



ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR / ASYO (Youth Orchestra) MUSIC DIRECTOR
Position Announcement

The Alabama Symphony Orchestra seeks a talented and dynamic conductor for the position of ASO Assistant Conductor and Alabama Symphony Youth Orchestra Music Director. The job includes serving as the cover conductor for the ASO, and there will also be some opportunities to conduct the orchestra in education and community concerts.

The ASYO requires a conductor with long-range vision, leadership, and a strong commitment to building the program in the community. As Music Director of the ASYO, this individual will serve as the Youth Orchestra's principal conductor and oversee all artistic matters, in coordination with ASO Director of Education Maria Wilson, for the ensemble: including auditions, rehearsals, and repertoire selection.

ABOUT THE ALABAMA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Alabama Symphony Orchestra (ASO) was born from the efforts of several volunteer musicians who gathered to perform for the Birmingham Music Festival on Friday, April 29, 1921. Today, the ASO continues to grow and expand its services to the residents of Birmingham and the state of Alabama, reaching more than 100,000 individuals a year through concert series, youth programs, and education and community engagement efforts – fulfilling our mission: to change lives through music. The Music Director and Principal Conductor is Carlos Izcaray, the Elton B. Stephens Chair.

As the largest Arts organization in the state of Alabama, the ASO employs 53 salaried musicians who perform more than 100 orchestral concerts per year. The organization is supported through the ASO's Board of Directors, which consists of approximately 50 civic and business leaders. In addition, the ASO currently employs a full-time staff of approximately two dozen.

Assistant Conductor

- Conduct ASO education, community, or family concerts as requested.
- Be available for media events, speaking engagements, and other activities as determined.
- Assist with production elements such as recordings, multimedia, and other related activities.
- Assist and provide support to the ASO Music Director (Carlos Izcaray) as needed.
- Serve as the cover conductor for the Music Director, the Principal Pops Conductor, and guest conductors for all rehearsals and concerts of the ASO.

ASYO Music Director

- Conduct all rehearsals and concerts of The Alabama Symphony Youth Orchestra as agreed by contract.
- Collaborate with Education Director, Director of Artistic Administration (Artistic Coordinator), and ASO Music Director to plan the ASYO concert season. Ensure repertoire is appropriate for the level of the ensemble while also making best use of the ASYO players

- Determine overall rehearsal schedule, number of full rehearsals, and number of sectional rehearsals.
- Oversee student auditions, both for admission to the ensemble and seating placement. Establish audition requirements for all instruments.
- Coordinate rehearsal priorities with all sectional coaches.
- Determine stage set-up for the ensemble and arrange any special needs with the Education Director and/or General Manager.
- Collaborate with the Education Director, ASO Music Director, ASO Education Committee, and ASYO Parents Organization, and the ASO Artistic Advisory committee in developing long-range artistic plans for the ensemble.
- Serve as an artistic liaison for the ASYO with schools and community music educators.
- Maintain an active membership in the Alabama Music Educators Association and Alabama Orchestra Association- attending conferences, clinics and participating in actively recruiting students/building relationships with the band and orchestra teachers in Alabama.
- Help develop the overall public image of the ASYO by playing a visible and active role in the community.
- Study best practices of established youth orchestras and maintain a presence in the national youth orchestra community.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Substantial conducting experience.
- A Graduate Degree in Orchestral/Instrumental Conducting or commensurate conducting experience in the orchestral field are expected.
- Experience conducting youth orchestras or other student ensembles is extremely desirable.
- Thorough knowledge of symphonic repertoire and concert programming.
- Strong leadership and personal communication skills, particularly with young people.
- Strong commitment to music education.
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills.
- Exceptional organizational skills and management ability.
- Must be eligible to work in the United States

COMPENSATION

- Annual starting salary is \$42,000, commensurate with experience and with opportunity for growth based on additional responsibilities.

- 100% of Blue Cross PPO premium for employee
- Immediate 100% vesting in company paid retirement through TIAA-CREF, employer contributes an amount equal to 2.5% of employee wages
- Company-paid life insurance and disability insurance
- Option for Flexible Spending Accounts

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Candidates should submit a letter of interest, current resume, contact information for three professional references, and sample programs for a Young People's Concert (audience grades 3-6) and a Youth Orchestra Concert. Video materials must be submitted online through video sites such as YouTube, Vimeo, BlipTV, etc. Submissions are also acceptable through Cloud services such as Dropbox, Google Drive, iCloud, etc. Video should be a maximum of 30 minutes and should be a close front-view perspective of a recent rehearsal or performance. Candidates should provide a personal, on-camera introduction no longer than one minute.

Please submit ALL materials by email to:

Clay A. McCollum in the Artistic Department at ASO, cmccollum@alabamasymphony.org. No hard-copy recordings will be accepted. *All materials must be submitted by individual candidates rather than en-masse materials by managers.*

All application materials must be received by Wednesday, March 15th, 2023.

AUDITION PROCESS

Qualified finalists will be invited to audition and interview for the position in Birmingham, Alabama during the weekend of May 19th 2023. Candidate may be asked to conduct a regional youth orchestra and the Alabama Symphony Orchestra.

AUDITION CONTACT

Clay A. McCollum
Phone: 205-314-6947
Email: cmccollum@alabamasymphony.org
Website: www.alabamasymphony.org