

Job Title: Children and Youth Choir Leader

Reports to: Director of Music Ministries

Contract Dates: September 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020 with possible renewal

Status: Part-time

FLSA Status: Contract 1099 Position

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington is a dynamic community of individuals who share a liberal spiritual journey and we welcome everyone. We are a church without walls and a place where anyone and everyone can Connect, Grow, and Serve. Unitarian Universalism is a liberal faith which honors multiple spiritual paths, knowing that we don't have to think alike to love alike. We understand and experience diversity in several ways. We are intentionally engaging in various educational and structural shifts to become a more radically inclusive, welcoming and anti-racist/anti-oppressive congregation. This work is jointly led by our Board of Trustees, ministers and staff. We expect the ministry of our congregation to occur through the lens of racial justice and dismantling racism, both internally and externally.

Job Summary: The music ministry is an integral part of transformative spiritual work. This position will be responsible to design, implement, lead, and build an inclusive children and youth (K-12th grade) music ministry program in a Unitarian Universalist worship environment. The Leader will be responsible for the vision as it may unfold in accordance with the needs of the church and its parents and children.

Schedule: Weekly rehearsals following the two (2) worship services at 9:15am and 11:15am. The children and/or youth will participate in worship four to six times per year. We anticipate approximately 8-10 hours weekly from September through June.

Compensation: The hourly contract position pay will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and within the Unitarian Universalist fair compensation guidelines. Details on compensation will be discussed during the interview process.

Minimum qualifications: The preferred candidate will be familiar with liberal spirituality and have a demonstrated willingness to learn; excellent musicianship; eagerness to work collaboratively with people of various backgrounds and skill levels

Experience: Consideration of candidates for this position will be given to those who have experience as a teacher, choir director or director of music; a record of collaborative leadership; demonstrated choral leadership and program administration

Responsibilities:

1. Design, implement, lead, and build a children and youth (K-12th grade) music ministry program. The current program consists of 3 groups and is subject to change as plans and the program moves forward. Song selections will reflect the wide diversity of cultural and religious traditions welcomed and celebrated in

our UU faith. Rehearsal times may be extended or changed. These groups include:

- Chalice Singers (K-4th) meets between services on Sunday from 10:30- 11 AM
 - TrUUbadours (5th-8th) meets Sundays from 12:30- 1 PM.
 - Youth Choir and Songwriting Program (9th-12th)- the group explores collaborative singing and crafting songs as a means to creative expression and to foster a sense of belonging and community. Meetings are arranged quarterly.
2. Provide an inspiring and high-quality musical, educational, and spiritual environment for children and youth.
 3. Lead and accompany choir rehearsals.
 4. Plan and lead children and youth choir participation in worship in collaboration with the Director of Music Ministries.
 5. Teach and develop music fundamentals and good vocal technique.
 6. Recruit, retain, and increase the number of children's choir participants with the help of the choir parents, Music Committee and Religious Education Committee.
 7. Recruit and engage parent volunteers in supporting the children and youth choir program.
 8. Oversee copyright compliance for music utilized in worship

Relationships:

1. The Leader will collaborate and coordinate with the Director of Music Ministries and Religious Education staff and volunteers to maximize its benefit to the young people.
2. Communicate regularly with staff, parents, children, and congregation regarding all aspects of the children and youth choir program.

Accountability: The Children and Youth Choir Leader is directly responsible to the Director of Music Ministries.

Background Check: The chosen candidate must complete a background check and have no disqualifying offenses.

Evaluation: Performance reviews will be conducted annually by the Director of Music Ministries. This position is subject to an initial three-month probationary period.

Application Process: Please send a cover letter, resume and related materials to smorreale@uucava.org. The subject line of the email should include the words "Youth Choir." We intend to begin interviewing candidates as soon as possible. Part of the process may include demonstration of choral direction with members of our church choir. If there is not enough diversity in the pool of applicants, the position may remain open. People with disabilities, people of color, indigenous people, Hispanic/Latinx people and LGBTQ candidates are encouraged to apply.