

Suburban Symphony Orchestra Music Director

Suburban Symphony Orchestra (SSO) invites applications for the position of Music Director.

SSO's Music Director, Martin Kessler, will be stepping down at the end of the 2017-2018 season after 38 years of leading the orchestra in that role. SSO intends to ask highly qualified candidates interested in the position (who have not appeared with the orchestra recently) to guest conduct a concert.

SSO is a community orchestra made up of both talented avocational musicians and music professionals. In the fall of 2017, SSO will be entering its 63rd year of presenting free concerts to Northeast Ohioans.

SSO's past season, its history, photos and sound clips from past performances, can all be found on the orchestras' website, www.suburbansymphony.org.

Music Director Duties and Responsibilities

1. Develop the season's programming designed in conjunction with a committee of orchestra members. Programming will be consistent with the skills of the SSO membership.
2. Prepare SSO in rehearsals for performances.
3. Select a guest conductor for one concert each season.
4. Arrange for soloists, showcasing regional talent. In addition must be able to network/develop relationships with musical peers for future seasons programming
5. Audition new members; determine seating in the string sections; select the professional string leadership positions. (Concertmaster, Principal Second Violin, Viola and Cello are contracted professionals)
6. Work with the SSO's Board, General Manager, Librarian and Personnel Manager.
7. Attend meetings of the Executive Board which occur 5-6 times each season.

Music Director Skills

1. In-depth knowledge of orchestral music and western musical history
2. Programming experience
3. At least 5 years conducting experience and working with string instruments, as well as experience as a solo or ensemble performer
4. Knowledge of musical techniques and concepts in the various scores, and the ability to teach and communicate these aspects to the orchestra

SSO rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30PM-10:00PM from late August to late May. SSO presents five Sunday afternoon concerts each season, each lasting approximately 90 minutes. A dress rehearsal is held on the Saturday morning preceding the concert. Rehearsals and concerts are at Beachwood High School in Beachwood, Ohio.

Candidates should submit an application letter and resume, including the contact information of three references to MDsearch.sso@gmail.com. If you are a music educator in the public or private schools, your reference may be that of three students, along with contact information for their parents. Please put Search Committee in the subject line. Qualified candidates will be contacted for further information and to schedule a meeting with members of the search committee. The application deadline is June 30, 2017. Questions may be addressed to MDsearch.sso@gmail.com. Candidates from Northeast Ohio are preferred.

Suburban Symphony Orchestra reserves the right to alter the procedures that are described, at any time and for any reason. We look forward to hearing from you.