

LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Job Description: Accompanist

DEFINITION:

Under the direction of the vocal music teacher, accompany school choirs during rehearsals and concerts, assist the director in the leading of section rehearsals and concerts, and the coaching of individuals and small ensembles, and to do other related work as required.

EXAMPLE OF DUTIES:

- Perform piano accompaniment for practice, rehearsals, and performances of school choirs.
- Lead section rehearsals by playing parts, identifying student mistakes and problem areas, correcting mistakes and providing the right notes and rhythms.
- Coach solos and ensembles by arranging or transposing music, teaching notes and rhythm, recognizing and resolving intonation problems, teaching good vocal techniques, providing suggestions regarding interpretation of music and encouraging students.
- Provide assistance to substitute teachers by leading rehearsals as necessary.
- Locate and select concert musicians as necessary.
- Perform other related duties as assigned

QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of:

- Advanced piano skills
- Advanced music theory
- Vocal techniques
- Site reading, conducting, transposing, arranging and coaching skills
- Modern office practices, procedures and equipment
- Interpersonal skills using tact, patience and courtesy
- Technical aspects of field of specialty

Ability to:

- Understand and follow oral and written directions
- Work cooperatively with others
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others
- Play piano at an advanced level and sight read complex musical scores
- Accompany choirs, soloists and small ensembles
- Assist students in learning vocal music interpretation
- Transpose and arrange music

Education and Experience:

Any combination equivalent to: graduation from high school supplemented by private or college-level training in piano and music theory and at least two years of experience as an accompanist.

Personal Qualities:

- Independent worker
- Maturity and good judgment
- Neat and clean appearance
- Willingness to assume a wide range of responsibilities
- Willingness to learn new skills
- Willingness to continuously improve
- Pleasant interpersonal skills
- Good organizational skills
- Commitment to professional courtesy
- Belief in high standards
- Commitment to professional responsibility
- High intrinsic motivation

Physical Ability to Meet the Following Requirements:

- Stand, sit, reach, grasp, stoop, bend, push, pull, kneel, squat, and twist.
- Move up to 15 pounds.
- Some locations may have stairs and may not have elevators.

Operation of Vehicles, Machinery, and Equipment Requirements:

- Ability to travel to a variety of locations within a reasonable time frame.
- Must be able to operate office, multimedia, and computer equipment.

Mental and Emotional Requirements:

- Ability to understand and follow oral and written directions.
- Ability to work independently with little direction.
- Ability to concentrate to meet numerous deadlines.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.
- Ability to make independent decisions to respond to numerous requests, deadlines, and to prioritize assignments.
- Ability to exchange information.
- Ability to monitor student activities.
- Ability to learn the procedures, functions and limitations of assigned duties.

Working Conditions:

Vocal music classroom environment; subject to sitting at piano for long periods of time; occasionally stand and/or climb ladders, stairs, etc.; push or pull piano to different locations; repetitive twisting/pressure involving wrists/hands; repetitive use of arms, hands and shoulders; see small details; exposed to loud noise (e.g. children, music) up to 87 dBA; give student direction requiring clear speaking and the ability to hear normal voice conversation; exposed to minor contagious illnesses (e.g. colds, flu); accompany choirs, soloists and small ensembles during day or evening concerts.