SISTEMA KINGSTON IS SEEKING LEAD STRINGS TEACHER
(Independent Contractor)

There are few opportunities as meaningful and rewarding as teaching, mentoring and supporting children from under-served areas. Sistema Kingston is an intensive after school music program that focusses on positive social growth through the pursuit of musical excellence. Ensemble-based music instruction, healthy food and a positive social environment is offered at no cost to children from challenged communities. Using the Venezuelan El Sistema as its model, Sistema Kingston emphasizes inclusivity and teamwork, builds personal persistence, and fosters creativity and personal responsibility in all of its activities.

SUMMARY

The Lead Strings Teacher (cellist preferred) is a dynamic teacher who will teach and develop programming for Sistema Kingston, lead adjustments to the musical curriculum and delivery methods to accommodate the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, and lead musical programming for program growth. The Lead Strings Teacher will work with the teaching team to further develop Orff-style music and movement as a pre-strings program, and work closely with the Program Coordinator and Director to ensure the safe and smooth operation of the Sistema Kingston site(s).

RESPONSIBILITIES

• Curriculum: build upon current practices and deepen curriculum at all levels; lead the artistic planning for concert programs to positively reflect student abilities; research repertoire and teaching resources; make music arrangements with parts and scores as needed; oversee paper instrument project and delegate implementation responsibilities; work with teachers of first year groups to oversee students’ transition to wood instruments.

• Music Teaching: Teach group classes in area of expertise (preferably cello) for all levels; conduct at least one ensemble; initiate weekly learning goals and sectional lessons for the ensemble group(s) they conduct, and oversee weekly learning goals and sectional lessons for other ensembles. Work closely with other ensemble leaders to ensure goals are being met. Provide pedagogical and classroom management feedback to other instructors.

• String instrument inventory: assign instruments to students, maintain and update instrument data as needed, arrange for repairs, rearrange instrument assignments as students grow; advise Director on required accessory purchases and order accessories. Liaise with Joe’s MiLL and Long and McQuade, transport instruments to and from storage as needed. Prepare music orders; maintain sheet music library; ensure student binders are put together; prepare program information for printing; contribute to teaching team meetings; plan performance events in collaboration with Program Coordinator; assist Director with teaching team development

• Communications: With Program Coordinator, liaise with families as needed; disseminate weekly learning goals to teaching team in a timely manner; meet regularly with Program Coordinator and Director.
QUALIFICATIONS

• Bachelor of Music or Music Education degree, or equivalent training • Demonstrated ability to teach and perform on primary string instrument (cello preferred) • Minimum 3 - 5 years of music teaching experience in a group setting • Conducting experience with a beginning strings ensemble (minimum 2 years) • Knowledge of string pedagogy methods • Previous work experience with children who have experienced ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences), or who have special needs or behaviour exceptionalities • Professional Liability Insurance • Police check with vulnerable sector

SCHEDULE

20 hours/week

• August: flexible hours

• September: Team preparation, training, engagement with school begins. Schedule TBD.

• October-May: On-site program hours are 12 hours per week from 2:30-5:30, Monday-Thursday. Additional hours include a weekly 1-hour team meeting to be scheduled in September, and 7 hours/week of flexible program planning and preparation time. Note: this on-site schedule may change pending “return to school” directives during COVID-19 pandemic

• June/July: flexible hours

COMPENSATION

The Lead Strings Teacher will be engaged as an Independent Contractor in a one-year contract with possibility of renewal dependent on funding. $32/hour. Total compensation will not exceed $29,440.00.

APPLY

Please submit electronically: • Cover letter addressing why you are interested in working at Sistema Kingston • Statement of personal teaching philosophy • Resume which includes work and volunteer experience • Contact information for 2 references (telephone and email)

To:
Karma Tomm, Director
tommk@queensu.ca

Applications received by July 27th 2020 will have full consideration.