



STAFF SINGER

Position Description

Position: Staff Singer
Status: Part-time / Seasonal / Non-Exempt, Hourly
Reports to: Artistic Director

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Pacific Chorale, a staff-core/volunteer chorus and resident ensemble of the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, CA is seeking professional choristers to serve as paid **Staff Singers** in the ensemble. Pacific Chorale presents between five to eight programs during its annual concert season that typically runs from September through June, with occasional contracted services during the summer. In addition to presenting its own concert season, Pacific Chorale is frequently engaged to perform approximately three to seven additional programs each year with Pacific Symphony and other regional arts partners. During a usual season, Staff Singers may typically be engaged on two to ten programs each year, depending upon the Artistic Director's casting. The ideal candidate must be a strong musician and confident sight-reader. In addition, candidates must possess a positive attitude, professional demeanor and work ethic. Lastly, they must be confident providing musical leadership within their individual voice sections and the chorus at large.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Attend and actively participate in all rehearsals and performances for programs on which you are engaged.
- Provide musical leadership and support for the volunteer singers within your voice section.
- On occasion, prepare and sing solos or within small ensembles, as requested. Some substantial solos may require auditions, to be scheduled during rehearsals.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Must possess excellent musicianship. Must be a confident musical sight reader and ensemble singer.
- A bachelor's degree in music from an accredited college or university is recommended or demonstration of equivalent work experience and personal training.
- Should demonstrate and model a strong sense of musical leadership and vocal security and serve as source of musical support for the volunteer singers in the ensemble.
- Should possess a general sense of group leadership and consistently model professional behavior by being punctual, reliable, and personable at all rehearsals and performances.
- Should be able to work collaboratively with a wide range of staff and volunteer artists.
- Must have reliable transportation as Staff Singers must be able to attend rehearsals (typically in Newport Beach, CA) and performances at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts (Costa Mesa, CA) and other venues across Southern California.



WORK ENVIRONMENT

- Rehearsals are usually held between September and June on Mondays and some Tuesdays, between 7:15 – 10:00 p.m. and on occasional Saturdays and other weeknights. Performances typically are on select weekend evenings with occasional afternoon performances and occasional evenings during the week, especially when the chorus is engaged by Pacific Symphony.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- 2023-2024 Season Rates: As part-time seasonal employees, Staff Singers receive \$28.67 per rehearsal hour (or \$86.01 for a typical three-hour minimum rehearsal call) and \$40.00 per performance hour (or \$140.00 for a typical three-and-a-half-hour minimum performance call). In addition, Staff Singers may receive additional compensation for assigned and auditioned solos. As part-time employees, Staff Singers are eligible to accrue paid sick-time for hours worked.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Online Application & Prescreening

To apply for this position, please visit: www.pacificchorale.org/auditions to submit an online audition application form. Staff Applicants are required to submit prescreening recordings as part of the application process. Applicants must also upload a current resume highlighting your relevant performance experience. Qualified candidates will be invited to audition during our winter open auditions.

AUDITION PROCESS

Singing

You will perform one classical art song or aria of your choosing, not longer than three minutes in length. A pianist will be provided (please bring a copy of your music for the pianist).

Prepared Excerpts

You will prepare two required choral excerpts from Handel's *Messiah* and Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms*. PDFs of these excerpts are available online.

Sight-reading

You will be asked to read musical passages at sight. Our audition team will evaluate your ability to read musical intervals and rhythmic patterns.

Vocal Flexibility

You may be asked to perform a short selection from the standard choral repertoire to evaluate your vocal flexibility.



ABOUT PACIFIC CHORALE

The mission of Pacific Chorale is to inspire our community through artistry and innovation in choral music performances and education programs.

The Grammy Award-winning PACIFIC CHORALE is one of America's great choirs and an Orange County cultural treasure. Led by Artistic Director Robert Istad, the resident chorus at Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, CA presents its own concert series each season, featuring sweeping programming that builds upon its trailblazing legacy of championing contemporary composers while also including sublime choral masterworks and joyous holiday concerts. The organization, founded in 1968, places a significant emphasis on choral music education, providing acclaimed programs for both youth and adults, and offers an extensive collection of exceptional free digital offerings as well, reflecting its commitment to making choral music accessible to everyone. Pacific Chorale enjoys a long-standing partnership with Pacific Symphony, with whom the choir made its Carnegie Hall debut in 2018. The chorus also often appears with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, has toured extensively to Europe, South America, and Asia, and collaborated with numerous national and international symphonies.

For more information about Pacific Chorale, please visit www.pacificchorale.org.

Pacific Chorale is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and actively and enthusiastically seeks a diverse pool of candidates.