

MENDELSSOHN CLUB

O F P H I L A D E L P H I A

Alan Harler, Artistic Director
www.mcchorus.org

CONDUCTING APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

revised 8.09

INVITATION TO APPLY

We invite you to submit an application for Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia's unique program—the Apprenticeship in Adult Chorus Leadership for Conductors.

The Program and Goals

The Apprenticeship in Adult Chorus leadership is intended to:

- serve the choral profession by preparing conductors to work with adult choruses;
- broaden the experience of choral conductors by giving them an opportunity to work with an adult chorus; and
- provide additional staff support for the Artistic Director and Mendelssohn Club administration.

The Apprenticeship Program provides gifted conductors with education in adult chorus leadership rarely obtained through graduate conducting programs. In addition to the possibility of conducting, this experience includes learning about: season repertoire planning; long-range artistic and organizational planning; an overview of fund-raising and other administrative necessities. The Apprenticeship provides learning experiences that complement the education obtained through traditional degree programs.

Description of Responsibilities

Artistic responsibilities:

Be prepared to conduct occasional sectional rehearsals and warm-ups; assist with seating arrangements, score markings and preparation of rehearsal tapes for singers; sing with the chorus when not otherwise assigned; observe auditions and reassessments; assist with concert production. (*Note: Mendelssohn Club rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-10 p.m. and on occasional Saturdays*)

Organizational responsibilities:

Attend occasional Mendelssohn Club Chorus Management Council meetings (*normally the second Tuesday of each month*), and meet the mentors described below and others in order to gain broad familiarity with the range of issues in chorus leadership and management.

The Mentors

The Apprentice will be associated with mentors for artistic matters (*normally the Artistic Director and Associate Conductor*), and for organizational matters. The mentors will help provide a coherent understanding of how the multiple areas of activity for the chorus director fit together and ensure that the program is meeting both the educational needs of the Apprentice and the artistic and organizational support needs of Mendelssohn Club. In addition to mentors, there

are many individuals with special expertise who can be available for the Apprentice to learn more about a particular aspect of chorus administration. Within this structure, the Apprentice should take considerable initiative and integrate her/himself into the artistic and operations aspects of the chorus.

The Selection Process

A Selection Committee will review all applications and will invite a small number of applicants, based on qualifications, for interviews and auditions. The audition consists of conducting Mendelssohn Club for approximately ten minutes at a Wednesday evening rehearsal in early September. Repertoire to be conducted in the audition will be assigned by Artistic Director Alan Harler.

Criteria for selection include:

- strong artistic background appropriate to choral conducting
- initiative and energy
- interpersonal skills
- leadership ability
- organizational skills such as persistence, practicality, vision, and reliability

Remuneration

The annual stipend for the Apprenticeship is \$1,000. The Apprentice should expect to spend an average of four to six hours per week on this project (*including rehearsals and administrative participation*).

Application Procedure

Mail the application form and all requested materials to:

Apprenticeship Committee
Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia
PO Box 59522
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Applications are due by August 15, 2011.

If you have further questions regarding the application process or need more information, please leave a message at (215) 735-9922.

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Alan Harler, Artistic Director

APPRENTICESHIP IN ADULT CHORUS LEADERSHIP FOR CONDUCTORS APPLICATION FORM

Personal Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Education

Please list institutions attended, beginning with the most recent.

	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Degree/Date Conferred</u>	<u>Major Curriculum</u>	<u>Overall GPA</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Professional Goals and Expectations

In a statement of up to one page, please tell us why you would find this Apprenticeship will be useful at this point in your career. Please use a separate sheet for this statement.

References

Please list three references who can talk with the Selection Committee about your background with regard to the criteria for selection listed in the Apprenticeship description. References will be contacted only for those candidates who are under consideration for interviews.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone Numbers</u>	<u>Relationship to Applicant</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Pre-mailing Checklist

Have you:

1. Completed both pages of this application?
2. Attached your Statement of Professional Goals and Expectations?
3. Attached a resume/CV (optional)?

The abovementioned materials must be received on or before August 15, 2011 for consideration of your application. Send to:

Apprenticeship Committee
Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia
PO Box 59522
Philadelphia, PA 19102