

Grace Episcopal Church of Chicago

637 S Dearborn St Ste 1

Chicago IL 60605

www.gracechicago.org

music@gracechicago.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR Position Description

<u>Job Title:</u>	Music Director
<u>Classification:</u>	Exempt, part-time, permanent
<u>Reports to:</u>	Rector
<u>Date:</u>	February 20 2010
<u>Hours:</u>	approx 6 – 9 per week
<u>Salary Range:</u>	\$10-12K

Summary of Position:

The Music Director of Grace Episcopal Church is responsible for the music program of Grace Church and the musical expression of the worship of the congregation. He or she will typically select the music for each service in consultation with the Rector, play the musical portions of the service on a musical instrument, lead congregational and ensemble singing, initiate the formation and continuance of a choir, and procure additional music and musicians for congregational services and events. The Music Director is less a performer than a teacher and leader of worship, who understands this position as a ministry.

Areas of Responsibility:

- Select (in consultation with the Rector), play and lead congregational hymns
- Choose and play the appropriate liturgical preludes, offertories and postludes for each Sunday service
- Initiate, gather, rehearse, direct and accompany a church choir or choirs
- Convey and teach the importance and joy of the musical expression of Christian worship
- Procure and supervise all other music for Sunday and special worship services, including summer Sunday evening prayer service
- Procure competent substitutes on those occasions needed
- Assume responsibility for the maintenance of the Grace Church musical instruments
- Develop a repertoire that is open to all kinds of music, old and new, from diverse cultures and worship sources
- Keep ideas and plans in scale with the abilities, desires and resources of the congregation.

Qualifications

- Formal or informal training in church music, typically a B.A. in music related to church
- Expertise in playing piano with the ability both to read music and improvise at the keyboard
- Commitment to promoting congregational involvement in music as part of the worship life of the church
- Strong leadership qualities to encourage participation and enthusiasm in the musical expression of worship
- Ability to lead and accompany congregational singing
- Ability to work in a diverse range of musical genres and styles, especially gospel, classical, traditional Anglican and jazz
- Ability to rehearse, direct, and accompany a choir
- Ability to work towards deadlines
- Ability to work with persons from diverse backgrounds, and of diverse musical abilities and experience who volunteer their service
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with the Rector and with members of the congregation
- Interest in working with children and fostering their musical expression
- Awareness of the church calendar and its distinctive liturgical needs
- Experience and knowledge of the Episcopal liturgical tradition preferred.

Grace Episcopal Church of Chicago is a 160 year old congregation located on Printers Row in the heart of the South Loop. Grace is known throughout greater Chicago as a joyful, intentionally inclusive, welcoming, and nurturing congregation, with a history of progressive theology expressed in its social justice and outreach programs. Sunday worship, typically attended by 40 to 50 people, is held in an award-winning, converted, urban loft—an evocative and intimate space which encourages the mix of traditional and non-traditional worship through which Grace expresses its commitment to “Living in Community, Growing in Christ, Serving in the World.” Learn more at our website www.gracechicago.org.

TO APPLY

Application please by email to music@gracechicago.org.

Application deadline is Saturday March 13.

Please send your resume, as well as your answer to this question:

“Tell us how you would encourage musical participation from our entire congregation, especially those who may not be as comfortable with personal musical expression.”

Bless you for reading and considering this position.