



## **RPA Kids (RPAK) Apprentice Teacher Job Description, February 2020**

**The goal of the RPAK Apprenticeship is to prepare the Apprentice to become an RPAK Instructor.** There are two open apprenticeships:

1. **Violin Pedagogy Apprentice** – This apprenticeship is focused on observing and implementing violin pedagogy relevant to instructing students in grades 2-5 to play violin. Correct posture and position are emphasized. The curriculum is based on the Suzuki method.
2. **Note Reading Apprentice** – This apprenticeship is focused on observing and implementing pedagogy relevant to instructing students in grades 2-5 to read rhythms, melodies, musical symbols and terms and help them connect those concepts to violin playing.

### **RPAK Program**

RPA Kids (RPAK) provides free, after-school group violin and cello lessons to students at Bernice Mathews, Lincoln Park, and Stead Elementary schools. This program is run by the Reno Philharmonic Association (RPA). RPAK runs after-school, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Over 200 students were served at three schools in the 2019-2020 school year.

### **RPA Kids Mission**

The mission of RPA Kids is to engage pre-6th grade students in a level of music education they would otherwise not have access to and connect them to resources to become life-long music listeners, learners, and lovers.

### **RPA Kids Vision**

1. Music is a vital part of cultural life in Washoe County
2. Every child has equal access to high quality music education.

### **Apprenticeship Program**

The RPA is seeking applicants who are interested in learning the RPAK teaching methodology with the intent to become an RPAK teacher. The RPAK apprenticeship program will begin in March 2020 and run through June 2020. Apprentices will rotate among the three instruction sites. The first several weeks will be spent observing RPAK teachers and working with students in small groups. During the last few weeks, the apprentice teacher may take over as teacher for some classes. At the end of the apprenticeship, the apprentice will be evaluated by the RPAK teachers, the RPAK Coordinator, and the RPA Education and Community Engagement (EDCE) Director. Upon a successful evaluation, they may be offered an RPAK teaching position. Completion of the apprenticeship program does not guarantee an RPAK teaching position.

### **Basic Qualifications**

- Experience teaching students in large groups
- Basic violin pedagogy



- Good communication skills between adults and students
- Comfortable working with K-6 students across all socio-economic levels
- Comfortable working with English Language Learner students

**Preferred Qualifications**

- Degree in music education
- Strong playing skills on violin, viola, cello, or bass
- Spanish/English bi-lingual

**Reporting Summary** – The apprentice reports to the Director of Education and Community Engagement (EdCE). The apprentice works closely with the RPAK Coordinator and RPAK Teachers at the instruction sites. The apprentice is responsive to the EdCE Committee Chair and the President & CEO of the Reno Philharmonic.

**General Duties**

- Be at RPAK sites on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, from 3:30-5:35pm. RPAK calendar follows the WCSD calendar.
- Rotate through three RPAK sites based on schedule set up with RPAK Coordinator.
- Observe various instructional strategies used by RPAK Teachers.
- Observe classroom management strategies and routines established by RPAK Teachers.
- Meet for one hour monthly with RPAK Teachers to discuss and update RPAK curriculum.
- Assist RPAK Teachers in teaching classes.
- Learn RPAK procedures for maintaining instrument inventory.
- Aid RPAK Teachers in planning and preparing for quarterly recitals and additional concerts or outreach activities.

**Hourly Pay:** \$30 (typically 7 hours per week)

**Application Closing Date:** March 6, 2020

**Hire Date:** Late March 2020

**Application**

Please email cover letter, resume, and references by March 6, 2020 to:  
**heather@RenoPhil.com**