

# PHILADELPHIA CONTEMPORARY

**Position:** Philadelphia Contemporary seeking a dynamic, focused, race equity-oriented individual to join our team as a Teaching Artist for the Youth Ambassador Program at Melon Street Pocket Park in West Philadelphia.

**Status:** Contracted temporary, part-time position Mid-March to August 2022. Curriculum development and team meetings will begin in March. In-person instruction with youth ambassadors will occur every Monday and Wednesday afterschool and on Saturday mornings beginning in April until August 20, 2022.

**Position Overview:** The Teaching Artist (TA) is responsible for developing and delivering a curriculum that supports the intersection of arts education and environmental justice and focuses on active community engagement with middle school aged youth. The TA will work closely with Philadelphia Contemporary (PC), Mantua Civic Association (MCA), and community leaders to ensure the effective delivery of the curriculum, to support land stewardship activities, and to spearhead the creation of shared arts experiences for the community with youth ambassadors at the Melon Street Pocket Park, located at 38th Street and Melon Street.

**Project Overview:** PC is partnering with MCA to develop a dynamic and multifaceted approach of integrating the arts and environmental justice into a program targeted towards youth in West Philadelphia. The Youth Ambassador program is a tangible, hands-on way of engaging youth in their own community to work together in a meaningful way to shape their environment while utilizing the power of the arts to make environmental justice issues personal, emotional, and salient. The TA will develop and execute a creative place-based curriculum centered on understanding topics of environmental justice through the arts and on supporting youth in creating an outdoor gathering space where residents can play, socialize, and relax through shared arts experiences. By presenting this as a job opportunity for the youth ambassadors, the project will also focus on cultivating important 21st-century workplace skills such as collaboration, communication, creativity, and understanding the importance of civic engagement.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

- *Curriculum Development and Delivery:* Develop and deliver a curriculum that integrates the arts and environmental justice to teach youth ambassadors about the social and environmental issues faced in historically disinvested urban communities. The curriculum should include age-appropriate discussions and artmaking activities that address the following learning outcome goals:
  - a. Through integration of the arts, increase the youth ambassadors' knowledge of environmental justice.
  - b. Support youth ambassadors in the creation of shared arts experiences

for the community at the Melon Street Pocket Park, located at 38<sup>th</sup> Street and Melon Street.

- c. Increase workforce development skills.
- d. Increase social-emotional skills.
- *Evaluation & Documentation:* Work directly with Philadelphia Contemporary staff to share images, videos, and documentation of student's creative activities and artwork to support an ongoing evaluation of the program.
- *Program Activities:* Participate in program activities, including program design and implementation, community meetings and workshops, and other related activities.

**Desired Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

- Youth Development: Understanding of youth development approaches, ability to deliver youth leadership programs, and experience mentoring young people.
- Arts and Environmental Education: Ability to connect the arts and environmental justice to increase the students' civic engagement and creative expressions.
- Curriculum Development: Ability to develop interdisciplinary lesson plans and curricula that incorporate arts and community engagement.
- Computer Skills: Competent in the use of Google suite, to be able to store curricula, lesson plans, and project documentation such as photos or short videos.
- Teamwork, flexibility, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, dependability, and judgment.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

- Bachelor's degree or related equivalent experience in education or arts education
- At least 4 to 5 years of combined experience in teaching art (which may include the visual arts, dance, and spoken word), curriculum development, and youth development
- Experience facilitating group discussions and activities with middle or high school students
- Background and commitment to social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion work
- Self-directed and initiative-taking
- Strong and demonstrated project and time management skills required
- Ability to work April to August 2022, and attend programs 3 times a week, Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 PM, and Saturdays from 9 AM to 12PM
- Successful completion of fingerprint/background check

**Hours:**

From March through August 2022, the teaching artist will work on average 9 hours a week (adjusted as needed), not to exceed a total of 200 hours over the course of the project. Payment is a total flat-rate fee of \$5,000. This includes planning and meeting time. This position does not include medical insurance.

**Interested applicants are asked to please email as a single PDF:**

- Cover Letter
- Resume

Please email with the subject line "Your Name: Teaching Artist Position" to

[jobs@philadelphiacontemporary.org](mailto:jobs@philadelphiacontemporary.org)

Only those whose applications are being considered will be contacted. Position open until filled. Thank you for your interest in Philadelphia Contemporary.

For more information about Philadelphia Contemporary, please visit <https://www.philadelphiacontemporary.org>

Philadelphia Contemporary is an equal opportunity employer and considers all candidates for employment regardless of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, religion, veteran, disability, or marital status, or political affiliation.

We embrace the full spectrum of humanity and the intersectional nature of our existence and imaginative energies. We embody diversity in our staff, board, the artists, and partners we work with, and the audiences we attract.