

Vallejo Choral Society – Collaborative Pianist Position

Collaborative Pianist Position Overview

Vallejo Choral Society (VCS) seeks a Collaborative Pianist to accompany the Symphonic and Chamber Choir rehearsals and performances beginning with the 2021–2022 concert season. The Collaborative Pianist will support VCS’s core values: a commitment to musical excellence and artistic integrity and passion; and a contribution to the highest level of musical experience, learning, and enjoyment for VCS members and audiences.

The Collaborative Pianist serves under contract with the VCS Board of Directors and supports the musical and artistic leadership and standards of performance of the VCS Artistic Director, Derek Tam. This is a nine-month position with weekly commitments from early September through the end of May.

The Ideal Candidate

VCS seeks a talented professional keyboardist who understands and relates to the organization’s roots and unique history, is comfortable serving on a collaborative team with our Board and Artistic Director, is familiar and comfortable helping to bring amateur singers to their full potential, and brings expertise to propel the organization into its next phase of growth. The Collaborative Pianist will recognize our singers’ desire to continue learning the art and science of singing, vocal technique, intonation, tone production, and diction. The Collaborative Pianist will prepare for weekly rehearsals and bring a positive, energetic, consistent, supportive, and collaborative spirit to rehearsals and concerts.

Specific Responsibilities

- Providing accompaniment for weekly rehearsals (Wednesday evenings, 7–10 pm) and monthly Sunday evening rehearsals (three programs of repertoire per season)
- Providing accompaniment for performances when needed (about six concerts per season)
- Accompanying for special engagements, such as the annual St. Peter’s Chapel concert
- Providing accompaniment for the Fall Retreat and Spring Vocal Workshop
- Assisting the Board in lining up a qualified substitute in the case of absence
- Thorough preparation for rehearsals and performances
- Collaborating with the Artistic Director in musical leadership
- Capability and willingness to substitute for the Artistic Director when needed, with support of the established pedagogical approach
- Capability and willingness to lead occasional sectionals before and during regular rehearsals
- Accompanying occasional soloist and small ensemble rehearsals and auditions
- Managing instrument set-up before rehearsals and returning to storage after
- Promoting VCS in the Solano County community and throughout the San Francisco Bay Area



Expertise and Qualifications

- Fluency in sight-reading
- Excellent musicianship and aural acuity
- Thorough score preparation
- Effective choral and orchestral accompaniment
- Demonstrated evidence of artistic accomplishment and exemplary technical keyboard skills
- Knowledge of diverse repertoire and a lively intellectual and musical curiosity
- Understanding of vocal production, vocal pedagogy, and rehearsal process
- Ability to inspire through contagious enthusiasm
- Ability to work collaboratively with boards, directors, volunteers, and members
- Bachelor's degree or higher in music
- 1+ years' experience professional accompaniment

Application Process

Applicants must submit a cover letter and résumé or curriculum vitae by August 13, 2021, to info@vallejochoral.org. Questions may be directed to the same address.

Upon invitation by the VCS Board, candidates may be asked to submit references and sample video or audio recording from a recent rehearsal or performance. Selected candidates will be invited to interview with the search committee, and final candidates will be invited to audition.

The selectee must provide proof of legal eligibility to work in the United States. The Vallejo Choral Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

About the Organization

Unique among area choruses, Vallejo Choral Society is a premier non-auditioned symphonic choir with a commitment to excellence. In good times, we produce outstanding concerts and give our singers opportunities to perform choral masterpieces alongside some of the best instrumentalists in the Bay Area. In tough times, we keep our extended choral community united, inspired, singing, and learning through virtual programming.

To open our 103rd season in September 2020, VCS delivered a unique 13-week virtual Bach program, brilliantly crafted and presented by VCS Artistic Director Derek Tam. The program culminated in a live-streamed finale concert of J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor. In February 2021, VCS hosted a varied series of clinician-led virtual choral workshops, and in March, rounding out our season, another three-month virtual program, this time featuring Handel's *Israel in Egypt*.

For more information about Vallejo Choral Society, visit our webpage at www.vallejochoral.org and our [Facebook page](#), or email info@vallejochoral.org.