



Arts Education and Programming Director
Reports to: Executive Director

Organizational Overview

It is the mission of the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts to serve as the catalyst for lifelong discovery and exploration of the arts. The Wilson Center is a multidisciplinary nonprofit cultural arts facility with a 16-year history of excellence. The Center's programming is designed to transform both individual lives and whole communities through the power of the art; situated in a 400-acre park in Brookfield, Wisconsin, the Wilson Center is recognized as a cultural anchor in the Greater Milwaukee community and focuses on three main disciplines: Performing Arts, Arts Education, and Visual Arts. Since opening in 2002, the Wilson Center has continued to celebrate its five core values of excellence, innovation, passion, stewardship, and collaboration through an outstanding and diverse array of world-class performances, educational programs, classes, festivals, and special events. Currently in its 2017/2018 season, the Wilson Center now annually welcomes more than 45,000 people, including more than 10,000 students every year—many of whom are being introduced to the arts for the first time—and the Center is poised for growth and future success.

Through arts education programs such as Beyond the Classroom, ArtsReach, and Arts Camp: The Art of Nature, the Wilson Center promotes lifelong learning for children, teens, families, and adults of all abilities, and offers innovative classes using state-of-the-art studios and stages. Visual arts also play a vital role in the Wilson Center's diverse programming. In addition to year-round visual art classes and workshops for all ages and abilities, numerous works of art are integrated into the building's design, including a towering 40-foot high limestone sculpture surrounding a fireplace that is one of the focal points of the Wilson Center. The Wilson Center also celebrates the work of regional professional artists each season with six exhibits in the Ploch Art Gallery. The Gallery is free and open to the public, and each exhibition is celebrated with an opening reception artist dialogue. In addition, in 2014, the Wilson Center was awarded a prestigious \$50,000 Our Town grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, which served as the catalyst for Lynn Chappy ArtsPark, a vibrant, outdoor artistic landscape that is designed to engage and inspire the broader southeastern Wisconsin community and beyond. Thanks to the generosity of numerous donors and through a partnership with the City of Brookfield, ArtsPark already features numerous non-traditional works of art and architectural structures located throughout the grounds surrounding the Wilson Center. As a multi-phase initiative, each ArtsPark sculpture and design element is intended to serve as a catalyst for expanded artistic and educational opportunities that highlight the role of art in our understanding of nature and the community.

The Wilson Center is recognized for its high-quality and eclectic performances and programs. Branford Marsalis, Audra McDonald, Pilobolus, Hilary Hahn, Suzanne Vega, Leo Kottke, Jessica Lang Dance, Venice Baroque Orchestra, Yamato, Al Di Meola, Kronos Quartet, Roseanne Cash, and hundreds of other internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles have graced the Wilson Center's stages as part of its annual performance season that is second to none in virtuosity and cultural breadth. Performances take place in The Harris Theater, an intimate venue equipped with a full-size proscenium stage and 619 orchestra and balcony seats, as well as in the cabaret-style, 136-seat Dawes Studio Theater and the

Gerlach/Haack Outdoor Theater, which is home every summer to the free Starry Nights outdoor concert series.

The Wilson Center is proud to present one-of-a-kind initiatives such as the international Wilson Center Guitar Festival. Established in 2013, the Guitar Festival annually celebrates the greatest classical, fingerstyle, jazz, and rock & blues guitarists of today and tomorrow in a weekend-long festival format that includes live competition rounds, headliner concerts, masterclasses and workshops, vendor exhibits, and more. The Wilson Center also actively engages in community partnerships that feature performances, programs, and classes presented at the Wilson Center by the Elmbrook School District, First Stage, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, Wisconsin Philharmonic, Trinity Irish Dance, and more.

For a virtual tour of the Wilson Center, please visit www.wilson-center.com/virtual-tour.

Job Overview/Position Profile

As a member of the Wilson Center Leadership Team, the newly created position of Arts Education and Programming Director will develop, manage, contract for, and evaluate arts education, performance, and visual arts programming. Reporting to the Executive Director, the Arts Education and Programming Director works with board directors and committee members, staff and consultants, school districts, service agencies, teachers, administrators, students, and other community stakeholders to plan, direct and expand the Wilson Center's mission-based programs. This position oversees and manages a team of five.

Responsibilities

- Plans and directs Wilson Center programmatic initiatives in arts education, performance, and visual arts to advance Center goals
- Proposes and manages annual operating budgets
- Evaluates and reports programmatic results and manages to assure continuous improvement and ongoing viability of programs/services
- Recruit, train, and assign teaching artists to deliver Wilson Center programming onsite and in schools/community service agencies
- Organize and supervise internships to support departmental needs
- Contributes actively and constructively to shared organizational goals and initiatives
- Directs the development and delivery of visual arts programming including but not limited to the Lynn Chappy Arts Education Wing, Ploch Art Gallery, and ArtsPark to engage and educate Wilson Center visitors
- Directs the review, selection, and contracting for performances for an annual season that attracts Wilson Center target audiences
- Identifies fundraising opportunities and supports the development of data-driven funding proposals and reports and attends meetings with funders as appropriate
- Develop and oversee programming policy and procedures
- Serve as staff liaison for related Board committees
- Represents Wilson Center to various community organizations including performers, artists, community partners, school districts, teachers, students, and parents/families to sustain and expand collaborative relationships
- Attend Wilson Center programs and special events as needed
- Prepare arts education and programming department reports for Executive Committee and Board presentation

- Annually prepare department report of quantitative and qualitative findings based on evaluation protocols for stakeholder review and program improvement
- Other duties as assigned

Essential Skills/Qualifications

- Minimum five years' experience in nonprofit education
- Demonstrated excellence in written and oral communication skills required
- Demonstrated ability to work in a highly collaborative environment, supporting shared goals
- Ability to work independently when necessary on individual projects and see them through to completion
- Ability to create and adhere to schedules and deadlines
- Track record that demonstrates willingness to support other departments in planning and executing Wilson Center events and initiatives
- Strong analytical, writing, editing, organizational, and project management skills
- High degree of initiative and attention to detail; manage multiple projects and deadlines
- Bachelor's degree in fine arts, arts management, or nonprofit arts management, Masters preferred
- Fine Art artistic discipline expertise is required (music, visual art, dance, and/or theater)
- Ability to work nights and weekends for events and meetings as required
- Experience and understanding of Tessitura database and ticketing system is preferred but not required
- Demonstrated ability to manage a multi-dimensional team

Please electronically submit a cover letter and resume with a summary of demonstrable accomplishments as a PDF or Word document to jobs@wilson-center.com.

The Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts is proud to have received the 2014 Community Distinction Award as part of Waukesha County Business Alliance's Top 10 Businesses of the Year.

The Wilson Center is an equal opportunity employer and believes in equal opportunity for all employees and applicants. Accordingly, all employment decisions are based on the principles of equal opportunity. These decisions include recruitment, selection, promotion, transfer, discipline, compensation, benefits, training and other personnel actions involving persons in all job titles and shall occur without regard to race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, ancestry, national origin, disability, genetic information, military service, sexual orientation, marital status, arrest and conviction records, the use or nonuse of lawful products off the employers' premises during non-work hours, declining to attend meetings or participate in communications about religious or political matters or any other characteristic protected by law.