

Albany Symphony Orchestra

Executive Director

THE OPPORTUNITY

The Albany Symphony Orchestra seeks a charismatic leader with excellent interpersonal skills and a demonstrated track record in fundraising, strategic planning and organizational leadership to serve as the ASO's Executive Director. The successful candidate will have a proven ability to lead the organization in achieving its strategic, financial, artistic and educational goals. The Executive Director organizes and leads efforts to deliver on the organization's mission to

THE ORGANIZATION

Operating continuously since 1965, the Albany Symphony Orchestra is the only professional orchestra in southwest Georgia. The orchestra annually performs masterworks concerts, a Carnegie Hall LinkUp educational concert with area students, a holiday season Peppermint Pops concert and other performances. The ASO is a vital leader in the area's arts community and regularly collaborates with diverse organizations throughout the region. The orchestra's community outreach efforts include Symphony Sunday performances at a downtown brewery and Grace Note, an arts inclusion program aimed at exposing people with disabilities and those from other underserved communities to the joys of orchestral music.

The ASO is fertile ground for a leader with big ideas. The organization is fortunate to have a large endowment that provides a solid foundation for the annual operating budget. A significant opportunity exists to improve the organization's sustainability through increased fundraising and strengthening of partnerships with other arts organizations. The ASO is poised for substantial growth leading up to a celebration of its 60th season.

THE COMMUNITY

Albany is the largest city in southwest Georgia with a metropolitan statistical area population of greater than 150,000. Albany is the regional hub for employment, retail sales, healthcare, entertainment and cultural activities and organizations. Residents enjoy one of the most affordable costs of living of any metro area in the country, as well as a warm climate that provides the opportunity for year-round outdoor activities. The city's vibrant arts community includes the Albany Museum of Art, Albany Civil Rights Institute, Albany Chorale, Theatre Albany, Thronateeska Heritage Center (history museum and planetarium), Flint Riverquarium and Chehaw Park.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- *Development* – Leading efforts to attract new sponsors, patrons and major donors by setting, measuring and meeting or exceeding development program goals to include designing and successfully implementing a multi-year comprehensive fundraising campaign.

- *Visionary Leadership* – Leading and articulating the ASO’s vision and strategic direction; inspiring support, clearly communicating and maintaining positive momentum with staff, board, orchestra, volunteers, patrons, donors, partners and community leaders.
- *Orchestra Relations & Artistic Vision* – Working closely with the Music Director and the Artistic Committee to develop and implement the ASO’s artistic vision and goals; recognizing the organization’s unique partnership with its musicians; building trust and maintaining close working relationships with orchestra members and the Orchestra Relations Committee.
- *Financial Management* – Setting and managing the organization’s annual budget; assuring sustainable and fiscally responsible practices for long-term financial stability; working cooperatively with the Albany Symphony Orchestra Foundation to assure regular transfers of endowment funds; providing monthly financial reports for the board.
- *Board Development & Relations* – Leading efforts to recruit and select new board members with diverse backgrounds and skills; promoting proactive board oversight and communication; working closely with the Board President to support the board’s governance functions.
- *Community Engagement* – Serving as the primary public advocate and an energetic spokesperson and ambassador for the ASO, constantly sustaining and expanding relationships with audience, media, collaborators and the general public; maintaining and overseeing a pool of volunteers to assist with concerts and events.
- *Concert and Event Planning* – Directing all aspects of concert production; developing and organizing fundraisers, community outreach events and an annual season ticket drive.

REPORTING

The Executive Director reports directly to the Albany Symphony Association’s Board President and Board of Directors and is reviewed annually in accordance with ASO personnel policies. The Executive Director serves as the organization’s chief executive officer and is charged with managing all other ASO employees, including the Music Director.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A bachelor’s or advanced post-secondary degree
- Leadership in the nonprofit sector, preferably with an arts organization
- A love for music and an ability to communicate its importance persuasively to a broad range of audiences
- Demonstrated development experience, preferably with success in cultivating, soliciting and stewarding major gifts
- Solid financial management and budgeting skills within nonprofit organizations
- Ability to build, nurture and sustain positive relationships with patrons, donors and community partners
- Proven leadership ability and experience in public relations, marketing and audience development
- An engaging personality and an ability to be an effective public face and community spokesperson for the ASO

- Working knowledge of orchestral music, production and operations is preferred but not required
- Commitment to advancing the principals of equity, diversity and inclusion in an arts organization
- A reputation for integrity, strong interpersonal skills and an energetic work ethic

We appreciate all interest in this opportunity and look forward to responding to candidates whose experience most closely aligns with this position description.

COMPENSATION

Compensation will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Benefits include two weeks paid vacation, plus additional time off when the office is closed on holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

APPLICATIONS

Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to search@albanysymphony.org and be prepared to send three letters of recommendation, if requested. Candidate review will begin immediately, and applications will be accepted until the position is filled.