



Washtenaw Community Concert Band

Position Open: Music Director/Conductor

Job description: In accordance with the band's Mission and Vision, select music for an adult community band, conduct the rehearsals and concerts, encourage and advise the band's organizational structure.

Ideal candidate will:

- Prepare for and conduct high quality band rehearsals and performances using personal, musical, teaching and conducting skills and techniques with band members.
- Inspire the ensemble to greater heights of performance and artistic expression.
- Select concert band repertoire appropriate for varying skill levels of band members.
- Program concert selections that generate audience appeal and appreciation for a variety of traditional and contemporary concert band music.
- Possess good organizational ability and skills in interpersonal relations.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with board, staff, committee members and section leaders.
- Serve on the Board of Directors as a non-voting ex-officio member, and provide advice, information and leadership as needed.
- Submit budget needs to board/treasurer in accordance with established guidelines.

Minimum requirements: Candidate should have a degree in instrumental music or music education, prior conducting experience and experience working with adult instrumental groups.

Start Date: September 2022 or as negotiated.

Compensation: \$7,000-\$9,000 to be determined by education and experience.

Rehearsal Schedule: Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Whitmore Lake High School (weekly, September-July).

Concerts: The band performs four concerts between late October and May; two less-formal concerts are held in June and July. Occasionally the band performs with a local high school band or at a local community event. Concerts are free, and most are performed at Washtenaw Community College.

Band Overview: The Washtenaw Community Concert Band is in its 43rd season, and over the years has performed in numerous settings in the greater Washtenaw County area. The band maintains a balanced instrumentation of about 80 members. There are no auditions, and seating is determined by section leaders. In addition to the concert band, WCCB sponsors a vintage Town Band ensemble with its own conductor and holds an annual ensemble concert.

As part of its community outreach, the band sponsors its Annual Concerto Competition for Washtenaw County high school band players, a Young Michigan Composers Concert Band Composition Contest and annually provides a scholarship to send an area youth to Blue Lake Fine Arts Band Camp. WCCB and Washtenaw Community College (WCC) maintain a partnership to accommodate WCC student players and to expand musical resources for both entities. The band is a member of the Association of Concert Bands and Creative Washtenaw, an arts alliance of the greater Ann Arbor area.

The band has performed at the Red Cedar Festival of Community Bands in Okemos and the Motor City Festival of Bands in Dearborn. A highlight of recent years was its Sousa Concert held in May 2016 at Ann Arbor's Michigan Theater, drawing an audience of nearly 1,200. The band has commissioned compositions by Dr. David Biedenbender and James Curnow to celebrate recent band anniversaries.

As with many music organizations, the pandemic has not been kind to WCCB, but the band found creative ways to continue its growth and maintain connections with each other. The band held virtual educational sessions on the elements of music and the history of wind bands. Several virtual interviews were held with "band greats" such as Jerry Brubaker, Julie Giroux, Ray Cramer and Marcus Neiman. Virtual rehearsals and a virtual ensemble concert were held. Local donors and several COVID relief arts grants assisted in covering ongoing expenses. The band has "weathered the storm" and is moving forward with restored enthusiasm to make music together.

WCCB is a 501(c)(3) organization managed by an eleven member Board of Directors elected from among the members. The Board normally meets once a month. All organization activities are carried out by volunteers. The band raises its own operational funds, and its financial position is stable. Additional information about the band can be found on the band's website: www.wccb.org.

Selection process: Following interviews, approximately three candidates will be selected to rehearse with the Washtenaw Community Concert Band during the 2022 Spring Season. Music Director/Conductor will be selected by the band's Board of Directors.

Application process: E-mail letter of interest, resume and three professional recommendations by April 30 to: search@wccb.org. Or mail, postmarked by April 30, to: Washtenaw Community Concert Band, Attn: Search Committee, P. O. Box 970047, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

COVID-19 vaccination and booster is required of all players and staff.

For additional information: WCCBand.org/search