

Boise Phil Youth Orchestra Music Director

Repertory & String Orchestras



WHO WE ARE

The Boise Phil's mission is to reflect the energy and heartbeat of our communities through invigorating musical experiences that touch the human spirit. Serving the Treasure Valley, the Boise Phil was established over 65 years ago but traces its artistic roots back to 1885. It is the longest continuously running cultural organization in the state of Idaho, and one of the longest in the country. Since becoming a program under the Boise Phil umbrella, the Boise Phil Youth Orchestra (BPYO) program has provided talented, accomplished young musicians with outstanding musical training and experience, enhanced and developed current and future arts participation among local students, and enhanced the cultural life of the Treasure Valley.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The BPYO program officially came under the Boise Phil umbrella starting with the 2009-2010 season. Since then, the program has seen incredible growth in talent and in numbers, including a 200% increase in program participants since COVID. The program now consists of four ensembles – Symphonic Orchestra, Concert Orchestra, Repertory Orchestra, and Strings Orchestra – that serve students from 4th-12th grade. Symphonic and Concert Orchestras are full symphonic orchestras made up of advanced and upper intermediate performers. Repertory and Strings Orchestras are for intermediate and developing, respectively, string only players who are primarily in 4th-10th grades.

As we continue to see growth in audition numbers, there is a strong possibility that the Repertory Orchestra may be extended to also include wind, brass, and percussion players.

ABOUT THE ROLE

The BPYO Repertory & Strings Music Director will service as principal conductor and artistic director of the BPYO Repertory & Strings Orchestras. They will be responsible for one weekly rehearsal of each ensemble January through April, two Saturday concerts, and May and December auditions. The position is supported administratively by an Operations Team which will be responsible for all production, personnel, and collaboration needs with other BPA programs. This position serves as a community arts leader in the Treasure Valley through advocacy and promotion of the BPYO program.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The BPYO Repertory & Strings Music Director reports directly to the Boise Phil Music Director and Boise Phil Executive Director. They will also collaborate with the BPYO Symphonic & Concert Orchestras Music Director, the BPA General Manager, BPA Education Manager, BPA Operations Manager, and BPA Librarian & Licensing Manager.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Subject to revision, duties may include but are not limited to:

Principal Conductor of BPYO Repertory & Strings

- Plan and execute one weekly rehearsal per ensemble January – April, adjudicate May and December auditions, assess Concerto Competition prelims and finals, and plan and execute an end of season celebratory event for each ensemble.

- Prepare the Repertory & Strings Orchestras for successful performances and develop the members as young musicians and increase their ability to contribute to the orchestra.
- Attend all concerts of the ensembles.
- Strive to provide a positive experience for the members performing and an engaging experience for the audience listening.

Artistic Director

- Report to and take direction from the Music Director of the Boise Philharmonic Association for all Artistic considerations.
- Collaborate with the BPYO Symphonic & Concert Director on repertoire and collaborations.
- Create a developmentally oriented artistic path for Repertory & Strings Orchestras during each season and through the duration of the Music Director's tenure.
- Inspire students to develop inquisitive musical minds through careful selection of repertoire, concert formats and venues, use of sectional coaches, professional musicians, and other innovative activities as appropriate.
- Support students through their own musical development by providing advice, developing mentoring relationships, attending important concerts and events, and serving as a reference to other resources.
- Build working relationships with musicians of the Boise Philharmonic Orchestra, particularly the Music Director and those musicians who serve as sectional coaches for Repertory & Strings orchestras.
- Provide leadership to sectional coaches facilitating effective and efficient use of their musical and educational skills.

Administration & Governance

- Report to and take direction from the Executive Director for all administrative considerations such as but not limited to financial, operations, Human Resources, etc.
- Collaborate with the General Manager, Education Manager, Operations Manager, Librarian & Licensing Manager to ensure smooth operation of all day-to-day administrative needs of BPYO programs (e.g. communication with students and families, budget projections, scheduling, production needs, etc.)
- Ensure timely communication with all administrative staff related to relevant business associated with defined job duties and responsibilities.
- Have a functional knowledge and respect for the administrative arm of the BPYO program and provide leadership in planning and artistic decision making.
- Build a working relationship with and coordinate activities of the BPYO program with the Boise Philharmonic Education Manager.
- Be an active participant, under guidance of administrative staff in fundraising, marketing, and operational duties of the BPYO program.
- As needed, communicate with the Boise Philharmonic Board of Directors about the progress of students and garner input and advice for major artistic initiatives.
- As needed, attend Board meetings of the Boise Philharmonic and serve as an advocate for BPYO program within the larger institution.

Community Arts Leader

- Act as figure head and promoter in the community for all BPYO activities.

- Serve as a resource for area music educators through school visits, consultations, and other educational activities as directed and coordinated with the Boise Philharmonic Education Manager.
- Be a strong advocate for the BPYO program at all appropriate opportunities when giving public speeches and representing the BPYO at community wide meetings and events.

KEY COMPETENCIES

- Excellent interpersonal and collaboration skills.
- Broad knowledge of repertoire suitable for youth orchestras, including a balance of well-known classics, works from underrepresented composers, and works from new and emerging composers.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with developing musicians in a caring and supportive manner.
- Strong written and oral communication skills and being comfortable with public speaking.
- Ability to teach intermediate and developing musicians of all standard orchestra instruments, including winds, brass, and percussion.
- Ability to interact with students as the serious musicians they are, while recognizing that fun is important

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree in music or music education, or equivalent experience, is required.
- Minimum of 5 years' music teaching experience in school or community setting
- Successful completion of a background check (may be required periodically throughout employment).
- Deep appreciation and understanding of Boise Phil's mission and music education as well as the ability to articulate Boise Phil's values and vision internally and externally.
- Ability to work regular evening(s) and some weekends.
- Some local travel is required.
- Successful completion of a background check.

COMPENSATION

The annual salary for this part-time, December through May position is \$9,000. Prior to renewal of a contract a review will be completed by a direct supervisor(s) and may include but is not limited to surveys to colleagues and ensemble members, observation of rehearsal, meeting with supervisor(s), self-evaluation, etc.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply, please send the following to Executive Director, Brandon VanWaeyenberghe at BrandonVW@boisephil.org:

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Link to a 5-10 minute video of the candidate teaching student(s) aged 12-15.

Applications will not be considered unless all three components are received. Applications close on March 9, 2026.

The Boise Philharmonic Association is an equal opportunity employer that values diversity. All qualified applicants will be considered without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, disability status, or any other legally protected category.