

New Horizons Band Fox Valley Band Director

April, 2022

New Horizons Music Fox Valley, Inc. (NHMFV), seeks a Band Director for its New Horizons Band Fox Valley (NHBFV) adult instructional concert band.

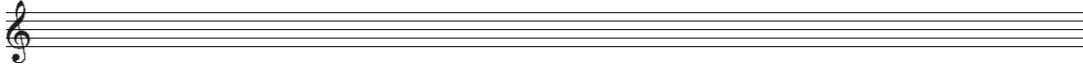
The successful candidate would begin leading the band beginning September 6, 2022, with an on-boarding process to begin summer 2022. This opportunity is a contract position for services on a weekly basis. Compensation is \$125.00 per week plus \$125.00 for the scheduled fall and spring concert dates. The successful candidate will be engaged as an independent professional contractor who provides musical direction to NHBFV and who is not an employee of NHBFV.

NHBFV meets weekly (September through mid-November and January through mid-May), comprising fall (10 weeks), winter (8 weeks) and spring (10 weeks) sessions with standing concerts in November and May. The November and May concerts are typically joint concerts with the New Horizons Orchestra Fox Valley. Weekly rehearsals are held Tuesday evenings, 6:30pm to 8:30pm, and include an approximate 55-minute sectional lesson led by paid Section Leaders, a 10-minute break for socializing and snacks, and a 55-minute full band rehearsal (exact sectional and rehearsal time frames can vary).

NHBFV provides music instruction, rehearsal and performance opportunities for adults of all ages and at any stage of musical experience (beginner, intermediate and advanced) who desire to play in a community band. All adults are welcome without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or socio-economic status. NHBFV does not require auditions to join – or any memorized solos or recital performances.

The Band Director instructs beginners one-on-one or in a group lesson as applicable, while paid Section Leaders conduct sectional group lessons each week. If there are no beginners to instruct, the Director can fill in any sectional needing additional instrumental players or, when needed, substitute for an absent Section Leader.

NHBFV sectionals include brass, woodwinds, percussion and beginner musicians. The NHBFV is currently playing literature at a 2.5 to 3.0 grade. In selecting music, the Director must balance challenging more advanced band participants while NOT intimidating beginner musicians. **Creating a welcoming environment for all amateur adult musicians, no matter their ability, and promoting the New Horizons' philosophy of "your best is good enough" is crucial.**



Primary Duties of the Band Director include:

Music Selection and Weekly Rehearsal

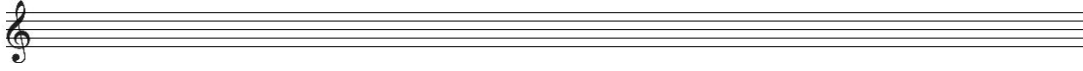
- Select music for the band to learn and to perform at designated concerts.
- Develop weekly rehearsal plans for the band to learn selected music and provide each Section Leader with appropriate weekly notes.
- Develop an abbreviated version of the weekly rehearsal plan for all NHBFV all band participants; post such rehearsal notes on the Announcements web page found on the www.nhbfv.com website; and also send the weekly rehearsal notes to all band participants via email each week. (*for a sample of rehearsal notes, visit <https://newhorizonsbandfoxvalley.com/announcements/>*)
- Post on the NHBFV website available web links of music selections rehearsed by the band for performances.
- Arrange for substitute Section Leaders when needed.
- Manage annual budget line items directly related to the Band Director position, such as the annual music literature budget.

Concert Performances

- Coordinate concert dates and music to be performed at concerts with the band, New Horizons (string) Orchestra Fox Valley Director and concert venue representatives, as needed.
- Coordinate other details related to performances, as necessary.
- Seek out and plan additional performance opportunities (such as Touchmark Senior Living, Appleton Public Library, Appleton Flag Day Parade, etc.).
- Arrange for additional freelance musician ringers as needed for concerts.
- Develop program notes or announcements for each concert.
- Complete annual year-end spreadsheet of music performed by the band and submit to the Association of Concert Bands in a timely manner – and copy spreadsheet to NHBFV Executive Committee Chair.

Secondary Duties of the Band Director include:

- Promote the NHBFV program and New Horizons Music Fox Valley brand throughout the wider community.
- Lead or support activities that will grow, enhance and sustain the band.
- Attend monthly NHMFV Board meetings as an Ex Officio member and provide a band update to the board as appropriate.
- Attend periodic band Executive Committee (aka: Ex Comm) leadership team meetings that manage the day-to-day affairs and operations of the band.
- Assist the band's Ex Comm in securing, coordinating and maintaining rehearsal and concert venues, contracts and annual budget preparation as needed.
- Support the band's ongoing relationship with the New Horizons Orchestra Fox Valley and their Director under the unified New Horizons Music Fox Valley 501(c)(3) non-profit.
- Support the band's ongoing and future external strategic partnerships as they arise.
- Support the band's fundraising efforts; including donations, corporate sponsorship, scholarships and grants in support of the band's musical and educational activities as needed.
- Perform other duties as determined by the NHMFV Board of Directors and NHBFV Ex Comm, as needed.



Who We Are – About NHMFV

New Horizons Music Fox Valley (NHMFV) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides affordable music education, training and performance opportunities for adults at any level of musical experience, who desire to play in a community band or orchestra. **Adults who wish to play again or learn to play for the first time are invited. All beginners are welcome. No auditions are required.**

The NHMFV point of difference from a typical community band or orchestra is that community musicians are expected to know how to read music proficiently, play skillfully, practice on their own and be well prepared for rehearsal without instruction. **The NHMFV program teaches adults at any level of musical ability without judgement and provides them with a weekly group lesson and rehearsal** as a full band or orchestra, along with the opportunity to perform in seasonal concerts and be part of a band or orchestra community – in lieu of only taking private lessons and practicing alone at home.

NHMFV consists of a concert band, string orchestra and smaller band ensemble. Pre-COVID, our adult instructional music program included over 110 participants. As of March 2022, our program welcomed approximately 95 participants. Both the band and string orchestra have highly qualified and experienced directors and instructors. Since 2004, our music program has instructed hundreds of adults – many of whom now perform with local community bands.

New Horizons International History

The New Horizons Music movement was started by Prof. Roy Ernst in 1991 at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and is now an international program with hundreds of bands, orchestras and other ensembles. His philosophy driving the program is that anyone can learn to play music at a level that will bring a sense of accomplishment and the ability to perform in a group; your best is good enough; and no audition is required to join the New Horizons program.

For additional information regarding New Horizons Band Fox Valley, visit www.nhbfv.com and New Horizons International Music Association at www.newhorizonsmusic.org

How to Apply

Interested applicants may email letters of interest, current contact information, minimum of three professional references and a résumé of musical activities related to the development and leadership of a concert band to Doug Marsh – Chair, NHBFV Search Committee, via info@nhbfv.com. **Applications must be received no later than 5:00pm, Monday, May 2, 2022.** Please note, in-person interviews and guest conducting will be held on Tuesday evening, May 17, 2022.

Resume information should include instruments played with proficiency, current and prior band directing positions and education history. **Please include the following summary format, as shown in this sample:**

- Instruments:* Proficient on trumpet, guitar, piano and to lesser degrees on various brass, woodwind and percussion instruments
- Current:* Director of Sousa Middle School Band for 15 years
Conductor, Hometown Community Band (Hometown, WI) for 10 years
Teacher, Fermata High School (Fermata, WI) for 20 years
- Prior:* Conductor, Feel Good Community Band (Feel Good, WI) for three years
Choral Conductor, Valley Chorale (Valley, WI) for three years
Teacher, Fermata Middle School (Fermata, WI) for five years
- Education:* M.S. Music, Conducting – Uptown University, Funk, WI