

## **JOB POSTING - Mini Music Makers Teacher**

### **About the VSO**

Founded in 1919, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra is the third largest symphony orchestra in Canada, and the largest performing arts organization in Western Canada. The VSO creates, curates, and connects irresistible musical experiences—performing 150+ concerts annually in its home, the Orpheum Theatre, as well as numerous venues throughout Metro Vancouver, and online. The VSO is one of a handful of orchestras worldwide that has its own music school: the VSO School of Music. The organization delivers extensive education programs reaching more than 50,000 young people annually, and community engagement initiatives that reach a further 100,000+ people. Maestro Otto Tausk is the VSO's Music Director and the Artistic Advisor of the VSO School of Music.

### **About the VSO School of Music**

VSO School of Music, founded in 2010, is a 25,000 square foot state-of-the-art music school located adjacent to the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Vancouver. With a mission to enrich lives through the joy of learning, playing and performing the world's great music, the VSO SoM develops experiences that are accessible to all, regardless of age, ability, playing level or economic circumstances; and by nurturing creative and engaged members of society through achievement in the musical arts. With a roster of over 1900 students, the School is proud to offer individual or group instruction by members of the Vancouver Symphony and other high-quality music educators.

The school also features a performance theatre (Pyatt Hall) and Reception space which sees a wide range of arts, entertainment, and corporate groups utilizing the space for performances, recordings, and special events.

### **About the Mini Music Makers (MMM) Program**

The VSO School of Music's signature Early Childhood Music Education (ECME) program is Mini Music Makers (MMM): a progressive program of age-specific classes for babies, toddlers and young children up to the age of 6. MMM teaches foundational music skills through participation in enjoyable interactive musical

activities and games. In addition to foundational music skills we focus our MMM curriculum on emotional, social and academic skill development – especially literacy and attachment. MMM students attend weekly group classes in which their MMM trained instructors use a range of musical styles, instruments, toys and props to learn about rhythm, musical form, melody and dynamics through joyful play.

### **Job Description - Mini Music Makers Teacher**

We are looking for an exceptional, engaged, enthusiastic and dedicated ECE Mini Music Makers Teacher who has a passion for working with young children. The teacher applicant shall be knowledgeable in early childhood learning theories, foundational music skills, teaching strategies and have training in classroom management and guidance, with the ability to work independently with a class.

Successful candidates will bring to our classrooms their kind and nurturing disposition, along with a positive outlook and attitude in life. They will also possess resourcefulness, creativity, and great communication and organizational skills.

Our MMM faculty members are an integral part of the VSOSoM team teaching our youngest students from 3 months - 6yrs foundational music skills through interactive and joyful group lessons centred around specially selected songs, games, chants and listening activities. While creating a safe and fun-filled environment for these young students to achieve their musical and creative potential, MMM Faculty ensure that each MMM student has an exceptional musical journey, customised to how they learn best.

This is a part-time contracted position with the possibility of teaching morning and afternoon classes on weekdays and/or weekends, either at our downtown Vancouver location or future VSOSoM satellite locations across the lower mainland, including South Surrey, New Westminster, and the Tri-Cities area.

### **Responsibilities**

MMM Faculty are expected to:

- Attend and successfully complete all required training, including an 8hr MMM training course on Fridays Feb 23 & Mar 1, 2024.
- Prepare and deliver lessons based on MMM guiding principles
- Create and maintain a safe, friendly and positive learning environment
- Create and document thoughtful lesson plans
- Document and report student progress
- Attend and participate in occasional meetings, as well as seasonal events and student performances or open classes
- Communicate regularly with parents and VSOSoM administration on progress of students
- Interact with parents and students regularly by being visible and accessible in the VSOSoM
- Adhere to the VSOSoM Code of Conduct, safety policies, including the Monitoring and Supervision policy

### Requirements

- 2+ years of experience teaching and/or working with children 0-6 years old
- Understanding of music fundamentals and ability to sing in tune in an appropriate range for children
- Play an instrument at an intermediate-advanced level
- Knowledge of music theory
- Certificate in ECME (Early Childhood Music Education) or equivalent is preferred
- Excellent customer service skills with the ability to deal well with complexities
- An effective communicator regarding the values and benefits of the VSOSoM MMM program in an inspiring way
- Demonstrate an inviting and warm command of the music room
- Enthusiastic, flexible, patient and positive demeanor, with a passion for teaching
- Excellent team player who loves to collaborate with others

A criminal record background check will be required and is a condition of employment.

### **Remuneration**

Faculty members are independent contractors, paid bi-weekly on the basis of teaching hours. Mini Music Makers teachers are paid a group class rate of \$70-\$85/hr, depending on experience and qualifications.

### **What it's like to teach here**

The faculty of the VSO School of Music make up a team of over 140 world-class musicians & pedagogues, including many members of the VSO. Our students and faculty describe the VSO School of Music as a true community, full of support and inspiration. Faculty teach in our state-of-the-art, purpose-built teaching studios, with professional-level Steinway & Yamaha pianos. Faculty are supported by a passionate and efficient administrative team. Faculty have access to many benefits including free access to VSOSoM practice studios (open 7 days a week), and free or discounted tickets to VSO and SoM events. The VSO and the VSO School of Music value diverse perspectives, experiences and cultures and are committed to fostering an inclusive learning environment. We encourage applications for this position from members of all groups experiencing barriers to equity.

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### **To Apply**

Please email your resume and cover letter to [Jobs@vsoschoolofmusic.ca](mailto:Jobs@vsoschoolofmusic.ca) Please include "Mini Music Makers Faculty" in the subject line. The VSOSoM thanks all applicants for their interest, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

### **Application deadline**

January 28, 2024