



Western Sydney.Choral.Excellence
Artistic Director & Principal Conductor:
Dr Sarah Penicka-Smith

PRINCIPAL PIANIST CASUAL CONTRACT

A unique opportunity to join Parramatta's flagship symphonic choral organisation.

Established in 2018, and led by its exceptional artistic director, Dr Sarah Penicka-Smith, River City Voices (RCV) is gaining recognition for its multi-artform, inclusive, and unique collaborative choral programs. RCV's 2023 season included a large-scale public participatory event at Parramatta Gaol, Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, twice appearing on the Concert Hall stage of the Sydney Opera House and partnering with Ngarra-burria First Peoples Composers program as Ensemble in Residence in a uniquely Australian Christmas program.

2024 is an [equally exciting season](#) of collaborative artistic programs and workshops with our cohort of 70 committed and passionate western Sydney choristers.

The Role

The position of Principal Pianist is integral to RCV's core artistic activities – rehearsals and performances.

We are seeking to fill a vacancy for a role that has been undertaken by the incumbent pianist since 2019.

The Principal Pianist accompanies all Thursday evening choir rehearsals (6.30-9.30pm in Parramatta). In general, rehearsals are scheduled per calendar year in three 10-11 week blocks culminating in a performance, with breaks between each block. On occasion, the Principal Pianist will be the sole accompanist for concert performances and external engagements.

Key Responsibilities:

- Accompany weekly choir rehearsals, working closely with RCV's conductors.
- Accompany general auditions (twice a year).
- Perform/accompany in RCV concert programs and external concert engagements as required.
- Liaise with the Artistic Director on all rehearsal and program accompaniment requirements as relevant.
- Prepare all repertoire in advance to a high degree of proficiency.
- Lead occasional sectional rehearsals for the piano if required.
- Liaise with the General Manager regarding all HR matters, attendances at rehearsals, leave, etc.

Selection Criteria

Essential

You must be available to participate in a practical accompaniment session with the choir on Thursday, 18 July 2024.

- Degree in Music, majoring in piano (Performance, Collaborative), or an equivalent level of professional experience.
- Demonstrated experience accompanying choirs to a high standard.
- Must be available Thursday evenings, and for scheduled 2024/25 concert performances and external activities as relevant.
- Strong interpersonal skills, an ability to build effective relationships, and contribute to the organisation's culture, one that fosters a strong sense of community and well-being.

- Experience with working independently, managing competing commitments, and demonstrated punctuality.
- Strong sight-reading ability

Desirable:

- Driver's Licence
- Experience taking choral warm-ups
- Experience with taking sectional choral rehearsals.

Conditions of Employment:

This is a fixed-term, **casual contract position commencing on 5 September, 2024, and finishing on December 6, 2025**, with the option to renew dependent on funding.

The choir will take an **Annual Break** from 1 December '24 with auditions scheduled on 13 February and rehearsals resuming on 27 February, 2025.

The 2024 Rehearsal Call Rate (maximum 3 hours per call) is \$200 plus 11% superannuation.

How to apply:

Please submit:

- 1) Brief cover letter.
- 2) Resume with two professional referees.
- 3) Document addressing the key criteria and your suitability for the role (maximum 2 pages).

Address your application to the General Manager, Inara Molinari, and email to manager@rivercityvoices.org.au

Applications close Friday, 28 June, 5.00pm.

We encourage you to discuss the position further and obtain the remaining 2024 and Draft 2025 Rehearsal and Performance Schedule by phoning Inara on 0409 776 577.