

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA  
SEEKS NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR  
Fort Collins, Colorado**

**Minimum Educational Requirements:** Master's degree in Music (Performance or Education)

**Preferred Additional Education:** Coursework and/or workshops in conducting

**Minimum Experience Required:** 5 years conducting community orchestras, youth symphonies and/or college orchestras

**Job Description:**

- 1) Schedule all rehearsals and performances for the following season in consultation with orchestra manager by April 1st of the previous season
- 2) Program all music for the following season by May 1st of the previous season, with the exception of the International Keyboard Odyssiad Festival, (IKOF) concerto selection. Work within music rental and purchasing budget as outlined by orchestra manager.
- 3) Invite Assistant Conductor to conduct at least 2 pieces per season.
- 4) Establish detailed rehearsal schedule and send to orchestra and personnel managers at least 6-8 weeks before the first rehearsal of each set.
- 5) Establish string seating and wind/brass/percussion assignments and send to orchestra librarian at least 4 weeks before the first rehearsal of each set.
- 6) Conduct all rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals are held on Sunday nights at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, for a 6-8 week period before each concert. (Assistant Conductor is expected to "cover" any rehearsals when Music Director is unable to be there due to illness)
- 7) Adjudicate playing tests for all FRCC students after the first 2 full orchestra rehearsals.
- 8) Work with staff who design and print concert ads, posters and programs.
- 9) Provide information to grant writer in a timely manner.
- 10) File grades for all FRCC students

**Compensation:** \$4000 for each concert set (3 per season); travel expenses are the responsibility of the Music Director.

**Candidates must demonstrate:**

- 1) Ability to program music which is appropriate for this community orchestra 2) Efficient rehearsal technique
- 2) Clear and expressive baton technique
- 3) Excellent communication skills
- 4) Ability to retain current musicians and recruit new players
- 5) Strong administrative skills
- 6) Desire to mentor Assistant Conductor, including observing his/her rehearsals and providing helpful feedback

- 7) Ability to embrace, inspire and welcome all players of diverse backgrounds, purpose of playing and musical prowess.

**About our orchestra:** The Health and Wellness Community Orchestra was founded in 2008 by Dr. Ann Yanagi. Initially envisioned as an ensemble for medical professionals, it quickly grew in both numbers and ability level – from 13 members at the first rehearsal to over 150 current members, about 85 of whom choose to play in each concert. We are seeking to hire a new Music Director.

The orchestra does not hold entrance or seating auditions and is primarily self-funded by members' voluntary donations to play each concert. In recent years, we have received grants from the Fort Fund which has made it possible for us to hire a small paid staff, including an assistant conductor, concertmaster, personnel manager, and graphic designer. We are also now able to offer a modest honorarium for soloists – which are drawn from prominent local professional musicians, music faculty from Colorado State University, and principal players in our orchestra.

We now serve as the college orchestra for Front Range Community College-Larimer Campus and a few FRCC students play in each of our concerts for college credit. However, most members range from adults who are returning from a long hiatus from their instrument to highly skilled players with advanced music degrees who have chosen to work in other fields or are retired. The Music Director serves on the music faculty of FRCC and is responsible for providing a course syllabus, adjudicating playing tests and filing grades for FRCC students. Additional courses may be offered to the Music Director.

Starting in the 2021-2022 season, we developed a special relationship with IKOF which is held at Colorado State University every summer. We will feature the winner of the Junior Division Single Movement Competition in the following concert season.

The orchestra performs three concerts per season in the 550-seat Griffin Concert Hall at the University Center for the Arts, Colorado State University, considered one of the finest performance spaces in Colorado.

Music is distributed two weeks before the first rehearsal. Members take their role in our orchestra very seriously and are well prepared on their individual parts. Recent repertoire has included Beethoven's Sixth Symphony, Brahms First Symphony, Debussy's Afternoon of a Faun, and Respighi's Pines of Rome. The orchestra has also performed music by women composers, symphonic jazz, and family concerts. All of our performances are free admission and we are committed to retaining this policy.

**Interested candidates should submit:**

- 1) Letter of application
- 2) CV or resume
- 3) List of orchestral repertoire conducted in performance
- 4) Four sample programs of previous performances
- 5) List of three references, including email addresses and phone numbers

**Search process:**

- 1) Semi-finalists will be invited to submit rehearsal and performance video footage and will be interviewed by the search committee over Zoom
- 2) Three finalists will be invited to rehearse and perform a program over a 6-8 week period in the 2023-2024 and possibly the 2024-2025 seasons. Each finalist will be paid \$3500 but will be responsible for their own travel costs

**APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO:** Victoria Cotton, [orchestrahw@gmail.com](mailto:orchestrahw@gmail.com)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS:** January 15, 2024