



**Job Title:** Project Opera Music Director  
**Reports to:** Community Education Director  
**Classification:** Full-time, Exempt  
**Salary:** Commensurate with experience plus benefits (paid vacation, sick days, health, dental, flex spending, life/disability insurance, 403B)

### **JOB SUMMARY:**

The Music Director position consists of leading Project Opera, a vocal training program for children ages 8-18 (.5 FTE), and serving as a Teaching Artist for Music Out Loud, an El Sistema-inspired afterschool program for local school children (.5 FTE).

### **SUMMARY OF ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

Duties include establishing and maintaining relationships with strategic community partners, developing curriculum, and conducting program assessment and evaluation. Additional duties include assisting in program fund development, serving as a community spokesperson and other related duties that support and promote both programs.

#### *For Project Opera:*

- Choose and rehearse appropriate repertoire
- Audition prospective students for Project Opera, Summer Camps
- Prepare students for main stage children's chorus (when needed)
- Provide overall musical direction for program, including Summer Opera Camps
- Provide musical input for the commissioning of new age-appropriate opera

#### *For Music Out Loud:*

- Develop, coordinate, and schedule on-site school classes and off-site events
- Identify, maintain and cultivate relationships of schools/teachers/families participants
- Develop appropriate opera-based curriculum
- Conduct program evaluation
- Provide up-to-date communications about program to internal and external stakeholders
- Maintain regular office hours
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Community Education Director
- Report to and work in collaboration with the Community Education Director

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Extensive professional operatic performance experience required
- Extensive background in musical, vocal and theatrical pedagogy required
- Bachelor's degree required, advanced degree preferred

- Ability to work some nights and weekends required
- Must have own vehicle
- Computer experience/aptitude required; knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite helpful
- Exemplary written and verbal communications skills
- Ability to prioritize and multi-task
- Ability to work well with others
- Ability to work accurately and with attention to detail
- Understanding of state and national education standards

### **ABOUT PROJECT OPERA:**

Since 2004, Project Opera is a vocal training program that offers training for youth in both a traditional choral setting and a staged operatic setting. Through the exploration of choral and operatic music, students gain knowledge in vocal technique, stage movement and foreign languages with a presentation of either a fully staged youth opera production or concert at the end of the year.

*Project Opera* consists of three co-ed ensembles:

**Ragazzi** (grades 4-7) explore the world of opera and choral music and develop skills in multi-part singing; participants serve as the children's chorus for Minnesota Opera mainstage productions when needed.

**Giovani** (grades 8-12) perform primarily in a choral music setting, developing the fundamentals of solo singing and basic acting skills; and

**Apprentices** (grade 12) are a select group of advanced students from *Giovani* who develop skills in solo singing, stage presence, language skills, and audition techniques. Students seriously considering a career in singing are ideal candidates for this program.

Extensions of Project Opera are summer camps for changed and unchanged voices. In June a week-long residential camp is offered for high school students on the campus of Shattuck-St Mary's School in Faribault, Minnesota. In July, a week-long day camp is offered for unchanged voices.

### **ABOUT MUSIC OUT LOUD:**

In its second year, Music Out Loud strives to give children and teens the knowledge, skills, and passion to be a contributing member of society, and thrive in a complex world. Through high-impact, high-frequency contact with students, Music Out Loud uses opera as a means to develop the whole student through an interdisciplinary curriculum of music and theater. Students learn the importance of the ensemble, teamwork, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, creative thinking, by studying opera in all its elements, i.e. singing, acting, playing, composing, stage craft, design, etc.

### **To apply:**

Please email a cover letter and resume to Jamie Andrews at [andrews@mnopera.org](mailto:andrews@mnopera.org). References and work samples may be requested. Application accepted until April 11, 2016.

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