

# YOSAL

## YOUTH ORCHESTRA SALINAS

We are seeking a passionate and talented musician and educator to join the team at Youth Orchestra Salinas (YOSAL). This position includes conducting orchestras, teaching group classes, & performing as a professional chamber musician for public concerts and events.

**Title:** YOSAL Music Director

**Location:** Salinas, CA

**Full-time:** 40 hours/week

**Salary Range:** \$50,000 - \$60,000/year; commensurate with experience

**\*\*Must be eligible to work full-time in the U.S.\*\***

Round 1:

**Please send cover letter, resume, and video footage (conducting rehearsal & instrumental performance [15 minutes each]; clear view of the conductor's face & hands) to Executive Director Ameena Maria Khawaja at [ameena@yosal.org](mailto:ameena@yosal.org).**

Round 2:

Zoom interview

Round 3:

Sample concert programs for the season (more information provided if advanced to Round 3)

Round 4:

Should you be a finalist, interviews will be in person at the YOSAL facility in Salinas.

### **Essential Functions and Key Responsibilities include but not limited to:**

Conducting

- Establishing the vision for the future of the Orchestra with the Executive Director & Program Director
- Selecting repertoire for each YOSAL Orchestra that appropriately challenges the student musicians and introduce them and their audiences to a variety of styles, eras of music, significant compositions by a diversity of composers from across the world

- Directing Arranger to adapt parts as necessary
- Recruiting new students through public outreach
- Inspiring and leading the student musicians into delivering creative performances
- Conducting rehearsals and presenting performances
- Guiding musicians through music scores with effective interpretations of tone, tempo, phrasing, dynamics and other musical elements
- Auditioning students for particular seats in the orchestra, selecting soloists, deciding on seasonal or special programs, and selecting guest artists
- Serving as a spokesperson for the orchestra at performances and other public events
- Aiding in fundraising activities and the general promotion of the program
- Establishing and maintaining partnerships with other music organizations throughout Monterey County and beyond
- Contribute content for social media
- Other duties as assigned

#### Teaching Artist

- Teaching group classes to YOSAL students
- Designing and implementing an approved curriculum for YOSAL students in person and/or via Google Meet and Google Classroom if necessary
- Creating lessons for YOSAL students on a weekly basis
  - Lessons to include: Planned orchestral repertoire, etudes, repertoire, technique instruction, specific assignments, as well as any other instructions or assignments given by Executive Director, Music Director, or Program Manager; video tutorials if necessary.
- Leading group rehearsals
- Teaching music classes in Salinas schools - during and/or after school
- Scheduling and conducting private lessons as approved by Directors
- Participating in any YOSAL Teaching Artist group discussions and Google Classes
- Attending staff meetings
- Communicating with Program Director and administrative team regarding students' progress and behavior
- Reporting any and all student issues to Program Director and Administration
- Teaching for YOSAL's summer academy partnership (California Orchestra Academy) if needed
- Other duties as assigned

#### Performer (YOSAL Artist)

- Public performances at private and community events throughout Monterey County as a representative of YOSAL
- Outreach concerts and presentations at YOSAL and throughout Salinas
  - Including schools
- Recruitment
- Researching outlets for performance and outreach opportunities
- Scheduling community performances and outreach events

**Qualifications:**

- Strong commitment to El Sistema's philosophy of social change through music and the mission and goals of YOSAL
- Four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent experience required; post-graduate degree or equivalent experience highly desirable. Bachelors or Masters Degree in Music Performance or Music Education preferred
- A minimum of 2 years leading a youth orchestra or similar ensemble program
- Mastery of at least one instrument and experience as a solo, chamber, and orchestral performer.
- Knowledge and understanding of all instruments used in orchestral performance
- Strong baton technique and experience leading a variety of ensembles of various levels of experience
- Ability to recognize, diagnose, and correct musical, interpretive, rhythmic, balance, and intonation problems in an efficient and creative manner
- Ability to communicate effectively with the musicians of the orchestra, both in and out of rehearsal, engendering an environment conducive to a satisfying experience and performances of high quality
- Comprehensive knowledge of orchestral repertoire
- Comprehensive knowledge of the history of music
- Experience working with children from diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds, and those from underserved communities
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community
- Interest and ability to be a motivational mentor and role model for students, parents and peers as an artist, teacher, leader and citizen
- Ability to get along well with diverse groups of people and be respectful of students, staff, parents, Board members and community
- Local travel, as well as evenings and weekends availability
- Must be able to clear a D.O.J. Background/Fingerprint Check, as well as a T.B. Test
- Bilingual in English and Spanish preferred

This is an exciting and unique opportunity for a motivated music professional who is eager to have a profound impact on the lives of underserved youth and a vibrant community through music education.

Overall, this position requires a deep commitment to social change through music education, as well as strong musical abilities, teaching skills, and the ability to work effectively in a team-oriented environment.

**About YOSAL:** El Sistema USA/Salinas, Inc., dba The Youth Orchestra of Salinas (YOSAL), is a non-profit organization committed to transforming the lives of our youth and communities through the inspiration, discipline, and performance of classical ensemble music. Founded in the Summer of 2010, YOSAL is an El Sistema-inspired orchestral and choral education program. Under the

direction of YOSAL Teaching Artists and coaches from the Monterey Symphony, Bach Festival and Monterey Jazz Festival, students from kindergarten through high school engage in daily practice and music classes after school, perform regularly on stage in one of the orchestras, our choir, or one of several music ensembles. They learn to be responsible citizens and develop interpersonal and collaborative skills as their self-confidence grows. Working with local school boards and social organizations, YOSAL is a tuition-free program and operates year-round. Surveys have shown that YOSAL students benefit from improved study habits, improved grades, better relationships both at home and in school, and improved self-esteem and confidence. We are currently serving 250 students from 25 different schools in four school districts throughout the city of Salinas.

**Mission:** The mission of the Youth Orchestra of Salinas (YOSAL) is to transform the lives of our youth and our communities through the inspiration, discipline and performance of classical ensemble music.

**An Equal Opportunity Employer**

YOSAL does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of age, actual or perceived race, actual or perceived gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation. YOSAL complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act to ensure equal access to all qualified individuals with a disability.