CLASS SPECIFICATION
Performance Accompanist-Dance

FLSA Status: Nonexempt
EEOC Job Category: Service worker
Union Representation: Represented

GENERAL PURPOSE
Under general supervision, provide musical accompaniment, on piano and/or percussion instruments for various dance classes, rehearsals and performances; and performs related duties as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS
Performance Accompanist-Dance accompanies ballet, modern, African/ethnic and/or other dance classes on piano or percussion instruments. An incumbent in this position must be able to adapt, arrange and transcribe music for the purpose of providing appropriate accompaniment for Dance classes, rehearsals and performances.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
The duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to this class.

1. Play musical instruments to accompany dancers in various and choreographed routines including but not limited to ballet, modern and African/ethnic dance.

2. Provide appropriate rhythmic and music structures for a variety of dances; create and sustain progressions of mixed meter and irregular rhythmic patterns; adjust rhythms, tempos and music as needed; improvise and adapt rhythmic patterns.

3. Listen for the type of dance movement given as demonstrated or assigned by an instructor; adapt and modify music as needed.

4. Memorize and prepare musical selections and adapt as needed during performance.

5. Rehearse musical numbers with choreography; play accompaniment for public performances as required.

6. Perform or record music for class projects and presentations.

OTHER DUTIES
1. Research appropriate music for dances as required.

2. Perform related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

2. Methods and techniques of musical accompaniment.
3. A wide variety of musical selections and styles.
4. Rhythm structures for dance disciplines.
5. Techniques and methods of dance accompaniment, techniques and methods of playing piano or percussion instruments.
6. Terminology relating to dance.
7. Basic understanding of music adaptation for rehearsal and performance.

Ability to:
1. Play piano or a variety of percussion instruments to accompany various styles of dance disciplines.
2. Perform and/or memorize a wide variety of music.
3. Accompany dance soloists and groups in rehearsal and performance.
4. Accurately assess movement and choreography and adapt music appropriately.
5. Improvise musical patterns and phrases.
6. Follow and satisfy the musical needs of the instructor or student.
7. Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
8. Communicate clearly and concisely.
9. Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with students, faculty and staff.

Education, Training and Experience:
A typical way of obtaining the knowledge, skills and abilities outlined above is graduation from high school or G.E.D. equivalent; and four years of increasingly responsible experience playing piano or a variety of percussion instruments in an organized educational, professional or similar setting; ability to adapt, arrange or transcribe music for the purpose of providing appropriate accompaniment; or an equivalent combination of training and experience. College-level coursework in music theory, literature, history, composition or performance is desirable.

Licenses; Certificates; Special Requirements:
A valid California driver’s license and the ability to maintain insurability under the District’s vehicle insurance policy.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEMANDS
The physical and mental demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this class. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.
**Physical Demands**
While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to sit; use hands and wrists repetitively to finger, handle, or feel piano keyboards or other percussion instruments; talk, hear conversations; and reach with hands and arms. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 50 pounds.

Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision and the ability to adjust focus.

**Mental Demands**
While performing the duties of this class, the incumbent is regularly required to use oral and written communication skills; read and interpret scored music; analyze and solve problems; learn and apply new information or skills; observe and interpret people and situations; and interact with District faculty, staff, students, musicians, the public and others encountered in the course of work.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT**
The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this class. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

The employee works in a classroom or performance setting and the noise level may vary from quiet to moderately loud.