

Artistic Director/Principal Conductor



Position

Orchestra Northern Arizona, Flagstaff's community-based orchestra for over two decades and a 501(c) (3) since 2009, seeks an Artistic Director/Principal Conductor beginning with the 2019-2020 season. This person, in coordination with ONA's Board, selects and conducts the orchestra's repertoire, recruits musicians and guest performers, works to maximize the potential and performance of the orchestra, and is ONA's primary liaison with the Flagstaff community.

Candidate Profile

The successful candidate will have previous conducting experience, broad knowledge of the classical repertoire, and a firm understanding of all sections of the orchestra.

The Orchestra

Orchestra Northern Arizona is a non-profit, intergenerational community orchestra that brings together players of diverse backgrounds and levels of experience to share the joy of playing and performing classical music.

Our Mission

It is **our mission** to entertain our community with free, informal concerts for the whole family, inspiring musicians and audiences alike via the classical music experience.

We believe that music is an invaluable part of community life and strive to make orchestral music available to everyone, regardless of age or income, through free concerts in a family-friendly, informal venue. Our unique, quality programming entertains, educates, and involves our diverse audiences, which include young families with children. We believe children should have access to the arts and know firsthand that exposure to live symphonic music can be life changing.

We are committed to educational partnerships that bring musicians and students together; to collaborative efforts that support other arts organizations within our community; and to giving all musicians, amateur and professional alike, the opportunity to learn and perform orchestral music.

Our History

ONA began twenty-eight years ago, when Jean Mathew, an administrator at Coconino Community College (CCC), recognized the need for a regional community orchestra to serve the cultural and educational needs of musicians and audiences in northern Arizona. The original CCC orchestra quickly developed the tradition of performing the great classic masterpieces to the community free of charge. After funding considerations forced the college to cut the orchestra, the musicians and artistic director decided to form Orchestra Northern Arizona, which received non-profit status in December 2009.

Our Model

With an inclusive community model, Orchestra Northern Arizona welcomes all community musicians – regardless of ability, background, or experience – to join. Lawyers, astronomers, medical professionals, educators, writers, business owners, and students make up our musician membership. We are one of the only performing arts groups of our kind that does not require auditions, and while we have several professional musicians in the orchestra, many of our musicians have returned to their instrument after a hiatus of some kind. ONA gives these musicians the space to reacquire former skills and to then develop them. ONA also offers musician workshops for orchestra members.

Although ONA is a community orchestra, we have a policy of playing original compositions, not arrangements. ONA maintains a roster of 55–65 musicians, which helps us meet orchestral standards for representation in all sections. To ensure quality performances, musicians meet weekly for two-hour rehearsals, averaging eight rehearsals per performance. ONA performs at least four concerts per season.

Administration

ONA operates under the direction of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for ONA's budget, marketing, fund-raising activities, and educational outreach. The Board is supported by a paid administrative coordinator and grant writer. The Artistic Director works closely with the Board as an ex-officio, non-voting member.

Job Description

A. Artistic Director

- Develops ONA music repertoire in conjunction with Board-selected members of the orchestra.
- Via rehearsals and performances, interacts with ONA musicians and audiences about the music and its history to educate and enhance enjoyment of the selected music.
- Selects guest artists and soloists, with suggestions by and approval of the Board.
- Responsible for the positioning of musicians within ONA to provide balance within sections.
- Acts as community liaison for the orchestra and participates in recruiting musicians.
- Collaborates with area non-profit organizations, along with the Board of Directors, to benefit both the Orchestra's financial status and the Orchestra's standing in the community.
- Works closely with the ONA Board of Directors, attends Board meetings (as a non-voting member of the Board), and interacts with committees, as needed.
- Oversees the activities of the Assistant Conductor.
- Reports to the Board and recommends member additions and exclusions from the Orchestra if necessary.

B. Principal Conductor

- Conducts ONA rehearsals and performances. Makes alternate arrangements if necessary.
- Directs ONA rehearsals and performances to achieve optimal musicality.
- Assigns duties to the Assistant Conductor.
- Maintains professional verbal and written communications.

Compensation

Compensation will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. The position is part time and is offered as a 12-month, renewable contract. The position does not include benefits.

Application

Application must include: a personal letter of interest from the candidate, resume, and a DVD of his/her conducting (if available). Please email the above items to helloorchestraNA@gmail.com, or send them to Orchestra Northern Arizona, 809 W. Riordan, #100-261, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

To learn more about Orchestra Northern Arizona, please visit us at www.orchestrana.org.

This position is open until filled, with review of applications beginning July 15, 2019.

We are looking forward to you becoming a member of ONA's community!

Questions?

Please direct questions to helloorchestrana@gmail.com.



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