Wilfrid Laurier University is a leading Canadian university that excels at educating with purpose. Its holistic approach to learning integrates innovative programming with hands-on experience outside the classroom. Laurier has been ranked #1 in student satisfaction for the past four years thanks in no small part to its unique, community-centered culture. Through its community of researchers, leaders and educators, Laurier has built a reputation as a world-class institution known for its academic excellence and global impact. In acknowledgement of its exemplary workplace policies and programs, and its commitment to sustainability and lifelong learning, Laurier was named one of the Waterloo Area’s Top Employers in 2019 and 2020. Laurier specializes in arts and social sciences, business and economics, music, science, social work, education and theology.

The University has 20,000 students, campuses in Waterloo and Brantford, locations in Kitchener and Toronto, and a research office in Yellowknife. Kitchener, Waterloo and Brantford are on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnawbe and Haudenosaunee peoples. Wilfrid Laurier University’s Waterloo and Brantford campuses and Kitchener location are located on the Haldimand Tract.

Laurier’s renowned Faculty of Music is dedicated to fostering artistic and scholarly development of the highest calibre and to providing a creative environment for student success. Laurier’s Faculty of Music is a national and international leader in higher music education and is a leader in the field of Community Music. The Faculty of Music offers innovative, sector-leading programs, which include Canada’s only Master of Arts and Bachelor of Music in Community Music and Ontario’s only Master and Bachelor of Music Therapy. The Faculty is recognized for its level of excellence in research and performance, its high standards in the teaching of musical skills, theory, and musicology, and its cutting edge course content that blends music from a variety of traditions and critically evaluates music's role in establishing diversity, equity, and inclusion. The high standards and commitment to quality contribute to the richness of the undergraduate experience in the Faculty. The Faculty’s alumni are successful in virtually every area of the performing world, where they appear in opera houses and concert halls, orchestras, choirs, bands, chamber music ensembles, and musical theatre. They are to be found as church organists and music directors, composers, conductors, educators, musicologists, music librarians, music therapists, and music theorists. Alumni who have careers in other fields such as law, medicine, or business continue performing or teaching music in their communities and attribute their professional success to their music education at Laurier.

Reporting to the Provost and Vice-President: Academic, and working closely with internal and external stakeholders, the Dean of Music is the senior academic and administrative officer of the Faculty of Music and is responsible for providing strategic direction and leadership and ensuring the sustainability of the Faculty. The Dean is responsible for developing and executing a groundbreaking vision for the Faculty that will promote innovation and growth as the Faculty continues to assert itself as a cutting-edge industry leader in music education. The Dean is also responsible for administering the Faculty’s academic programs, administering components of the Faculty’s budget, assigning teaching duties, mentoring and evaluating colleagues, managing student issues, and serving on committees. The Dean will also play an integral role of supporting the advancement needs of the Faculty and will continue leading the Making Space for Music campaign.
The Dean provides supportive, consultative, inclusive, and collegial leadership to keep Laurier on the leading edge of innovative change and curriculum design, to respond to the needs of musicians working in tomorrow’s world. The Dean will be a visionary leader who can lead the Faculty into the future and address the changing needs of the field of Classical Music and technological developments and opportunities that impact the 21st century musician, performing artists and student learning. In alignment with the University’s commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusivity, the Dean will recruit outstanding faculty and staff from marginalized backgrounds and foster an environment which enables them to carry out scholarship, teaching and service of the highest quality. The Dean will also recruit international students and students who come from diverse ethnic, cultural, and gendered backgrounds. The Dean will explore new collaborations and opportunities for partnership locally, nationally, and internationally, that broaden the reach, appeal and diversity of the Faculty of Music. The Dean will create and maintain positive relations with professional and community-based organizations to ensure that exceptional opportunities exist for students and faculty and will work to increase funding support from private donors and provincial and federal sources, while demonstrating resourcefulness and creativity in identifying alternate funding sources and entrepreneurial opportunities.

As the ideal candidate, you can demonstrate excellence in your field and have an ability to command the respect of your peers for your music and scholarly excellence in your field. A graduate degree would be considered an asset. You also have a proven record of administrative leadership experience in a post-secondary or arts/music organization, including the administration of human and financial resources, budgets and facilities. You exemplify a proven commitment to principles of equity, diversity and inclusion. You have an exemplary presence within the arts community, nationally and internationally, and have experience relating to a range of external partners. As a leader, you have a demonstrated record of success in fundraising and advancement activities and an ability to cultivate positive relationships with donors. You are committed to student success at the undergraduate and graduate level and have an ability to foster excellence in teaching, research, and artistic activity.

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Katherine Frank or Beth McLennan at kfrank@kbrs.ca or bmclennan@kbrs.ca. Completed applications can be submitted online at www.kbrs.ca/Career/14105.

Wilfrid Laurier University endeavors to fill positions with the best available candidates who have the appropriate combination of education, experience, skills and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position while demonstrating Laurier’s Employee Success Factors.

Wilfrid Laurier University is committed to equity and values diversity. We welcome applications from qualified individuals of all genders and sexual orientations, persons with disabilities, Indigenous persons and racialized persons. To obtain a copy of this job description in an accessible format, please contact Human Resources at 519-884-1970 ext.2007.

Candidates will be invited to complete an Applicant Equity Survey to identify if they belong with one or more of the federally designated groups (more broadly referred to at Laurier as equity seeking groups). Members of the designated groups must self-identify to be considered for employment equity. Further information on the equity
policy can be found at: https://www.wlu.ca/about/governance/assets/resources/8.4-employment-equity.html.

Wilfrid Laurier University and KBRS will provide support in the recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. If you require accommodation in order to participate as a candidate in the recruitment process, please contact accommodate@kbrs.ca or communicate your needs to the recruitment professional named in the job description.

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.