Job Posting
Title: Teaching Artist
Status: Part time, variable
Compensation: $30 per hour
Reports to: Education Specialist

Overview
At Youth in Focus, our mission is to amplify teen voice through photography and arts education. We value art as a powerful medium of change to create a healthy, vibrant, more equitable and just society for all. Through this work, we aim to confront and dismantle systemic oppression in all of its forms.

Youth in Focus prioritizes serving students furthest from education justice including students of color, those facing poverty/housing insecurity, English language learners, and LGBTQ youth. We are committed to ensuring our students see themselves and their lived experiences in our staff. Our supportive and inclusive community provides a sense of belonging and safety for youth, fostering positive connections between youth and adult staff and volunteers.

We’re looking to add someone to the team who is excited to be a part of our mission and growth! We value talents as much as skills, lived experience as much as education, and if you see yourself in this role given our preferred qualifications, we strongly encourage you to apply.

YIF Program Goals
1. Safe and Supportive Environment: Create a place for youth to learn and grow where everyone feels valued and has a sense of belonging. Reinforce and model positive relationships with caring adult teachers and mentors.
2. Equitable Access to Arts Education: Forge pathways and eliminate opportunity gaps for those students furthest from educational justice.
3. 21st Century Skills: Teach creativity, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, perseverance, and growth mindset so youth are prepared to succeed and thrive in education, life, and / or career. Ensure students can name the skills they have developed and readily understand how to transfer them to other areas of their life.
4. Planning and Leadership: Involve youth voice in planning, co-creating, and facilitating activities.
5. Empathy and Tolerance: Through art and photography, inclusive dialogue, and exposure to others from diverse backgrounds, cultivate empathy and tolerance amongst youth participants to foster a healthy, vibrant, and more equitable society.

Responsibilities
Teaching Artists are responsible for creating and teaching engaging, adaptive and culturally relevant syllabi and lessons for a highly diverse student body meeting both virtually and in-person.

- Plan and facilitate interactive, creative photography classes
- Craft opportunities for students to practice and name 21st Century skills
- Create a supportive, inclusive and safe environment for youth

2100 24th Avenue South, Suite 310, Seattle, WA 98144 youthinfocus.org 206.723.1479 yif@youthinfocus.org
● Lead critique and constructive discussions surrounding student work
● Partner with a Community Assistant to ensure classes best reflect and include the experiences of our youth
● Hands on demonstrations in a variety of photographic disciplines
● Lesson planning that coincides with our quarterly goals and expectations
● Present diverse reference materials to illustrate lessons and ideas
● Technical Support/Troubleshooting of equipment including: cameras, software, computers, etc
● Facilitation (in partnership with the Community Assistant) of group activities that encourage bonding, friendship, teamwork and collaboration.

Preferred Qualifications/Skills:
● Experience teaching diverse student bodies
● Practicing commercial and or fine art photographer
● Advanced understanding of Lightroom/Photoshop
● Proficiency with Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Trauma Informed Care
● Ability to explain and illustrate technical and artistic concepts to youth
● Comfortable with teenage youth, able to develop mutual trust with a diverse student body
● Advanced Digital and/or Darkroom photography skills
● *First aid/CPR certification

Teaching opportunities beginning in December 2020
TA’s are currently needed for virtual digital photography classes, in-person digital photo classes (at Youth in Focus and partner organizations), and in-person multimedia classes.

In Person Opportunities:
● Weekly In-Person Partner programs, 1-2 hours per week (1-2 hours session), dates and times variable
● Bi-weekly career connected learning program, 5 hours per week (2.5 hours/session; M/W or T/TH 4:30-7:00pm)

Virtual Opportunities:
● Bi-weekly, 2-3 hours per week (1-1.5 hours/session; M/W or T/TH), times variable
● Weekly Virtual Partner programs 1-2 hours per week (1-2 hours session), dates and times variable

TAs are paid for all meetings, syllabus and class preparation, and mandatory training sessions. In addition, TAs are paid for travel time for off site partner programs.
TO APPLY
Please submit a resume and answer the following three questions (as a pdf file) to chrisf@youthinfocus.org, with the email subject “Teaching Artist”. Finalists will be asked for references.

Please answer the following questions as part of your application:
1) Which of our values resonates with you and how would you work to uphold this value in the classroom?
2) How will your professional and/or lived experience contribute to Youth in Focus’ commitment to creating a supportive and inclusive environment for youth furthest from education justice?
3) Do you have a preference between virtual and in-person teaching opportunities?

The deadline for application is December 4, 2020 or until position is filled. We will contact you if you are invited to an initial conversation; we cannot commit to responding to inquiries regarding the status of your application.

*Because this position works directly with youth, candidates must successfully pass a criminal history background check (free of convictions of crimes against children and vulnerable adults. Other convictions may not preclude you from employment.)*

*Youth in Focus is an equal opportunity employer that values a diverse workplace and an inclusive culture. We encourage applications from all qualified individuals including people of color, women, persons with disabilities, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals.*