



Inspiring programs for creative musicians
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Job Announcement

Creative Musicians Retreat Choral Director

The Walden School seeks outstanding candidates who would like to serve as the Choral Director at its **Creative Musicians Retreat** in Dublin, New Hampshire (on the campus of the Dublin School), from June 9 (arrival) - 22 (departure), 2026.

The Choral Director conducts the following ensembles:

- **Full Chorus:** Includes all faculty, staff, and participants and meets six times for approximately 45-minute rehearsals. This chorus is primarily focused on community-building, healthy choral singing, and pedagogical goals, and there is no performance at the end of the weeklong retreat that features this chorus.
- **Chamber Choir:** A self-selected group of approximately 30 faculty, staff and participants. This group meets five times and prepares 3-5 participant-composed pieces for public performance on one or more of the three Retreat Composers Forums.

The Choral Director is responsible for selecting repertoire for the Full Chorus, in consultation with the Program Director, and is encouraged to choose a diverse set of works, balancing musical and composer characteristics.

Additionally, the Choral Director guides three to five composers interested in composing choral pieces and prepares the chamber choir for premiere performances during the Composers Forums.

The Walden School Choral Program applies the school's signature Musicianship curriculum to existing repertoire, while building community through group performance. As such, the Choral Director employs movable do solfège, Curwen hand signs, and The Walden School's adapted rhythm syllable system in order to empower students to learn music without relying on a piano. The Choral Director should aim to embody the values of creativity and discovery in their teaching methods, bringing together a chorus of approximately 50-60 members with a wide range of age, choral experience, and musicianship expertise.

The ideal candidate will be available to teach one 75-minute class each day (Monday through Friday), in addition to leading the aforementioned daily chorus rehearsals. The specific class is particular to the Choral Director's teaching experience and the needs of the participants, and will be determined in consultation with the Program Director. The Choral Director will also offer some 30-minute conducting lessons or voice lessons to participants on weekday afternoons.

The Walden School values creativity and community, and we seek outstanding artist-teachers who can inspire excellence in their students as well as effectively lead and mentor adult students representing a range of ages, abilities, ambitions, and aesthetics in a diverse community setting. Faculty members are a vital part of the community, which develops over meals and informal time spent with participants and colleagues. Meals are shared with faculty, participants, and visiting artists, and many in the community choose to gather after evening events as well. Recreational activities such as hiking, trips to the lake, and visits to nearby towns are an important aspect of The Walden School Creative Musicians Retreat.

Some preparation work is expected in the spring for choral planning, class planning, and mentoring choral composers. Compensation is in the form of salary (\$2,400), as well as room (single room, shared bathroom with students & other faculty/staff) & board. A travel reimbursement allowance (\$550) is also offered to defer costs of travel to and from Dublin, New Hampshire, where the program takes place.

Faculty members should be available for orientation on campus prior to the start of the session (Wednesday-Friday, June 10-12) and are expected to stay through until departure on Monday, June 22.

Preference may be given to:

- Candidates whose practice demonstrates an ability to communicate the unique aspects of their discipline(s).
- Musicians who are not only outstanding teachers, but who also excel in multiple musical disciplines.
- Experienced teachers who can expand Walden's current offerings beyond Western Classical Music and teach unique specialties.
- Candidates with prior Walden teaching/working experience and/or who have attended one or more of Walden's programs.

Interested candidates should submit:

- A résumé or CV
- A cover letter (up to 2 pages) responding to any or all of the following:
 - Why you are interested in teaching at Walden and why you would be a good match for this position

- How you would contribute to and/or support your students, your colleagues, and the community
- A brief explanation of your teaching philosophy
- How you would contribute to Walden's values of inclusiveness, collaboration, respect, and openness to others' interpretations and ideas
- Links to videos from rehearsal and performance, demonstrating your conducting methods (facing the conductor, if possible), adding up to a maximum of 10-20 minutes

HOW TO APPLY

Send materials to:

Caroline Mallonee, Director, Creative Musicians Retreat

email: jobs@waldenschool.org

The Walden School

7 Joost Avenue, Suite 204, San Francisco, California, 94131

The position is open until filled. We will contact you should we wish to interview you.

No phone calls, please.

About The Walden School

Mission

The Walden School inspires artistic expression and personal growth through experiential music programs.

Vision

The Walden School envisions a world in which people engage with one another creatively, collaboratively, and with respect.

Overview

The Walden School, founded in 1972, is a summer music school, camp, and festival offering programs that emphasize creativity and community, specifically through the study of composition, musicianship, improvisation, and choral singing. In residence on the beautiful campus of the Dublin School in Dublin, New Hampshire, Walden provides an inspiring retreat-like environment ideal for creative music making.

The Walden School's programs include the Young Musicians Program for students ages 9 to 18, and the Creative Musicians Retreat for adults. The School's Concert Series showcases free public performances by renowned artists and ensembles that work closely with program participants. The Walden School has twice been awarded a Chamber Music America/ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award, has won a New Music Educator Award from the American Music Center (now New Music USA), an Ewing Arts Award, and has been a finalist for the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award.

The Walden School is the successor organization to the Junior Conservatory Camp. The Walden School is a 501(c)3 organization, supported by major foundations, corporations, and hundreds of generous individual donors. For more information about The Walden School, visit our website at www.waldenschool.org.