

Orchestra of the Eastern Shore

Job Description

Music Director/Orchestra Conductor

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The Music Director/Orchestra Conductor is a paid position, with compensation based on the number of rehearsals and performances conducted during the season. As a baseline, 35 sessions per season and a stipend of \$250 per session. Administrative tasks are carried out by the board members and other volunteers. Over the years we have developed a schedule of rehearsals, performances, and venues which works well.

Duties:

- Select and prepare music for concerts, assign parts, rehearse the orchestra, and select guest artists;
- Recruit and select new orchestra members by audition;
- Develop concert programs and supporting budgetary details for the upcoming season. Present it to the board in July for discussion and approval. Programs may include guest soloists and guest musicians for supporting parts. Budgetary details include estimated fees and travel expenses (per a set schedule) for guest musicians, and purchase of sheet music as needed. Concert programs for previous 10 years or more can be provided as well as format of the season plan presentation to the board;
- Conduct weekly two hour rehearsals from early September through early May. As the players are non-professional, a teaching component of the rehearsals, especially for strings, is very important. Rehearsal have traditionally been held Monday evenings from 7 to 9 pm at Hungars Church in Bridgetown, VA;
- Present three pairs of concerts during the season – a Friday evening performance in Accomack County and Sunday afternoon in Northampton. Usual venues are Nandua High School, Market St. Methodist Church, or Cokesbury Methodist Church (Accomack), and Hungars Church in Bridgetown/Machipongo (Northampton). Concerts are generally about an hour in length with intermission. Orchestra also participates in the annual Onancock Christmas Concert in early December, about 25 minutes;
- Consider additional performances as mutually agreed upon by the Board according to orchestra availability.

Orchestra Description

The *Orchestra of the Eastern Shore*, founded in Onancock, Virginia in 1999, is a chamber orchestra with strings and winds concentrating in classical repertoire and occasional more contemporary works. The orchestra was founded in 2004 and awarded 501c3 status the following year. The orchestra is governed by a Board of Directors, of which the MD/OC is an ex-officio member. Funding is provided by a Friends Group, donations at concerts, and for many years annual grants from the Town of Onancock and the VCA. Musicians are drawn from surrounding Eastern Shore communities and include professional educators, community members, and students. The orchestra regularly presents fall, winter, and spring concerts in Accomack and Northampton Counties, and performs in the annual Christmas in Onancock concert in December. Dr. Paul S. Kim is our third Music Director, having served since the 2014 season; due to increasing family and work commitments, he will be retiring at the end of the 2023-24 season.