

Director of Music

Job Description
Full-Time

Summary

As principal organist and choirmaster, the Director of Music will oversee the various music ministries of St. James Episcopal Church, a historical, vibrant, and growing downtown congregation in Baton Rouge serving over 2000 members with an Average Sunday Attendance around 300. St. James has two principal choirs and is looking to further grow the music ministry. St. James also recently signed a contract for a new 34-rank Goulding & Wood organ to be installed by December 2020.

Responsibilities

I. Musical

- Conduct both the Chancel Choir (adult) and the Treble Choir (youth).
- Educate the choir(s) and congregation on the Anglican tradition of music.
- Play organ at all services as needed, including Sunday services, weddings, funerals, and other church feast days.
- Develop and expand the music program to include offerings separate from Sunday morning such as choral evensong, lessons and carols, musical recitals, etc.
- Explore options for expanding the music program such as a children's choir, bell choir, etc.

II. Administrative

- Recruit new choir members and build community within the choir.
- Hire and manage all paid singers for the Chancel Choir.
- Recruit and manage the Treble Choir youth members that audition from all over Baton Rouge and from various faith traditions.
- Select appropriate anthems, service music, congregational hymns, preludes, and postludes for the various services of the church.
- Be responsible for all aspects of instrument maintenance.
- Attend regular staff meetings.
- Office duties also include assisting with editing all bulletins and programs, writing educational notes for the congregation, and writing periodic articles for other church publications.
- Oversee production and organization of all musical offerings.
- Advise as needed on music for weddings and funerals at the church and see that church policies are carried out for these events.
- Perform other duties as may be requested or required within the scope and intent of the Director of Music position.

III. Community

- Serve as a music ambassador of St. James in the Baton Rouge community, at the LSU School of Music, and within the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana.
- Play an active role in the life of the parish.

Education & Experience

This position has a minimum requirement of a Master of Music degree and/or commensurate church experience, preferably in an Episcopal or Anglican Church.

Skills & Strengths

The Director of Music must be an exceptional choral conductor, confident and skilled in working with a range of singers, and well-versed in the music of the Anglican tradition, including a background in Anglican chant. The Director of Music must also have experience working with youth.

He/she must be an organist of high caliber, fluent and exceptional in the organ repertory, service playing, hymnody, choral accompanying, and liturgical improvisation. He/she must be confident and skilled in conducting the choir from the organ console. The Director of Music must have or quickly learn a working knowledge of the Episcopal liturgy as contained in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, familiar with the liturgical calendar, Episcopal service music, and the 1982 Hymnal.

From an administrative standpoint, the Director of Music must have excellent computer and organizational skills. He/she must be punctual, professional, and have exceptional communication skills. He/she must also demonstrate initiative and success in starting or building music programs.

Employment is contingent on certification in the Diocese of Louisiana's *Safeguarding God's Children* and *Safeguarding God's People*, including a background check.

Salary & Benefits

- Competitive Salary
- 403b matching retirement plan
- Major medical individual health coverage (spouse and family coverage offered at an additional cost to the employee)
- Paid leave for vacation, personal time, and continued education

To Apply

Interested candidates are asked to send a cover letter and resume by March 31, 2019 to:

search@stjamesbr.org

or

Music Director Search
St. James Episcopal Church
205 N. Fourth St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70801