

VOICES WITHIN

Voices Within Teaching Artist Training

Lyricist Teaching Artist

INTRODUCTION

The Los Angeles Master Chorale is expanding the Voices Within Teaching Artist pool and is seeking creative, student-centered artists to train for future residencies. We are recruiting Singer-Lead Teaching Artists, Composer Teaching Artists, and Lyricist Teaching Artists who are passionate about arts education and are excited to work with fifth-grade students in our 12-week in-school program.

THE TRAINING

Selected candidates will complete approximately 37–40 hours of training, which includes a four-day training February 9–12, 2026 at the Music Center (or close by), as well as in-classroom observations of current Voices Within teaching artists throughout the 12-week residency from mid-February to mid-May.

All selected candidates must complete and pass a background check in order to be cleared to work on a school campus. Clearance is required before participating in classroom observations or residency activities.

The Los Angeles Master Chorale encourages applications from teaching artists of varied cultural, linguistic, and artistic backgrounds. We especially welcome individuals whose lived experiences align with the communities we serve, and who are committed to supporting students in public school settings.

Training Compensation: \$30/hour

ABOUT THE VOICES WITHIN TEACHING ARTIST ROLE

This is a seasonal, on-call position. LA Master Chorale programs 4 residencies per academic year. Before each semester's residency, teaching artists are asked about interest and availability. All applicants must be local and able to attend school sessions during the school day.

VOICES WITHIN

Required Qualifications for All Teaching Artist Roles

- Experience working with students of diverse backgrounds
- Strong classroom management skills
- Ability to follow curriculum while remaining creative and flexible
- Strong collaboration and communication skills
- Ability to navigate basic technology and digital tools
- Comfort working in a fast-paced school environment
- Passion for arts education and youth development
- Ability to work respectfully with a wide range of students, teachers, and administrators
- Interest and ability to engage with people of all ages
- College degree or equivalent professional experience
- Spanish fluency is a plus
- Must be available for all training dates and in-school residency times

ABOUT VOICES WITHIN

Voices Within is the Los Angeles Master Chorale's award-winning artist residency program for fifth-grade students. Over a 12-week period, students work with a Composer, Lyricist, and Singer-Lead Teaching Artist to write original lyrics and melodies, which culminate in a live performance with a chamber ensemble of Master Chorale singers. Since its launch in 2001, over 5,250 students have participated in Voices Within, creating and performing more than 500 original songs alongside Master Chorale teaching artists.

The curriculum integrates Common Core State Standards and blends music composition, writing, improvisation, and creative collaboration. Teaching artists work closely with teachers and administrators to foster a safe environment where students can take creative risks, develop confidence, and experience the joy of making their own music.

LYRICIST TEACHING ARTIST | ROLE OVERVIEW

The Lyricist Teaching Artist leads students through writing and developing lyrics using storytelling, writing prompts, small-group activities, and collaborative exercises. Partnering with the Singer-Lead and Composer, the Lyricist helps students articulate their ideas and shape complete, singable lyrics.

VOICES WITHIN

Primary Responsibilities

- Teach writing skills, lyric development, and storytelling techniques
- Collaborate with the Singer-Lead and Composer to deliver curriculum
- Attend all planning and in-school sessions, rehearsals, and culmination events
- Prepare lyric sheets, one-sheets (informational handouts on song topics that guide the creation of the songs), and classroom worksheets with proper prompts that inspire creative thinking
- Guide students through writing drafts, revisions, and final text preparation
- Foster a supportive and creative classroom environment
- Participate in curriculum and materials updates
- Perform other reasonable duties as needed

Compensation if offered a 12-week residency: \$47 - \$57/hour

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit a resume, cover letter, and three references using the application form below. If you are applying for Lyricist, please upload samples of your work. Lyricists should upload examples of written lyrics or text-based work.

Apply at: <https://wkf.ms/4pZp0Xo>

Email jmeza@lamasterchorale.org if you have any questions. Please, no phone calls or text messages.