Executive Director, Auburn University Performing Arts Center

Auburn University seeks an experienced leader to serve as Executive Director for its new Auburn University Performing Arts Center. The Executive Director will provide innovative leadership in the direction and management of the University's new 70,000+ square foot Performing Arts Center including program management, operations, community outreach, fiscal management, and overall strategic direction.

Auburn University is one of the nation’s premier land, sea, and space grant institutions. In the 2016 edition of U.S. News and World Report, it was ranked 48th among public universities. Auburn is an institution that is both highly research-active and committed to maintaining teaching excellence, offering Bachelor’s, Master’s, Educational Specialist, and Doctor’s degrees. Its 2016 enrollment of 28,290 students includes 23,568 undergraduates and 5,632 post baccalaureate students. There are 1,192 instructional faculty members distributed across nine Colleges and three Schools with degrees offered in more than 200 academic programs. Auburn University is nationally recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, positive work environment, exciting student life, and the beauty of its campus.

Auburn University is geographically located in a moderate climate with easy access to both beach and mountain recreational facilities and is situated along the rapidly developing I-85 corridor between Atlanta, Georgia, and Montgomery, Alabama. The Auburn-Opelika metropolitan statistical area has a population of 140,000, excellent public school systems, a regional medical center and the distinction of being recognized as one of the “best small towns in America” and one of the nation's top 25 towns to retire.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the Center’s marketing and public relations, budgeting process, program direction, negotiation of leases and contracts, and recruitment, development and management of both permanent full-time employees and numerous contract and event related staff. It is expected that the new performing arts center will present a mix of diverse international, national and regional acts. Additional responsibilities will include overseeing all performing arts and administrative operations including season planning, artist engagement, venue bookings, and a wide array of constituent relationships. The successful candidate will also work closely across campus with faculty, students and administration and be tasked with substantial outreach, building strong community relationships resulting in mutually beneficial partnerships. This senior level executive will engage directly with university departments including development, performing arts faculty, student life auxiliaries, facilities management and the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Art curating artistic energy in the community and eventually an Arts Gateway to the campus. This is an administrative position reporting to the Provost’s Office classified as non-tenure track faculty.

**Minimum Qualification Requirements**

**Education:** Undergraduate degree from an accredited institution of higher education

**Experience:** A career path of progressively increasing responsibilities and expertise in venue management

**Desired Qualifications**

**Education:** Master’s Degree in the Arts or Business Administration
Experience with college/university or public/private performing arts venues

Additional Qualifications:

- A passion for the arts and the dynamic leadership skills and vision necessary to accomplish the mission and goals of this new exciting initiative.
- An acute understanding of venue programming and management while presenting a variety of offerings that achieve program goals; an ability to market and promote such.
- Extensive experience working not only with university constituencies but a track record of extensive community engagement and outreach culminating in successful partnerships.
- A strategic thinker who understands a vision of success and can translate it into a tactile plan which is in concert with both university and civic goals and aspirations.
- Successful experience involved with complex venue management while hosting a variety of programs including music, theater, dance, and other nontraditional performance activities and events.
- A strong financial management background with a track record of producing results within budget in a business of significant size and scope.
- Experience recruiting, developing, supervising and evaluating staff while creating and maintaining a positive image to one’s coworkers, campus, and community.
- An understanding of development and fundraising and a desire to work with the University’s Development office to assist in achieving center and University goals.
- Exceptional communication, organizational and interpersonal skills, as well as leadership skills that encourage teamwork and participative decision-making.
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously with attention to details, timelines, and deadlines while building interdisciplinary collaboration across the university community.

While applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled, interested parties are highly encouraged to submit their materials, including a letter of interest and resume, to the email address below by March 15, 2017 to ensure optimal consideration. For additional University information see www.auburn.edu and https://oira.auburn.edu/

The candidate selected for this position must be able to meet eligibility requirements to work in the United States at the time the appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the proposed term of employment.

Search Committee-Executive Director, Auburn University Performing Arts Center
Attention: Managing Director
Breckenridge Partners
mek@breckenridgepartners.com

Auburn University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. It is our policy to provide equal employment opportunities for all individuals without regard to race, sex, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other classification protected by applicable law.