



JOB DESCRIPTION

Teaching Artist / Community Actors Program

Organization Summary

Arts + Public Life (APL), an initiative of UChicago Arts, is a dynamic hub of exploration, expression, and exchange that centers people of color and fosters neighborhood vibrancy through the arts on the South Side of Chicago. As a neighborhood platform for arts and culture in Washington Park, APL provides residencies for Black and Brown artists and creative entrepreneurs, arts education for youth, and artist-led programming and exhibitions.

Job Summary

APL Teaching Artists are equal parts, professional artists and professional educators. Our teaching artists deliver high-quality authentic and engaging arts curriculum that cultivates diverse arts and culture leaders from our local South Side communities. We take an integrated, process-based approach to community engagement, with local teens sharing authorship over projects that are informed by their expertise as South Side residents and that have a direct impact on their communities. Programs level up over time as part of a tiered pathway that offers opportunities for access and exposure as well as supports dedicated to teens' pursuit of careers in the arts—at and beyond APL.

The Arts + Public Life Education Department is seeking a teaching artist to teach theater art to teens ages 13-19 in an out-of-school-time setting. In addition to theater arts, the teaching artist will work to cultivate local teens' creative identity, social development, and leadership growth while motivating them to make a positive difference in their community through the arts.

Education

Undergraduate degree at a four-year accredited college or university

Desirable Skills and Qualifications

- At least 3 years experience working as a professional theater, performing artist, and/or teaching artist in Chicago
- Experience teaching youth ages 13-19
- Knowledge of Theater of the Oppressed and participatory theater methods
- Familiarity with After School Matters (ASM) programs/policies/procedures is preferred but not required
- Skills in developing culturally relevant and youth-centered curriculum and lesson plans
- Familiarity with virtual learning environments and teaching strategies

- Cultural competency to work with individuals from diverse backgrounds
- Ability to work with various communities, organizations, and educational institutions
- Work in a team environment with minimal supervision
- Ability to work independently, be flexible, and manage multiple priorities
- Exceptional communication and organizational skills
- Strong classroom management experience
- Have access to reliable transportation

Duties and Responsibilities

- Lead youth in Theater arts curriculum that follows the core pedagogy and values of APL
- Develop curriculum and weekly lesson plans that align with program goals and outcomes
- Facilitate in-person and virtual lesson plans that meet programmatic objectives and student outcomes
- Guide youth to full-scale projects that cultivate teen's creativity, social development, and leadership while inspiring them to make positive differences in their communities.
- Work 10-15 hours weekly (evening and Saturday hours).
- Complete a fingerprint and background check
- Attends all team meetings, professional development workshops, and other meetings with staff and community partners as required
- Commit to ongoing professional development as an arts educator
- Manages and tracks program activities such as daily attendance, student paperwork, and program surveys.
- Willingness to travel to off-site locations for field trips and enrichment activities
- Identify guest speakers and visitors in related fields to enhance classroom experience and knowledge
- Communicate any incidents or problems as outlined in the APL Teaching Artist Handbook to APL Education staff
- Participate in APL Education program events
- Be a positive role model for students and fellow teaching artists
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Physical Requirements & Work Environment

- Lift, push, pull, or carry art supplies and furniture weighing up to 40 lbs
- Walk up and downstairs
- Bend, twist, reach, stand and/or sit for long periods of time.

Salary

Commensurate with experience. This position is offered as a freelance/contractor position.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, protected veteran status or status as an individual with disability.

Send a resume and cover letter to jhinojosa1@uchicago.edu. Include in the subject line of your email the title of the position in which you are applying.