

San Francisco Girls Chorus

TRAINING CHORUS DIRECTOR

The Training Chorus Director reports to the San Francisco Girls Chorus' Director of Choral Studies. They teach and prepare repertoire and lead performances for the Training Chorus of SFGC's Chorus School (ages 6 through 8).

The Chorus School annually serves more than 350 girls, young women, and gender-expansive youth, ages 4 to 18, from across the greater Bay Area, provides a comprehensive music education that begins with a Prep program for choristers ages 4 – 6, and continues through five levels of progressively challenging training. Upon graduation from the Chorus School at the end of Level IV, singers are eligible to audition for SFGC's GRAMMY Award-winning Premier Ensemble, led by Artistic Director Valérie Sainte-Agathe.

The open Training Chorus Director position rehearses in San Francisco at SFGC's Hayes Valley, Bayview, and East Bay locations. The Training Chorus Director must be available to lead rehearsals at all three locations.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Select, teach, and conduct a variety of choral repertoire, implement curriculum and set goals for singers in Training Chorus (typically ages 6-7) of the SFGC Chorus School; repertoire should be balanced to provide a variety of unison choral repertoire from unison classical, folk, and contemporary styles; all repertoire is reviewed by the Director of Choral Studies prior to the final selection
- Teach and model healthy vocal technique, including breath support and appropriate singing posture
- Coordinate voice teaching with the SFGC Director of Voice Studies, integrating ensemble and solo repertoire in warm-ups and other vocal coaching sessions
- Integrate music theory and sight singing curricula into the regular rehearsal schedule, working collaboratively with the Director of Choral Studies.
- Provide opportunities for choristers to explore the dramatic elements of repertoire and develop their physicality and expressivity in performance
- Plan, attend, and teach for the annual Level I/Training Chorus Day Camp (2024 Dates: August 5th through 9th)
- Regularly communicate with choristers and families about Chorus School and Training Chorus activities and schedules
- Guide Chorus families about SFGC's program expectations and responsibilities, including each chorister's commitment to learning and attendance at all rehearsals and performances
- Hold annual parent-chorister conferences to discuss musical growth and learning, as well as expectations for Chorus School promotion

- Update and maintain records of Training Chorus choristers, including attendance, information on parent conferences, and chorister progress
- Prepare semi-annual Chorister Repertoire Evaluations and Progress Reports
- Attend San Francisco auditions held throughout the year
- Arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before rehearsal and be prepared to stay 15 minutes after

OTHER

- Directors may be asked to conduct other levels during special rehearsals or performances
- Attend monthly faculty meetings, camp meetings, and other meetings relating to the Chorus School

QUALIFICATIONS:

- B.A. in Music or Music Education, with emphasis on vocal pedagogy and/or choral conducting; Master’s Degree preferred
- Experience and passion for working with young singers.
- Understanding of and proficiency in vocal technique, especially for young female voices.
- Thorough knowledge of classical and concert music repertoire.

POSITION:

The Training Chorus Director is a 20-hour per week, 36 weeks per year (Sep-May), nonexempt position. Additional hours may be assigned. Hours include 8 hours of rehearsal time and 12 hours of preparation and administrative time.

Based on our current schedule, the Training Chorus Fall 2024 schedule is as follows:

- Mondays in Hayes Valley, 4-6 pm
- Tuesdays in Bayview, 4 to 6 pm
- Wednesdays in Hayes Valley, 4-6 pm
- Fridays, in Emeryville 4 to 6 pm

In addition to hours teaching, the weekly work hours include: Music prep time; administrative tasks; repertoire research; meetings with Artistic Director; faculty meetings; concerts and special performances; parent meetings; and tutoring support for individuals or small groups, auditions.

COMPENSATION:¹

Starting compensation will be \$40 per hour. The compensation package includes employer-sponsored health, dental, vision, and long-term disability insurance, a flexible spending plan, and an optional 403(b) retirement plan.

TO APPLY:

Email a brief cover letter, resume, and a list of three professional references to Valérie Sainte-Agathe, vsainte-agathe@sfgirlschorus.org, and include the job title in the subject line. Applications may also be mailed to San Francisco Girls Chorus, 44 Page Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94102. No phone calls, please.

The San Francisco Girls Chorus is an equal-opportunity employer and does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

¹ This reflects the current pay structure at SFGC. This is currently under review and may be updated before this position begins.