



## **YOUTH PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR**

**Job Title:** Youth Program Instructor

**Classification:** Part time, hourly, non-exempt

**Reports to:** Assistant Director

**Hourly Rate:** \$25.00

**Position Schedule:** Part time, Monday-Friday, September through June, with scheduling flexibility based on assigned school Youth Program Instructor needs, including school-based program delivery and remote coordination. Evening and weekend work as needed/desired based on what remote working schedule works best for the Youth Program Instructor. Summer work optional and as scheduled in support of Sitka's summer enrichment activities.

### **Benefits:**

- To be determined based individual employee work level needs (20+ /per week vs. <20 per week)
- One free Sitka workshop per year
- Travel reimbursement as outlined in the Sitka Employee Handbook

## **OVERVIEW**

The Sitka Youth Program provides free, high-quality, monthly art literacy and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) workshops to Oregon-based Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade kids through public schools with limited or no art programs of their own. Art lessons prioritize the creative process and promote creative self-expression. STEAM activities prioritize the intersection of the arts and natural sciences. Other Sitka Youth Programming includes summer enrichment, after-school enrichment and high-school enrichment activities and pilots.

Sitka's Youth Program Manager develops Sitka's Youth Program curriculum and coordinates the Youth Program Instructor team. Sitka Youth Program Instructors deliver the curriculum and coordinate their own teaching schedules with their assigned schools and classrooms. The Youth Program team reports to Sitka's Assistant Director.

The Sitka Youth Program curriculum uses Discipline-Based Art Education (DBAE) as its formula for each art literacy lesson. DBAE includes content for instruction which is derived primarily from the disciplines of aesthetics, art criticism, art history and art production. These disciplines address: (1) conceptions of the nature of art, (2) bases for valuing and judging art, (3) contexts in which art has been created, and (4) processes and techniques for creating art.

The goal of DBAE is to develop students' abilities to understand, develop skills and appreciate art. This involves a knowledge of the theories and contexts of art and the ability to respond to as well as to create art.

Each Sitka Youth Program lesson includes a visual/verbal presentation, demonstration, an art-making activity and a critique/evaluation of artwork produced. Each monthly lesson is approximately 75 – 90 minutes in length. An example of time use would be: 20-minute presentation,



5-minute demonstration, 40 minutes of individual artmaking and clean-up and a 5-minute critique/evaluation. Time allocation is dependent on the needs of the grade level and individual lesson being delivered.

## **INSTRUCTOR DUTIES**

1. Attend training sessions provided by Sitka Youth Program Manager to learn monthly lesson curriculum and hands-on artmaking activities. In addition to trainings, conduct personal research pertaining to lessons as needed to be prepared to lead instruction. This information typically involves art history/historical context, aesthetics and criticism components.
2. The lesson plans are adaptable to different age groups, Pre-K through 8th grade. Be prepared to adjust delivery of the lesson so it is age appropriate by considering word choice, length of detailed descriptions, breaking down steps to follow, time spent in each area of lesson, dexterity and ability to use different tools and materials, etc.
3. Prepare all materials needed for the art-making activity before beginning each lesson. Acquire materials, monitor supplies and request replacements as needed in a timely manner. Coordinate with Youth Program Manager regarding all supplies needed for monthly lessons.
4. Prepare/set up the classroom for the lesson (with help from volunteer/s or school district teacher when possible).
5. Present the lesson during the scheduled times.
6. Engage and involve each student in the classroom during lessons and especially during the art-making portion to reinforce skills and build confidence, encourage creative risk-taking and experimentation and foster healthy social-emotional growth and development among peers. Sitka's core Youth Program value is on process over product and each student shall be supported accordingly. Work with district teachers and Sitka Youth Program Manager to provide support to students of varied learning, physical, emotional and mental abilities to reinforce full classroom participation at all grade and ability levels.
7. Involve students in a critical evaluation of the student work produced each lesson, inviting students to share their work and evaluate it based on questions related to the artist/art movement presented and/or the technique used. Encourage them to use terms/vocabulary introduced during the lesson during the critique.
8. Clean up the classroom (with help from volunteer/s or district teacher).
9. Clean and store all non-disposable art making tools/supplies as needed. Return any organization-shared supplies to Sitka Youth Program Manager in a timely manner.



10. Coordinate with teachers to display student artwork at the school when possible. This includes mounting, labeling, writing a lesson description, removing previous month's artwork and returning it to students.
11. Collect artwork from students for community and other public displays and events as requested by Sitka Youth Program Manager.

### **Qualifications & Personal Qualities**

- Lives in accessible proximity to the schools they will serve and has access to a reliable vehicle/transportation to/from work assignments.
- Has access to adequate remote workspace including reliable phone coverage and internet access.
- Is able to pass required school background checks.
- Experience working with and leading activities for school-aged kids; art and nature-inspired experience preferred.
- Interest in and enthusiasm for the value of art and nature access in the lives of young people.
- A "Safety First" mindset throughout all of your work and the kids, schools and classrooms with which you engage.
- Personal and interpersonal planning, organization and scheduling skills.
- Knowledge of basic computer networks, email, word processing, spreadsheets and IT systems.
- Ability to prioritize tasks, manage time wisely, and work in a self-directed manner.
- Observant person who notices and anticipates needs and problems.
- Able to interact respectfully and thoughtfully with a diverse group of staff, teachers, school administrators, families, kids and guest artists.
- Willingness to support outdoor school activities as needed in all weather conditions including summer heat and winter rain and wind.
- Able to lift 50 pounds and able to work at height on ladders (such as to exhibit student artwork).