

ASCENT VOCALS

Needed for 24-25 Season: Collaborative Pianist for Contemporary Ensemble

SUMMARY:

Ascent Vocals is searching for a pianist skilled in accompanying contemporary styles (rock, pop, musician theater, etc.) on Wednesday evenings during the school year. The contract will be for the 2024-2025 season, which includes two performances. Performances include several large group numbers, as well as soloist/small group features. A professional bassist and percussionist are hired for the dress rehearsals and performances, and play on select pieces.

SCHEDULE:

Regular rehearsals are held at Altona Middle School in Longmont on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm. Rehearsals directly prior to the concert are slightly extended to accommodate the need for soloist/small group rehearsals. We create our schedule to avoid the busiest times of the year for students and musicians. The full schedule for this season can be found here:

<https://www.ascentvocals.org/calendar.html> *(The pianist may be asked to play for our annual summer camp; this is NOT required, and is a separate contract with additional pay.)*

THE ENSEMBLE:

The high school contemporary ensemble is generally composed of 12-18 high school singers that LOVE to be there, and we perform SAB, SATB and SATB divisi repertoire. Some songs are performed a cappella. Students are asked to practice between rehearsals using the online resources we provide. To learn more about the ensemble, go to:

<https://www.ascentvocals.org/our-ensembles.html>

JOB DUTIES:

1. Prepare for rehearsal as necessary.
2. Attend and play for all weekly rehearsals for Altona Middle School (and alternate sites as needed), or assist in providing a substitute pianist, if requested, in the rare circumstances they cannot attend.
3. Lead sectional rehearsals when requested to do so by the Ensemble Director.
4. Create recorded practice tracks for student use as requested by the Ensemble Director.
5. Attend and play at dress rehearsals and performances, and assist with logistics as needed.

ABOUT US:

Ascent Vocals is a non-profit organization dedicated to uplifting, including and educating all students that walk into our classroom. To learn more about Ascent Vocals, go to:

<https://www.ascentvocals.org/our-mission.html>

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QUALIFICATIONS:

The ideal candidate will possess these qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Piano Performance or Music Education and/or significant experience accompanying ensembles
- Strong sight-reading skills and the ability to play musically
- Flexibility and responsiveness to the needs of the individual ensemble
- Basic knowledge of choral rehearsal techniques
- Outstanding interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work as a member of a team
- Fluency playing syncopated rhythms and popular music styles

COMPENSATION AND HOURS:

This is a part-time stipend position which we anticipate will require 2-3 hours per week during our rehearsal weeks on average. Pianist stipend for the 2024-2025 season is \$3,000, with annual raises possible. Some hours will be flexible, but must accommodate our rehearsal and performance schedule. Pay is monthly in equal installments from August through April.

Ascent Vocals values diversity and inclusiveness and is an equal opportunity employer. All individuals that work with Ascent Vocals are required to undergo a background check as part of the employment process.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please inform Nathan Wubbena (president@ascentvocals.org) of your interest, and include the following (all application information must be received via email – no hard copies will be accepted):

- Resume
- A cover letter (either attached or in the email body)
- Letters of recommendation
- Optional, but encouraged: Up to 3 audio or video samples of performance (solo and/or accompaniment)
- Your availability for an interview

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Nathan Wubbena at president@ascentvocals.org