



Professional Section Leaders

Job Description

Ver.1.1 / August 2021

The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (St. Martin's), Philadelphia, seeks to appoint **four professional Choir Section Leaders** to begin **September 2021**. One Section Leader per part (SATB) will be appointed. Countertenors are most welcome to apply. Section Leaders receive **\$90 per service**, and **\$85 per rehearsal**, with extra fees for weddings/funerals as required through the year. This typically amounts to **over \$8,000 each academic year**.

Music at St. Martin's www.stmartinec.org/music

Music is an integral part of the worship and our aims and mission at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. We aim to offer music as an extension to prayer, a force for good in the community, and an educational outreach tool in Philadelphia and beyond.

The volunteer choir is made up of approximately 30 committed and able volunteers who enhance our worship each week with sung mass settings, anthems, motets, psalms, and hymns. The choir has had two tours to England in the last few years, singing at many prominent cathedrals as well as Westminster Abbey. Another tour will be planned for the very near future. The choir also performs concerts for the community and special occasions.

Desired Qualifications/Experience

- Bachelor's degree in music performance or appropriate equivalent experience;
- Prior work experience as a section leader;
- Excellent vocal technique, musicianship, and ensemble skills;
- Strong sight-reading skills;
- Able to inspire and support the volunteer singers, and willingness to work collaboratively;
- Willingness to work with children when required in support of our children's Chorister program.

Duties & Responsibilities

- To attend all scheduled rehearsals, service, concerts, etc. as required by the Director of Music;
- To thoroughly prepare and perform music as selected by the Director of Music including any assigned solos;
- To lead, musically and by example, their section and the choir in performance, behavior, attendance, and punctuality at rehearsals and services;
- To lead sectional rehearsals as required;
- To welcome new singers and to help and guide volunteer singers where needed;

- To promote the work of St. Martin's and its ministries in accordance with the aims and mission of the Church and vision of the Director of Music;
- All Section Leaders will need to complete comprehensive background checks and Safeguarding/SafeChurch training prior to beginning employment;
- To follow any COVID-19 safety protocols in effect;
- No religious affiliation is required but candidates should be sympathetic to the aims and mission of the Episcopal Church.

Schedule

Singers are engaged from September 1 to June 30 on a rolling one-year agreement, renewable by mutual agreement at the end of each academic year. A full schedule of service and events is provided by the Director of Music. Some summer work may be available.

Weekly commitments include:

- Thursday Rehearsals, 7pm to 9pm every week;
- Sunday Morning Eucharist, Rehearsal 9:30am, Service 10:30am;
- Choral Evensong (first Sunday of each month only).

Singers are expected to be available for special extra services including Christmas Eve & Day, Holy Week & Easter, etc. Any absences must be cleared with the Director of Music.

Compensation

Each Section Leader will be compensated (monthly) at a rate of \$90 per Sunday service (including rehearsal beforehand) and \$85 for rehearsals. Additional compensation will be made as required for extra services/engagements. A Letter of Agreement and our Employee Handbook must be signed prior to the start of employment.

Application & Audition

To apply, please send a brief cover letter, resumé, and any recordings of your performances to Director of Music, Mr. Tyrone Whiting by email (preferable) or mail. Early application is encouraged, and candidates will be considered as they apply. Application will remain open until all section leader positions are filled. Enquiries are welcome by email or phone.

twhiting@stmartinec.org
215.247.7466 x105

Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields
8000 St. Martin's Lane
Philadelphia, PA 19118

Candidates selected for audition will be expected to perform **two contrasting pieces** (accompanied by the Director of Music) that best demonstrate their abilities, technique, and musicianship. Candidates will also be asked to sing verses of a hymn from the 1982 Hymnal and to perform sight-reading exercises. A **short interview** with the Director of Music will follow the audition. A second interviewer may be present for your audition.

St. Martin's is an equal opportunities employer and encourages applications from all who wish to apply, regardless of race, gender, identity, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation. Applications from historically underrepresented communities are encouraged.



The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields

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