Michigan State University and Community Music School

Assistant Choral Director Internship

The purpose of the Assistant Choral Director Internship is to provide undergraduates with the experience of working with students to implement the strategies and philosophies of teaching and conducting choral ensembles. The internship provides the students of the MSU Campus Choir and the CMS choirs with extra help, which will encourage each student to develop as a musician. Each intern will serve as an Assistant Director to a single choir (Campus Choir, Cantabile, CMS Singers, MSU Children’s Choir, and the MSU Youth Chorale) for the full school year, unless specific circumstances requires two interns split the year at the semester. Interns will be selected in the spring semester preceding the school year they are to serve. Starting in the fall of 2015, interns can receive elective credits for their time spent as an assistant director.

Requirements:

• Undergraduates must currently be enrolled as a music major at Michigan State University. Preference will be given to students who are interested in honing teaching and conducting skills. Undergraduates CANNOT serve as interns in the semester in which they are student teaching. If applying to serve for half of the year, please indicate on the application
• Interns must have interest in and/or general knowledge of healthy singing, general rehearsal techniques, and appropriate repertoire selection
• Interns must be able to provide an appropriate vocal model for the applicable choir
• Interns must be able to use clear, educational, and expressive conducting/teaching gestures in rehearsal and performance
• Interns must be open to receiving constructive feedback

Responsibilities of Assistant Directors:

• Attend all rehearsal as indicated in the choir calendar
• Attend all dress rehearsals and performances of their designated choir
• Assist the director with logistical tasks associated with the choral program including, but not limited to: taking attendance, helping singers in following of directions, assisting with paperwork during rehearsal, and contributing to the overall organization of the rehearsal for the ensemble
• Independently teach a song and conduct at a performance once per semester
• Meet with the director for a minimum of 1 hour per week to discuss logistics, rehearsal techniques, calendar, lessons planning, repertoire selection, and conducting
• Plan teaching lessons prior to rehearsal and have plans approved by director
• Communicate schedule conflicts with the director as soon as conflict arises
• Acceptable schedule conflicts must be related to school work

Interested candidates must submit an application, resume, and a brief essay to be considered for the internship. Contact Kyle Zeuch zeuchkyl@msu.edu or Christine Beamer beamerch@msu.edu with questions