

# Spirit of Harmony Foundation

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## Position Description

### CALLING ALL BLOGGERS:

Hello, my name is Alan Meerow, and I am the Managing Editor of the new Spirit of Harmony blog that will soon be a part of our forthcoming newly designed website. However, a blog site has one abiding need: contributions. Are you a writer? Have you aspired to be a writer? Dreamed of becoming a writer? Spirit of Harmony wants you!

We are interested in a variety of blog contributions that concern all aspects of how music touches our lives, our minds, our spirits, and our world. Essays should be 1-3 double spaced pages in length (approximately 250-1000 words), and can include images.

Below are very general categories that we would like contributions to address as they pertain to music and music education:

- **Academic** – students motivated to stay in school, getting better grades in all subjects through analytic and memory skills, pursuing higher education/advanced studies.
- **Social** – youth developing skills required to work with others, embracing teamwork, fostering socialization, and being engaged in positive activities as opposed to potentially negative activities/crime/incarceration. Students benefit from quality interaction with other players and role models/teachers.
- **Personal** – building and developing self-esteem, self-identity, self-discipline, and focus, creating an emotional outlet. For some individuals, music involvement could potentially mitigate behavioral patterns that might otherwise be treated as discipline problems or pharmaceutical issues.
- **Economic** – acquiring the life skills, traits, and attributes cultivated in music education to broaden the horizon of career opportunities in any field of endeavor, including pursuing a career in music (not only as a musician, but in the music industry in general).
- **Biological/physical** – scientific research on ways in which playing music causes the brain to develop differently from non-musicians, both in the short-term and long-term.
- **Creative** - music brings beauty into our lives and helps make the world a better place.

Blog articles can be derived from your own experiences, or those of others (with their permission, please). Feel free to apply your imagination, but make honesty the main collateral of your contributions.

If you would like join this adventure, please fill out the Spirit of Harmony Foundation Volunteer Application. If you have questions, contact me by email at [blog@spiritofharmony.org](mailto:blog@spiritofharmony.org)

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### **Blog Writer**

#### **Position Description:**

The blog will be an integral part of the Spirit of Harmony Foundation website. The Blog Writers will be responsible for producing content and submitting that content to the Blog Managing Editor.

The blog will consist of articles, editorials (opinion pieces), and testimonials. The Blog Writers are expected to make sure their work supports the overall Mission and Purposes of the Foundation. All blog posts will have a byline (no anonymous posts will be published).

#### **General Blog Guidelines:**

- Write passionately and try to provide meaningful, useful information.
- Length varies. Most blog posts are 250-1000 words. If there is a topic that cannot be covered in a short article, present it as a multi-part series.
- Understand that most people who read blogs are looking for quick access to information or entertainment. Try to write succinctly and use headings to break up long blocks of text.
- As much as possible, try to use basic journalism standards:
  - Good grammar and accurate spelling
  - Special attention to correct spelling of names and titles
  - Factual integrity

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Submit at least one article per month
- To make sure that our blog is well-respected and highly regarded, differentiate between fact and opinion. If it's opinion, support your case. If it's fact, indicate the evidence that supports the fact.
- Submit your posts as a Word Document attachment to an email to the Managing Editor
- NEVER HESITATE TO ASK QUESTIONS. Contact the Managing Editor, Executive Director, and/or Board Chairman to discuss any issues or questions about your work!

#### **Reports to:**

Managing Editor

#### **Time Commitment:**

Approximately 4 hours per month

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**Qualifications:**

Eligible candidate must have a background in journalism, communications, or writing, in addition to basic computer skills.

**Statement of Inclusiveness:**

The Spirit of Harmony Foundation is an Equal Opportunity organization. Volunteers are chosen on the basis of ability without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, marital status or sexual orientation, in accordance with federal and state law.

**Compensation:**

None. This is a volunteer position.