



# Westminster School

*Presenting Challenge | Instilling Confidence | Building Character*

**Job Title:** Strings Teacher/Orchestra Director

**Overview:**

Westminster School, a private, independent Pre-K through 8 school with an accelerated curriculum in academics, athletics, and the arts, seeks a highly skilled and passionate Strings Music Director/Orchestra Conductor to lead the 3rd-8th grade orchestra program. The ideal candidate will possess exceptional musical proficiency, leadership abilities, and a commitment to fostering a dynamic learning environment for students of varying skill levels. This individual will play a pivotal role in shaping the musical education and performance opportunities for our students, instilling a love and appreciation for orchestral music while maintaining high standards of artistic excellence. While orchestra is an extracurricular activity that students opt into, they must commit to at least one full year of participation. Ours is a robust, well-established orchestra program that plays a crucial role in Westminster's classical curriculum of which the arts (drama, visual arts, and music) are an essential part.

**Responsibilities:**

- *Teaching and Rehearsals:*
  - Provide individualized strings instruction to one or two students at a time.
  - Conduct orchestra rehearsals with precision, clarity, and enthusiasm.
  - Develop and implement effective rehearsal strategies to maximize ensemble cohesion and musicality.
  - Prepare students for performances, competitions, and other musical events, including Westminster's winter and spring music programs (featuring the orchestra's own songs as well as accompanying the chorus) and supporting school talent shows throughout the year.
- *Musical Direction:*
  - Select appropriate repertoire that challenges and engages students while showcasing their talents.
  - Arrange or adapt music as necessary to accommodate the ensemble's skill level and instrumentation.

- Foster a collaborative atmosphere where students are encouraged to contribute creatively to the ensemble's musical interpretation.
- *Educational Leadership:*
  - Provide mentorship and guidance to student musicians, nurturing their technical skills and musical understanding.
  - Oversee and lead a strings instructor, percussion instructor, and guitar instructor.
  - Develop and implement curriculum objectives.
  - Assess student progress through performance evaluations, auditions, and other assessments.
  - Encourage students to explore diverse musical styles and genres, fostering a well-rounded musical education.
- *Community Engagement:*
  - Regularly communicate with parents of students, administrators, team leader, and teachers regarding orchestra-related happenings.
  - Organize and facilitate concerts, recitals, and outreach events to showcase student talent and engage the community.
  - Cultivate positive relationships with local music organizations, guest artists, and music educators to enrich students' musical experiences.
- *Professional Development:*
  - Stay abreast of current trends and best practices in music education and orchestral performance.
  - Pursue opportunities for professional growth through workshops, conferences, and continuing education.
  - Serve as a resource and advocate for music education within the school and broader community.

### **Skills:**

- Utilize effective classroom management.
- Manage multiple tasks and deadlines effectively, utilizing organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Demonstrate teamwork and flexibility.
- Show strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the patience and ability to inspire and motivate students of diverse backgrounds and abilities.
- Collaborate with school administrators, parents, and other teachers to manage the schedule of orchestra lessons and rehearsals.

### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree in Music Education, Performance, or related field (Master's degree preferred).

- Demonstrated proficiency as a conductor and string instrumentalist, with a thorough understanding of orchestral repertoire and performance practices.
- Prior experience conducting school or youth orchestras, with a proven track record of producing high-quality musical performances.
- Dedication to fostering a supportive and inclusive learning environment that values collaboration, creativity, and personal growth.
- Commitment to ongoing professional development and a passion for advocating for the arts in education.

### **Professional Perks:**

- Competitive salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.
- Comprehensive benefits package, including health insurance, retirement plans, and professional development opportunities.
- Flexible schedule.
- Supportive and collaborative work environment within a close-knit school community.

### **Benefits:**

- Opportunities for professional development.
- Dental insurance
- Employee assistance program
- Flexible spending account
- Health insurance
- Life insurance
- Parental leave
- Professional development assistance
- Retirement plan
- Tuition reimbursement
- Vision insurance

### **Salary:**

Starting salary--\$55K, negotiable based on experience. Additional earnings through teaching lessons once minimum enrollment has been met.

### **Application Process:**

Join us at Westminster School, where every day offers new opportunities to inspire, challenge, and empower young learners on their journey to academic success and personal well-being. If you're ready to make a positive impact and ignite a passion for music in the hearts of our students, we encourage you to submit your application today. Thank you for your interest in joining the Westminster School teaching team! Apply on [our website](#) or send a cover letter and resume to Kate Jacobson, Assistant Head of School, at [kjacobson@westminsterschool.com](mailto:kjacobson@westminsterschool.com).