

## Request for Qualifications:

### The Position:

Grande Ronde Symphony Association Music Director, Academic Year 2018-2019

### Background:

The Grande Ronde Symphony Association is seeking a Music Director for the academic year of 2018-2019. The Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra is the oldest continuously running community orchestra in Oregon, getting its start soon after the end of World War II. The orchestra is a collaboration between the GRSA, Eastern Oregon University, and regional qualified musicians, which rehearses and primarily performs in La Grande, Oregon. The GRSO season follows the academic year of the University, running from the end of September to the end of May, with three subscription concerts in La Grande and a possible concert in Baker City. In addition, the GRSO performs a Children's Concert in association with the fall concert followed by two short performances at an annual holiday community concert in December.



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[GrandeRondeSymphony.org](http://GrandeRondeSymphony.org)

### Position Summary

The Music Director of the Grande Ronde Symphony Association (GRSA) oversees the musical aspects of the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra (GRSO) which includes recruiting musicians, selecting and preparing the music repertoire, and conducting rehearsals and concerts. The Music Director is an independent contractor and not an employee.

### Position Expectations and Schedule

- The position requires approximately twenty-seven rehearsals and up to five concerts for the regular concert season, running from the end of September to the end of May
- If the Music Director is unable to attend a rehearsal, she or he will notify the GRSA as soon as possible and will be responsible for providing a rehearsal plan to the Orchestra Manager

### Position Responsibilities of the Music Director

- Be the primary conductor of the GRSO
- Recruit (with section leaders' assistance) and head the selection process for the GRSO
- Select, order, and prepare repertoire for up to four concerts. Selections should primarily come from the existing library. Music purchases will need to be approved by the GRSA Board and the cost must remain within the budget
- Conduct the regular rehearsals on Wednesdays, 6:30-9:00 pm, dress rehearsals on Tuesday, 6:30-9:00 pm, and the symphony concerts on Wednesday, 6-10:00 pm for the three seasonal concerts; conduct the Children's Concert afternoon of the fall concert: conduct two performances at the annual holiday music festival in December; conduct a possible Baker City concert
- Communicate in a timely manner with key orchestra personnel as needed. (e.g., Orchestra Manager, Concertmaster, etc.)
- Work collaboratively with area music educators and musicians
- Promote the organization's mission as an artistic and community resource by writing concert program notes and be available for interviews
- Inspire and demonstrate concern for the musicians' professional lives, taking into account other commitments musicians may have scheduled
- Attend special Board meetings as needed

- Engage soloists as needed in accordance with GRSA budget and with GRSA approval
- Review and select concerto aria applicants and performers

### **Position Compensation**

The Music Director is considered self-employed and will be responsible for all personal state and federal taxes and any other costs associated with the fulfillment of the contract. The Music Director's contract will include the following compensations:

- Annual consulting fee of \$13,000 – \$16,000, depending on qualifications
- Travel package to be negotiated

### **Position Oversight**

The Music Director reports to the president of the GRSA who in turn communicates with the Board of the GRSA. The president and the GRSA annually evaluate the performance of the Music Director.

### **Position Required Qualifications:**

1. Bachelor of Arts degree (or higher) in a musical field of study with three years or more experience performing the position responsibilities similar to those listed above
2. Significant musical ability including an ear for intonation, balance, tone, color, and score reading
3. Podium presence and personality that inspires confidence, enhancing the performance
4. Effective baton and rehearsal technique in an orchestral setting
5. Basic knowledge of the operation of a non-profit organization
6. Ability to implement imaginative programming ideas, with the goal of presenting the orchestra to a wider audience base
7. Awareness of the current field of solo and group artists for collaborative recruitment
8. Communication skills in writing and public speaking
9. Ability to work with a very diverse orchestra, board, and community
10. The ability to address musical issues such as intonation, timing, balance and interpretation, as they come up in rehearsal

**Application Deadline:** 5:00 pm (PST), May 4, 2018

Please send qualifications, references and resume to:

Grande Ronde Symphony Association  
Attn. Recruitment Committee  
PO Box 824  
La Grande, Oregon 97850

Applications may be submitted via email to: [grsymphony2@gmail.com](mailto:grsymphony2@gmail.com)