



Associate Faculty, Live Art Job Description

Organization Overview: Founded in 1981 by Richmond actress Jeri Cutler-Voltz, SPARC (School of the Performing Arts in the Richmond Community) provides transformative performing arts education to more than 2,000 students each year. Through SPARC's highly skilled teaching artists who intentionally integrate the arts with youth development principles, students discover their creativity and build critical learning and life skills that carry into adulthood. SPARC's mission is to profoundly influence young people's lives through exceptional performing arts education.

Position Overview: The Associate Faculty position is a new full-time role at SPARC. We are currently looking for an Associate Faculty member with experience working with youth with disabilities, experience in student support/special education, and/or experience in disability justice organizations. **This Associate Faculty member will lead our Live Art programs for neurodiverse youth with and without disabilities** and oversee the implementation of art education programming in all of SPARC's class, rehearsal, event, and performance settings. As a highly collaborative position, the Associate Faculty member will work with other faculty to implement culturally relevant, artistically rigorous, high-quality curricula for youth, student teachers, colleagues, and community in alignment with the SPARC model, mission, vision, and values. The Associate Faculty member will be scheduled to teach for a majority of their weekly schedule, leaving adequate time for planning and regular meetings. They will also be responsible for building and maintaining relationships with youth and families to build connections with community and strengthen our artistic work. The Associate Faculty member is supervised by the Director of Programs and will supervise adjunct faculty, student teachers, interns, and youth leaders.

Duties Include:

- Lead the artistic work and teaching teams of the Live Art program
- Implement artistically and educationally excellent program curricula that is culturally relevant to students in conjunction with the Programs Team
- Apply artistic skills in scheduled public engagement activities (classes, rehearsals, performances, events), as assigned by the Director of Programs
- Advise program administrators on logic models, evaluation planning models, and assessment tools using best practices
- Participate in the development of a rigorous recruitment, application, and enrollment plan for new and returning students, including student auditions and interviews if applicable
- Review scripts, themes, and/or artistic content in collaboration with the Director of Programs
- Supervise youth leaders in leadership roles (i.e., internships, peer leaders, apprenticeships, camp counselors, etc.)
- Mentor and supervise Adjunct Faculty
- Serve as liaison to diverse local, regional, and national arts & culture cohorts
- Maintain relationships with local and national artists, community organizations, collaborators, parents, partners, professional associations, teachers, and school leadership
- Participate in donor relations, site visits, grant proposals, and other development initiatives
- Present the work of SPARC at conferences and field convenings
- Perform other duties as needed or as directed.

Competencies:

- Advanced understanding EDI principles and strategies for supporting neurodivergent youth, youth with disabilities, LGBTQ+ youth, youth of color, and/or youth experiencing poverty or living in low-wealth communities

- Youth work skills with an emphasis on supporting youth of all ages
- Ability to work autonomously – take initiative, anticipate need, and complete work on time
- Strong planning and organizational abilities
- Highly self-motivated and deadline-driven
- Independent problem solver that also works well in a team
- Excellent time management
- Effective communicator
- Able to prioritize multiple tasks in a timely and accurate manner
- Adaptable and flexible
- Thrives in a fast-paced environment with many distractions

Experience:

- 3+ years of teaching artist experience in the performing arts, specifically working with neurodivergent youth and/or youth with disabilities
- Professional experience or a degree in the Performing Arts and/or Education
- Teaching experience in a non-profit arts organization preferred
- Knowledge of Youth Work and Creative Youth Development preferred
- Prior experience with Microsoft Office including Outlook and Teams

Requirements: Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and the most recent booster is required for this and all other paid positions at SPARC. Candidates must be 18+, be able to do work outdoors in hot/cold weather, have access to reliable transportation, and lift and carry 35 lbs. Ability to work evening and Saturday hours during program cycles. Weekday office hours will be adjusted, when possible, to accommodate evening and weekend work schedules.

Application Deadline: Monday, May 29, 2023

Start Date: August 2023

Position Type: Full-time, salaried

Compensation: \$45,500-\$50,000, commensurate with experience

Benefits: Health insurance, dental and vision insurance, 401K, paid vacation, holidays, and sick time

Applications and Inquiries

Interested candidates are invited to submit their resume or CV and a cover letter (Microsoft Word or PDF Format) via email to efrancis@sparcrichmond.org with the subject line “FY24 Associate Faculty, Live Art”. Please DO NOT call or drop in. For more information about SPARC, visit our website at www.sparcrichmond.org.

SPARC is committed to the most fundamental principles of equality of opportunity and human dignity. SPARC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, military or veteran status, or status with regard to public assistance.