

Job Opening: KJSOs Prep Winds Music Co-Director

Position Description:

The Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestras, the nation's third-oldest continually-operating youth orchestra organization, has performed hundreds of concerts on every inhabited continent in the world and made a profound impact on generations of musicians. In addition to the flagship ensemble and namesake of the organization, the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra, the organization provides preparation for younger string players hoping to one day join the Junior Symphony through three tiers of Preparatory String Orchestras. To provide parallel training for younger woodwind and brass players, the **Preparatory Winds Ensemble** was established in 2015, the newest member of the KJSO family.

The KJSOs Prep Winds Ensemble now seeks a Music Co-Director to join the current Director, noted area pedagogue and clarinetist Jesse Williams. The 2022 season runs for five months, from January to May; auditions for the ensemble are held in mid-November. The ensemble rehearses on Sunday afternoons and presents a joint concert in early May with the Prep Strings ensembles. The Prep Winds focuses on repertoire and an ensemble experience that prepares its students for orchestral wind playing (namely, individual, or near-individual part assignments), and that do not duplicate the experience of their band programs. Through this training, a cohort of talented young wind players would be prepared and inspired to eventually audition for membership in the KJSO.

Candidate Profile:

The KJSOs Prep Winds Ensemble seeks candidates who are experienced educators, skilled brass players, and competent conductors with effective rehearsal technique. They should have excellent knowledge of possible repertoire for small, and sometimes unique, combinations of woodwind and (especially) brass instruments, as well as the flexibility to adapt work for such an ensemble. They should possess a collaborative temperament well-suited to working with another Co-Director to arrive at a unified vision for the ensemble. The PW Co-Directors are expected to forge relationships with area band directors so as to recruit and then audition students appropriate for membership.

Compensation:

The PW Music Co-Director receives a fee of \$100 per service. Limited additional planning work (e.g. arranging music or minimal administrative tasks) is compensated at a rate of \$20 per hour.

To Apply:

Please email a brief letter of interest and resume to KJSOs Music Director Andrew Koehler (akoehler@kjso.org) by October 15th, 2021.