



JOB DESCRIPTION: *Black Teaching Artist-in-Residence Fellowship 2023-2025 – VIOLIN*

Position Summary UniSound, a hub for youth music, seeks a highly-qualified, energetic, emerging professional VIOLIN TEACHING ARTIST for a Teaching Artist Fellowship during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 seasons. The Black Teaching Artist Fellow will work closely with UniSound and partnering organizations to plan curriculum and teach in a wide variety of community settings. As an emerging professional, the Black Teaching Artist Fellow will gain valuable professional experience working alongside quality youth music programs and community organizations in the culturally rich Pittsburgh, PA region.

The UniSound Black Teaching Artist-in-Residence Fellowship is a two-year, full-time position for an early career music teaching artist who identifies as Black/of African descent. Due to the current needs of the Pittsburgh ecosystem, for the 2023-2025 session priority will be given to teaching artists for violin.

The BTAR Fellow will split their time between teaching private, group classes, and chamber coachings through our partnership with Hope Academy and other participating organizations and facilitating workshops in community and educational settings. The BTAR Fellow will also be encouraged to collaborate and perform with local arts organizations (for additional compensation).

Accountabilities:

- Work with UniSound and its partners to create and maintain a consistent teaching schedule
- Plan and deliver high-quality individual and group music classes for students from 4 to 18 years old (with the exception of Suzuki teaching artists, who may have students as young as 3 years old)
- Develop and facilitate music-related workshops in local community organizations and schools (2-4 hours/per week)
- Serve as a thought partner alongside the Black Teaching Artist(s) in Residence on the UniSound Steering Committee (as needed)
- Serve as an ambassador for UniSound and its partners for media opportunities (as needed)
- Collaborate and communicate with parents, administrative staff, and faculty of partner organizations
- In partnership with the Executive Director, determine additional areas of interest/skill if applicable

Position Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in music education or performance required; additional coursework or training in music pedagogy preferred. Commensurate teaching experience and artistic accomplishment are also considered in lieu of a degree
- Music teaching artist who identifies as Black/of African descent
- Experience working with children of different ages, abilities, and from diverse backgrounds

- Ability to teach a range of students from very young beginners through advanced out-of-repertoire students
- An understanding that this position involves interacting with children and youth who may look to the Fellow as a role model/inspiration
- High level of personal musicianship
- Personable, collaborative nature and ability to work with staff and families, and community members from diverse backgrounds
- Regular access and ability to use the internet and email
- Successful candidate must either have access to a vehicle or comfort navigating public transportation
- Applicants must be eligible for employment in the United States (United States Residency or have a valid United States visa for the duration of the Fellowship)
- PA Criminal History clearance, PA Child Abuse Clearance, FBI background check required, and Mandated Reporter Training Certificate Required (TRYPO will cover the cost if the successful candidate does not already have them)

Desired Bonus Skills:

- While not required, if the successful candidate has other skills or interests in arts administration, such as social media or grant writing, this position can be customized to explore those if there is mutual interest and availability in the candidate’s schedule.

Employment Details:

Hours and Workload: This is a full-time, salaried position that will have significant evening and weekend hours. We will work together to develop a manageable schedule that includes time for individual practice, and protocols/coverage for time off.

Reports to: Executive Director, Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras (fiscal sponsor)

Compensation Package: - \$35,000-\$40,000 base salary/ year depending on experience.
 - Housing/transportation stipend (\$1,250/month)
 - Professional development funds (\$2,000-\$7,000/year) depending on experience needs/interests of selected candidate.

Benefits: **Paid vacation** and holidays, **retirement plan** (Simple IRA with 3% employer match), and **health, vision, and dental insurance (premiums paid 100% by employer)**. The position will come with access to professional development resources, mentorship, and other creative and teaching opportunities.

Employment Status: Non-exempt

How to apply: Please send cover letter and resume to Act 3 Consulting Partners via e-mail at btar@unisound.us (Please list job title in the subject line). We will review applications until the position is filled.

ABOUT UNISOUND

What is UniSound’s mission?

UniSound aims to create a more accessible, sustainable, and equitable youth music ecosystem in the greater Pittsburgh area through building an alliance of organizations which provide music education and performance opportunities for youth.

What do we do?

- ☐ *Strengthen Organizations:* UniSound strengthens organizations that provide opportunities for children and teens to create music.
 - o Professional development and networking to help organizations learn new and pertinent skills and practices, build capacity, collaborate, and form partnerships.
 - o Mini-Grants that celebrate and support existing work that our organizations are already doing!
 - o Paid opportunities for organizations and their teaching artists to participate in community engagement events, write blog posts, and more.
- ☐ *Connect Musical Families with Opportunities:* UniSound makes it easier for Pittsburgh families to find organizations that provide out-of-school-time music-making opportunities for their children.
 - o A comprehensive directory on the UniSound website, to make it easier for families to find the best programs and private teachers for their children.
 - o Shared marketing initiatives.
 - o An event listing to showcase local music-making activities.
- ☐ *Speak Up:* UniSound will have a voice in important conversations, policies, and initiatives in our region.
 - o Identify common issues and causes related to overall arts education access and equity in our region.
 - o Continue and expand our Black Teaching Artists-in-Residence Program.

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UniSound is a program of Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras (TRYPO), but is ultimately a collaborative project of more than 40 Pittsburgh area organizations that share a common trait of providing opportunities for children and/or teens to create music out-of-school time.

TRYPO is passionate about building and sustaining an inclusive and equitable working and learning environment for all students, staff, and faculty. We believe every member of our team enriches our diversity by exposing us to a broad range of ways to understand and engage with the world, identify challenges, and to discover, design, and deliver solutions.

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