

JOB DESCRIPTION: Part-Time Dance Instructors

The Chicago High School for the Arts seeks dynamic part-time teaching artists for the 2010-11 school year in the Dance Conservatory to teach one or more of the following courses:

- Contemporary Jazz Technique
- Pointe Class - beginner, intermediate, and advance
- Classical Ballet – beginner, intermediate, and advance
- Men's Class

Some positions may expand in the future to include administrative responsibilities. The hours of the arts conservatory training are 2:00- 5:00 PM, Monday- Friday. The hours/days will differ for each course.

Position Summary:

The ideal candidate will be a specialist in the field and will have the passion and skills to create a learning environment that will offer a rigorous pre-professional arts training that challenges students to achieve at high levels. Instructors at ChiArts will be required to differentiate instruction; design lesson and unit plans that properly assess student achievement and encourage skill development and critical thinking.

The program mission is to prepare students for admission into competitive college/university programs and professional companies. The dance department is focused on enabling our students to develop as highly versatile dance technicians, becoming equally proficient in Ballet, Modern, Contemporary and other techniques.

The Contemporary Jazz Class will provide the technique of Jazz Technique, the history of Jazz Technique and introduce the students to the masters of Jazz Technique, such as Jack Cole, Bob Fosse, Gus Giordano, and Jerome Robbins. This course will stress alignment, flexibility, physical and kinesthetic fitness, along with performance quality. The mobility of the spine, fluidity of the joints, breathing, and use of the weight and energy in space are emphasized in both warm-up and combination. This course encourages student's creative endeavors.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

An arts instructor's primary professional responsibility is classroom instruction of ChiArts' students. Classroom and professional duties include, but are not limited to the following:

- Prepare lesson plans and instruction according to the ChiArts curriculum.
- Instruct conservatory level courses, serving students with various learning styles, abilities and needs.
- Employ outstanding classroom management skills and implement the school code of conduct.
- Regularly assess student achievement, skill mastery and career development skills.
- Manage classroom administration and record keeping including: grades, attendance records, and student progress.
- Regularly communicate with students, parents and other ChiArts staff to share artistic progress,

encourage positive behavior, and resolve behavioral and artistic issues.

- Attend and participate in faculty and administrative meetings, parent conferences, open house, other school functions, and in- service professional development sessions.
- Collaborate with the staff to develop “best practices” tailored to the unique philosophy and instructional approach of ChiArts and to the needs of its student population.
- Collaborate with other ChiArts artistic and academic faculty and the larger arts community.
- Embrace and promote the ChiArts vision, mission, educational approach, and goals.
- Perform other duties as the needs of the school and needs of the students may demand.
- Work with academic staff to ensure student’s overall success at ChiArts.

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum (7) years professional experience in the specific arts field (dance, music, theatre , visual arts)
- Minimum (4) years previous teaching experience at a pre-professional or professional level
- Bachelor’s degree and Illinois State Teacher Certification is preferred, but may not be required
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Qualified applicants should send the following materials to: opportunities@chiarts.org

- (1) Cover Letter
- (2) Resumes (teaching, performance, and other related resumes)
- (3) Arts Instructor Questionnaire (including salary history and requirements)
- (4) 3-5 Professional references

Type the job title (e.g., Dance: Jazz Instructor, Dance: Ballet Instructor) in the email subject. No phone inquiries please. Do not send videos, portfolios or other materials.

Finalists may be asked to submit additional materials at a later time. Be aware that every item listed on a resume is subject to verification, and that any offer of employment is contingent on a successful background check.

Lisa Johnson-Willingham
Dance Department Head
The Chicago High School for the Arts