



POSITION TITLE: Piano Instructor and Collaborative Pianist
REPORTS TO: The Principal & Assistant Principal of Curriculum, Design and Instruction
FLSA: Exempt
JOB STATUS: Part-time
FTE: .34 (10 Month Employee)

MISSION STATEMENT:

St. Mary's Academy, sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary since 1859, is a Catholic high school for young women, providing a challenging college-preparatory education in a vibrant learning environment. Guided by the values and charism of the Sisters, St. Mary's fosters a diverse community, educates the whole person by nurturing spirituality, encouraging creativity, promoting justice, and inspiring a sense of global interdependence to prepare students for service and leadership.

GENERAL SUMMARY:

The ideal candidate will work with our Music Department to offer top-level music education to our students through our Class Piano course, along with directing our unique and award-winning Piano Ensemble program. Piano pedagogy is a part of the history and heritage of this community. Our Piano Ensemble program is the only course of its type offered at the high school level in Oregon. This unique piano program allows for collaborative duets and accompanying skills to be developed. Our Class Piano curriculum offers piano instruction in alignment with the Oregon Music Teachers Association Piano Syllabus and offers students ranging in skill from novice to advanced to deepen their piano and theory skills. Preferably, this person may additionally be employed as the primary collaborative pianist for rehearsals and performances with our choir program and with individual music students preparing for college auditions and solo and ensemble contest. The candidate will demonstrate strong interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills; familiarity with the goals of an independent college preparatory school for young women and the ability to respond effectively to the needs of a diverse student and parent population with high expectations for teaching and learning. A strong commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is essential.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Demonstrate knowledge of music and piano pedagogy
- Establish and maintain a positive culture for learning with clear communication
- Facilitate student learning and provide multiple forms of feedback and rehearsal techniques
- Recognize and differentiate instruction for a variety of learners and skill levels, and demonstrate flexibility and responsiveness in a safe, positive learning environment
- Exhibit collaborative and collegial practices focused on growth and student learning
- Teach music literacy and piano skills, including proper technique (posture, fingering, wrist movement, etc.) along with performance skills (stage presence, how to bow, etc.)

- Select skill-appropriate and thought-provoking repertoire for students
- Seek and select music by culturally diverse composers and non-Western cultures
- Develop inspiring objectives and assessments that promote regular practice and demonstrate measurable growth
- Assist in proper care and maintenance for keyboards, headphones, and pianos in the Performing Arts Center (PAC), auditorium, and throughout the building.
- **Piano Ensemble:**
 - Instruct, guide, and rehearse with students once per week (half on Monday, half on Wednesday) from 3:15 – 4:45.
 - Audition, assess, and assign skill-compatible duet partners among student pianists.
 - In collaboration with the Performing and Fine Arts Department, produce two student performances per year for parents and the public to attend. Prepare students to perform in a holiday/winter/Christmas performance in December and a spring concert in May.
- **Class Piano:**
 - Individually assess students and assign repertoire and exercises that are challenging yet attainable in a multi-level class
 - Develop or use a proven pedagogical method (e.g., Frances Clark) to develop musical literacy and keyboard skills such as penta-scales, tetra-scales, major scales, arpeggios, accompanying and transposition, repertoire, and sight-reading exercises.
 - Instruct, guide, and rehearse students in preparation for an OMTA Syllabus level test at the end of the semester
 - Develop lesson plans, objectives, and student rehearsal plans for 90-minute classes
- **Collaborative Pianist:**
 - Collaborate with the choral program as collaborative pianist for Rose Choir and Marian Singers at an hourly rate in addition to salary.
 - Collaborate with music students preparing for college audition recordings (as needed) and for spring OMEA/OSAA Solo & Ensemble Contest performances at an hourly rate in addition to salary.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree or higher in Piano Performance, Piano Pedagogy, or Music Education
- Piano pedagogy training and excellent piano pedagogy skills
- Excellent piano performance skills
- Excellent Collaborative Pianist/Accompanist skills
- Experience or familiarity with OMTA Syllabus curriculum and testing
- Knowledge of repertoire for 4-hands and/or piano duo.
- Understanding and knowledge of adolescent development
- Experience working with diverse populations including cultural awareness and responsiveness
- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Experience in curriculum development
- Ability to effectively communicate, collaborate, and maintain cooperative relationships with colleagues, students and families, and professional colleagues outside SMA

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to sit and/or stand for extended periods of time
- Ability to occasionally lift up to 40 + lbs.
- Ability to stoop, bend, walk and effectively communicate at levels normal for someone performing work with the general public primarily in the office environment with SMA community or off-campus. Communication forms can include but are not limited to; in-person verbal and non-verbal, written, email, telephone and public speaking to medium to large groups

SALARY:

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience based on faculty salary scale.

BENEFITS:

St. Mary's Academy is proud to offer comprehensive benefits to our eligible employees:

- Medical, Dental and Vision coverage at no cost to employee only
- Opt-Out of Health Insurance
- Flexible Spending Account
- Short-Term & Long-Term Disability (Employer Paid)
- Vacation and Sick Leave
- Holiday Pay
- Retirement 403(b) plan
- Paid Jury Duty
- Paid Bereavement Leave
- Life Insurance
- Tuition Remission for St. Mary's Academy
- Employee Assistance Program

St. Mary's Academy is an equal opportunity employer.

ALL OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT ARE CONTINGENT UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A BACKGROUND INQUIRY.

To Apply: Qualified applicants may submit resume and cover letter to Kari Forrer in Human Resources, kari.forrer@smapdx.org.