

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Youth Symphonies  
CATEGORY: Artistic, Classical Music



**ORGANIZATION SUMMARY:**

Founded in 1972, Minnesota Youth Symphonies (MYS) is one of the nation's premier youth orchestra education programs. MYS provides the opportunity for young people to develop their musical abilities through a comprehensive and nurturing musical environment. MYS is dedicated to top-notch orchestral training for children, grades elementary through high school, offering a year-round mix of programs to meet the varying needs of young musicians, regardless of their ability to pay. Learn more about MYS at [www.mnyouthsymphonies.org](http://www.mnyouthsymphonies.org).

**JOB TITLE:** Orchestra Conductor (Interim)

**LOCATION:** Twin Cities Metro

**TYPE:** Part-time

**START DATE:** June 2020 (season begins September 2020)

**COMPENSATION:** DOE, includes weekly rehearsals, preparation time, and concerts

**Job Summary:** This position is responsible for the conducting, education and overall artistic development of the **SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**, the most advanced orchestra of the Minnesota Youth Symphonies. This position will be a year-long appointment for the 2020-2021 season beginning with auditions in June of 2020, and then meeting Saturday mornings from 8:45 am- 11:45 am at Highland Junior High School in Saint Paul from September 2020 to April 2021. This will be an interim position during which a search will be ongoing for an artistic director and conductor. The interim conductor may choose to apply for the artistic director or conductor position but must be comfortable with an ongoing search process including having guest conductors in rehearsal throughout the season.

**Orchestra Profile:** By the time a student reaches **SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**, it will be after several orchestral experiences. After having learned basic bowing technique, transpositions, and an array of percussion instruments, it is time to employ rehearsal exercises that will bring the ability to interpret to a sophisticated level. All rehearsals will include sightreading of difficult repertoire. The conductor may find it helpful to play passages using different interpretations and lead a discussion about the differences. As often as possible, discussions about relevant musical form, harmony, and instrumentation should be held in order to widen the scope of students' observations. Regular sectionals that separate the brass/woodwinds/percussion from the strings will be held. Brass and woodwinds will also hold separate sectionals as needed. Separate sectionals for percussion will be held as needed.

## PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

### **Responsibilities:**

- Conduct Symphony Orchestra during Saturday rehearsals and performances
- Participate in auditions as part of audition panel
- Recruit students for Symphony from surrounding school districts
- Select literature for the ensemble
- Plan rehearsals, including selecting literature for sight-reading, sectionals and special events such as side-by-side rehearsals
- Prepare students for performance opportunities throughout the year

### **EDUCATION**

- BA or BS in Music Performance or Music Education, advanced degree preferred

### **EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Substantial conducting/teaching experience with students at the advanced high school, college or professional levels (All-State level or beyond.)
- Substantial experience with professional level orchestral repertoire. Recent repertoire has included Mahler: Symphony 2, Rachmaninoff: Symphony 2; Prokofiev: Lt. Kije
- Substantial performing experience on an orchestral instrument at the college, advanced community or professional level
- Teaching experience with advanced students on an orchestral instrument
- Demonstrated ability to engage with and inspire advanced high school level student musicians
- Lesson and rehearsal planning skills
- Strong interpersonal communication skills including the ability to engage with parents, school directors and studio teachers
- Able to work collaboratively as part of a small, highly engaged, artistic team
- Computer literacy and familiarity with Microsoft Office or similar applications
- Able to pass a criminal background check
- Able to work in a professional, respectful and appropriate manner as outlined in MYS Administrative Guidelines and Policies manual, including the MYS policies regarding harassment, sexual harassment and anti-discrimination

### **HOW TO APPLY:**

To apply, please forward your resume, a cover letter, and a recording of a recent performance (or an opportunity to view an upcoming rehearsal or performance) to Amelia Hemmingsen, Executive Director, at [mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org](mailto:mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org).

*Minnesota Youth Symphonies is an equal opportunity employer. It maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability and medical condition to the extent protected by law. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all employment practices, including hiring, compensation, benefits, promotion, training, and termination.*