

Second-Wind Ensemble Music Director

Role Title: Music Director

Reports to: Second-Wind Ensemble committee

Role description

The MD reports to the Second-Wind Ensemble committee and works closely with the President and the Librarian. The successful candidate will be experienced in performance and rehearsal practice with bands and ensembles and is expected to bring broad knowledge of the band repertoire.

The MD will play a leadership role in collaboratively creating, developing and implementing a new future for the Second-Wind Ensemble.

The MD will adhere to the principles of fairness and sensitivity in all matters pertaining to the members of the Second-Wind Ensemble, as described in the Ensemble's policy documents. These matters will include decisions regarding performance planning, instrumental balance, seating, sectional rehearsals, appointing section leaders etc.

The MD will be prepared to promote the Second-Wind Ensemble and to be its public face. The MD is expected to be an excellent communicator, public speaker, and a strong leader with a commitment to working collaboratively with the band members and the committee.

Qualifications

Music degree or similar, in performance/conducting or demonstrated commensurate experience.

Experience

Experience conducting and delivering performances with a variety of bands and ensembles.

Mastery of at least one instrument and the ability to coach all sections to achieve the desired level of play and musical interpretation.

Experience performing as a member of a band/ensemble/orchestra.

Capabilities

Effective and efficient rehearsal technique.

Excellent time management and communication skills.

Experience in assessing musical abilities of adult players and developing appropriate repertoire.

Musical and personal leadership skills, including the ability to motivate, inform and elicit the best efforts of amateur musicians learning unfamiliar and sometimes challenging repertoire.

Ability to inspire and communicate musically and orally with band members and audiences.

Willingness to represent the Ensemble in the community and to support and participate in promoting the Ensemble.

Demonstrated competence in administrative skills and computer literacy.

Able to commit to a weekly rehearsal schedule on Thursday evenings at Pembroke School and to regular performances through the year, including an annual May Showcase performance.

Musical Responsibilities

Programming repertoire

Plan programming for the annual May Showcase performance well in advance of the performance and ensure the Ensemble is well rehearsed and confident to perform.

Plan appropriate repertoire for regular band festivals and community events.

Music Library

Work with the Librarian to ensure music is available and within budget constraints.

Regularly review the repertoire and charts and in collaboration with the Librarian, retire charts that are no longer needed.

Rehearsal and Concerts

Prepare and conduct weekly rehearsals, scheduled concerts and an annual workshop. Typically, there is a one-day workshop per year, an annual Showcase performance in May, three band festivals and two or three community events.

Engage with the audience via commentary during concerts.

Musicians

Participate in selecting substitute players and additional musicians when needed due to instrumental gaps or instrumentation requirements, in particular for performances.

Determine seating in sections in the Ensemble and ensure a balance in the number of musicians playing parts at any one time.

Create a strong and committed musical atmosphere of growth for all musicians.

Coordinate sectionals as part of concert preparation, as necessary.

Musical Collaborations

Collaborate with the committee to identify and approach local artists to appear with the Ensemble for the May Showcase performance, and coordinate their participation.

Advocate for the Ensemble within state and national band organisations.

Non-musical Responsibilities

Committee

Attend monthly committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting to provide a Music Director report.

Work with the committee to recruit and retain new and existing members.

Work with the committee to foster a supportive, positive and inclusive culture.

Remuneration will be negotiated.