



The Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra invites nominations and applications for the position of Director of Philanthropy.

The Organization

Currently in its 41st season, the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra (TSO) stands as a model for regional orchestras in the country. As an integral part of Tallahassee's cultural scene, the TSO seeks to serve a diverse and large cross-section of the community. As part of a larger, nation-wide group of American orchestras 1000+ strong, the TSO strives to advance the art form of great orchestral music through meaningful and relevant concert events, and to conduct best practices in all areas of business.

The TSO is one of the finest regional orchestras in the country, in part because it is largely populated with faculty from Florida State University's College of Music, which is currently ranked 12th in the nation and 5th among programs at public universities by U.S. News & World Report. A search during the 2012-13 season resulted in naming the dynamic conductor Darko Butorac as Music Director and Conductor.

Following on the heels of a successful virtual-only season during the height of the COVID pandemic, the TSO will offer an in-person season in 2021-22 to include: 4 Classics concerts, 2 Holiday Pops events, 3 Young People's concerts, a Halloween Spooktacular event, and Pops in the Park at Southwood. The TSO is in the process of rebuilding post-COVID and in the upcoming years seeks to grow beyond its reach pre-pandemic.

The TSO is governed by a 35-member Board of Directors who meet approximately 6 times annually; the organization receives volunteer and fundraising support from the Tallahassee Symphony Society. The TSO's operating budget in 2021-22 is approximately \$900,000 and there is currently an administrative staff of 2 full-time and 5 part-time employees. The TSO also receives administrative help from three paid interns.

The City

Tallahassee is distinct for its natural beauty, arts & culture, and vitality. With two major universities and a community college, it is Florida's youngest city, demographic wise, and is known to attract and retain talented individuals who are among the creative class. Tallahassee boasts an array of award-winning parks, including Cascades Park, a beautiful 24-acre downtown space, and Maclay Gardens, whose grounds feature more than 200 floral varieties; white-sand beaches and several state parks are within a short driving distance. As Florida's capital city, it transforms into a political mecca each spring during the legislative session, while during the fall college football dominates the scene. Those who call Tallahassee home appreciate its unique mix of small town hospitality with large city progressiveness.

The Position

The Director of Philanthropy is a new position within the TSO. Thus, the Director of Philanthropy will design and implement the systems and processes necessary to build a successful department. The Director of Philanthropy will lead and manage the TSO's annual individual giving initiatives/ programs, with activity ranging from cultivation to stewardship. The Director of Philanthropy will devote time in the area of planned giving. The Director of Philanthropy will also recommend fundraising policies and procedures, and provide support to the TSO Board Fund Development Committee.

The Director of Philanthropy will represent the TSO to other community organizations and, as representative of the TSO, is encouraged to be involved in civic life. The Director of Philanthropy reports to the CEO.

Candidate Profile & Skills

The successful candidate will be organized, creative, and energetic, with the ability to manage competing priorities and deadlines effectively. The position requires the ability to work in a small office environment where employees are sometimes required to work outside their primary area of focus to help “get the job done.”

This position requires superb interpersonal and communication skills, and skill in cultivating patrons, board members, donors, and sponsors. The successful candidate will have a deep commitment to the orchestra’s mission and embrace the institution as a vital pillar of the Tallahassee arts community.

The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to work well under pressure and will exhibit maturity, self-confidence, and trustworthiness. The successful candidate will enjoy goal-setting and relish in exceeding goals. The successful candidate will welcome the opportunity to be an active participant in the life of Tallahassee, and have a passion for the performing arts.

The successful candidate will have a minimum of two years’ work experience in the area of philanthropic fundraising, and a bachelor’s degree, with advanced degree(s) a plus. Competency at the Microsoft Office Suite essential, and ability to learn to navigate Patron Manager, the TSO’s Customer Relations Management system, is required. Candidate with a thorough knowledge of the Classical music repertoire will be given preference.

Compensation and Benefits

Salary commensurate with experience. Benefits include health insurance, paid vacation, and sick leave. SIMPLE IRA after one year.

Applications and Due Date

Interested and qualified candidates should send a letter of application and resume to:

Dr. Amanda Stringer, CEO
Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra
515 E. Park Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301
or by email to: director@tallahasseesympphony.org

Vacancy open until filled.