

GENOVESE VANDERHOOF & ASSOCIATES
A Cultural Management Consulting Firm

**JOB OPPORTUNITY
RIVERPARK CENTER
Owensboro, Kentucky
Executive Director**

RiverPark Center invites applications and referrals for the position of Executive Director.

RiverPark Center:

RiverPark Center is a not for profit regional performing arts and civic center that entertains and educates nearly 200,000 people (including 25,000 children) annually through nearly 800 events.

RiverPark Center has nearly 100,000 square feet including a state-of-the-art 1,479-seat auditorium (Cannon Hall), a 300-seat multi-purpose Jody Berry Cabaret Theatre, an outdoor entertainment patio on the banks of the beautiful Ohio River, meeting room and a bricked center courtyard.

RiverPark is the premier civic landmark on the downtown Owensboro riverfront. A source of great pride, RiverPark is a valuable tool for economic development; recruiters of industry, corporate management, and medical specialists see RiverPark as a highlight of any tour of the community.

RiverPark helps the region attract and retain good people, good companies, overnight visitors, and conventions. It has stimulated millions of dollars in private investment in downtown Owensboro, enhancing the tax base, appearance, and vitality of the central business district and riverfront.

Resident groups include the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra, Owensboro Dance Theatre, the Owensboro Public School System, and Friday After 5 (a free 16-week series of outdoor concerts on the riverbank). In addition a number of major theatrical productions were assembled and rehearsed at RiverPark, before going on national and international tours. Productions launched from Owensboro include tours of *42nd Street*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Super WHY Live*, *ELF*, and *Tommy*.

RiverPark Center opened in September of 1992. Its mission is to improve the quality of life by hosting and presenting diverse arts and civic events. It is a hub of community life with annual activities including performing arts performances, graduations, awards ceremonies, corporate meeting, festivals, rallies, news conferences, wedding receptions, and class reunions. A number of its productions have been taped for television and radio, including the international

mystery writers' festival, blue grass music, Senate debates, and a showcase on Kentucky crafts.

Its annual budget ranges between \$2.2 and \$2.6 million.

The Position of Executive Director:

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director--as the chief operating officer of the corporation--is charged with maintaining an effective fiscally responsible operating model for the performing arts center, balancing between RiverPark's own presenting series, performances of community-based arts groups, and other community/corporate rentals and usage.

The Executive Director is responsible for general operations, budget development, programming, strategy implementation, general administration, revenue generation, and community liaison, overseeing staff working in such areas as marketing, fund-raising, box office, front of house, technical and artistic operations, building maintenance, and finance.

Senior staff reporting to the Executive Director include directors of programming, food and beverage, development and marketing, and event services, and technical heads.

The City of Owensboro:

Owensboro is the fourth largest city in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, located 110 miles southwest of Louisville. Its metropolitan population is 115,000 but can draw on a population base of 300,000 within a 35 mile radius of Owensboro greatly expanding the RiverPark Center's market. It was named an All-American City in 2013.

Owensboro is the industrial, medical, retail and cultural hub of western Kentucky. The city is strategically located on the southern banks of the Ohio River, which provides a majestic backdrop to our ambitious Downtown Revitalization initiative and Riverfront Master Plan. The \$270 million project includes the Owensboro Convention Center, world renowned Smothers Park, and the International Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

Hailed as the "BBQ Capital of the World" with an annual competition, Owensboro is also the home of an Apple Festival, the Lanham Brothers Jamboree, a Pumpkin Fest, the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, and the Owensboro Museum of Science and History, among many other attractions. Two private four-year colleges, Brescia University and Kentucky Wesleyan College, a public community college, Owensboro Community and Technical College, and regional campuses of Daymar College and Western Kentucky University are located here.

Owensboro also offers a wide range of recreational activities: everything from fishing on a nearby lake to municipal parks providing areas for picnicking, golf, tennis, softball, football and relaxing. Water sport activities may be enjoyed on the Ohio River.

Owensboro is host to the only municipal ice arena in Kentucky, Edge Ice Center. The year-round facility features a 42,600 square foot arena and is the home to the Owensboro Youth Hockey Association and the Owensboro Figure Skating Club. During the summer months, the City maintains two public swimming pools and three Sprayparks located at Legion, Kendall-Perkins and Smothers Parks. The Spraypark addition to Legion Park was an enhancement to a beautiful park located in the center of Owensboro that already features basketball courts, a walking trail, playground equipment, and covered shelters. Owensboro hosts many local, state, regional and national softball and baseball tournaments at its softball complex located at Jack C. Fisher Park.

Qualifications:

The ideal candidate will have previous senior experience in leading performing arts venues, a minimum of seven years of not for profit arts venue management, and a university degree in arts and/or business management or equivalent experience in facility management and administration.

The new Executive Director will have excellent programming, analytical, financial and organizational skills, with demonstrated leadership in human resource management, and community partnerships. Other necessary characteristics would include political savvy and diplomacy, good oral and written communication skills, and knowledge of ancillary businesses such as catering, ticketing, corporate rentals, and the like.

The Executive Director represents RiverPark to the public, the media and the performing arts industry-at-large through leadership and participation in community activities. The Center has a pivotal role in the cultural, educational and economic enrichment of the City of Owensboro; the Executive Director must be able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with elected officials, the Board of Directors, the media, artists, artist managers, other arts groups, sponsors, educational institutions, volunteers, and the audience.

Other Information and Application Process:

Salary commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits package. Interested candidates are invited to submit a letter of interest, resume, and list of references by Friday, July 12, 2019 in confidence to:

Margaret Genovese
Senior Partner

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**For additional information see: www.genovesevanderhoof.com.
www.riverparkcenter.org.**