

CAPITAL RINGERS, INC.

Artistic Director Opportunity

INTRODUCTION

Capital Ringers, Inc. is seeking an Artistic Director to provide musical leadership and foster a collaborative environment for the purpose of promoting and presenting musical excellence.

Capital Ringers, Inc., a nonprofit community handbell organization based in Lewes, Delaware, includes two ensembles and the largest set of handbells and handchimes on the Delmarva Peninsula.

The Capital Ringers Ensemble (CRE) is an advanced community handbell ensemble, ringing multiple performances per season (Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter) under the direction of the Artistic Director. A performance-based ensemble, CRE is committed to performing challenging handbell music in a variety of genres.

Bay2Bay (B2B), led by a volunteer director, is a developmental ringing ensemble whose primary goal is to provide skill-based instruction to ready members for advancement to the CRE. Additionally, (B2B) may perform in less intensive performance settings that assist Capital Ringers in its community outreach.

The Artistic Director directs the Capital Ringers Ensemble and is responsible for all preparation and planning necessary for successful rehearsals and performances. The Artistic Director works in collaboration with the (B2B) director to ensure that those members are progressing towards inclusion in the Capital Ringers Ensemble. Currently, the time commitment required on the part of the Artistic Director averages 20 hours per month with more during performance seasons and less in other months.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (including but not limited to):

- 1) Ensure CRE's ongoing musical creativity and consistent development.
- 2) Propose, annually, a music program budget for Board action and execute associated financial responsibilities.
- 3) Take full responsibility for the repertoire and performances of CRE, to include development of a theme for each concert season, season, collaboration on production aspects with the Tech Team, and maintenance of the overall music program within Board-approved budgetary limits.
- 4) Identify ringing members through audition or other processes, placing members in the appropriate ensemble (CRE or B2B).
- 5) Develop ringers' technical skills and musicianship to maintain high-quality performance at advanced skill levels, thereby improving musical and artistic results.
- 6) Encourage and nurture skill development, including participation in clinics and festivals and other opportunities to improve techniques and performances.
- 7) Plan, prepare for, and conduct rehearsals of the Capital Ringers Ensemble currently on Sundays from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Conley's United Methodist Church, Lewes, DE.
- 8) Collaborate with the Director of B2B on meeting the goals of this ensemble as established by the Board of Directors.

- 9) Work together with the Board of Directors and Support Team Leaders in arranging performance schedules, selecting venues, and attaining organizational goals; and
- 10) Serve as a voting member on the Board of Directors.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1) At least three years' experience in conducting a musical ensemble
- 2) Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Music Education preferred
- 3) Knowledge of handbell techniques and the ability to teach handbell techniques
- 4) Familiarity with handbell repertoire
- 5) Keyboard skills at a level to accompany and support ensemble performance as needed
- 6) Knowledge of and skill with:
 - a. Elements of successful performance;
 - b. Recognizing and working developmentally with individual differences in ability, personality, and interests;
 - c. Teaching and learning; and
 - d. Motivation
- 7) Strong leadership and interpersonal skills with the ability to engage in cooperative, outgoing, enthusiastic, and energetic interactions with stakeholders as required
- 8) Prior experience working within a volunteer setting
- 9) Excellent public speaking skills

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1) This position is a contractual (non-employee) arrangement with a monthly stipend paid at the beginning of the month and travel reimbursement provided at the end of each performance season.
- 2) Rehearsals take place weekly September through November for multiple late November and early December performances.
- 3) Rehearsals take place weekly January through April for multiple late April and early May performances.
- 4) Attendance is required at monthly Board of Directors meetings, occasional General Membership meetings, and other meetings as needed.
- 5) This position begins January 1, 2023; however, the successful candidate may begin as Artistic Director Designate in August of 2022, working with the current Artistic Director for leadership development and transition.