff members and the volunteer Management Committee
- Excellent presentation
- Must possess a current Working With Vulnerable People card
- Being Kodály trained is preferred.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Please submit a cover letter which explains your suitability for the role and responses to the selection criteria (2 pages max) **by 18 June 2018** to [wvyc.president@gmail.com](mailto:wvyc.president@gmail.com). Please attach a current CV and the name of at least one referee.