



MUSE is an inclusive and feminist choral community advocating for peace and justice. We unite our voices to raise awareness and inspire change in ourselves, our audiences, and our world through partnerships that honor the humanity and enduring spirit of all people. MUSE's vision is to create a more peaceful and just world through song.

MUSE, Cincinnati's Women's Choir, seeks a Music Director to be a collaborative leader within our feminist choral community and support our mission, vision and values ([www.musechoir.org/about/mission](http://www.musechoir.org/about/mission)).

MUSE is a 65 member auditioned choir in the culturally rich city of Cincinnati, Ohio. Founded in 1984 by Dr. Catherine Roma, MUSE is one of the most highly regarded women's choirs in the nation. MUSE has built a feminist, collaborative culture and developed sociocratic decision-making structures. MUSE is committed to increasing the repertoire of choral music for a wide range of women's voices and seeks to continue the choir's growth as a diverse musical organization advocating for peace and social justice.

The Music Director reports to the Board of Directors and collaborates and communicates closely with MUSE's contracted staff and with the volunteer leadership of the Heart (leaders of the Musical Excellence, Social Justice, Operations, and Membership Circles). Information about MUSE's administrative structure is available at [www.musechoir.org/about/staff](http://www.musechoir.org/about/staff).

### **Expectations and Scope of Services**

- A. Promote the musical health and growth of the choir to serve our mission, vision, and values
  - 1. Prepare for and conduct weekly choir rehearsals and additional rehearsals, as needed
  - 2. Collaborate in the production of, and conduct, two or three MUSE-produced concerts each season
  - 3. Conduct periodic community appearances
  - 4. Collaborate with the Social Justice and Musical Excellence Circles to ensure repertoire is aligned with MUSE's mission
  - 5. Build coalitions with diverse local and national guest musicians and consultants working in various musical styles
  
- B. Promote the financial health and growth of the choir
  - 1. Attend monthly Board meetings
  - 2. Work with the Board to establish an annual budget and adhere to the budget
  - 3. Participate in and promote fundraising events, build relationships within the donor community, and support grant-writing efforts
  - 4. Assist in strategic planning with the Board, Heart, and members

- C. Be a collaborative leader
  - 1. Build collaborative relationships with MUSE's other professional contractors, Board, Heart and members through regular meetings and communication
  - 2. Collaborate with the Membership Circle to welcome all members and to foster a strong choral community
  - 3. Collaborate with the Musical Excellence and Social Justice Circles on concert themes, repertoire, original commissions, and new arrangements
  - 4. Collaborate with Operations Circle to ensure production and promotional efforts are successful
  
- D. Serve as an ambassador for MUSE
  - 1. Promote and increase MUSE's reputation and visibility in the community and among MUSE alumnae, Friends of MUSE, and other funders
  - 2. Represent MUSE in local, national, and international choir organizations such as GALA Choruses, Sister Singers Network, Greater Cincinnati Choral Consortium, etc.

**Required Training and Experience:**

- Familiarity with wide-ranging repertoire including classical music, world music, women's music from a variety of cultures, and music from the peace and justice movements
- An understanding of the diverse range of women's voices
- Minimum of three years of choral conducting experience at a high level, preferably with women's choir
- Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in choral conducting, music education, or related degree program (advanced degree preferred)

**Application Information**

Applications will be accepted through June 5, 2017.

The application must include:

- Cover letter, a complete curriculum vitae and three references
- Video sample of two or three styles of conducting with at least one example in a rehearsal setting (total video length should be 10-20 minutes)
- List of repertoire of works performed in last 2 years
- Two programs from performances

Applicants may return the application digitally to [MUSEsearch2017@gmail.com](mailto:MUSEsearch2017@gmail.com).

**Independent Contractor/Compensation**

MUSE's Music Director is an independent contractor. The contract, negotiated annually between the Music Director and the MUSE Board of Directors allows flexible and varying availability and requires evening and weekend commitments. Compensation is commensurate with experience and competitive with similar posts.

MUSE encourages women and minorities to apply.