

Teaching Artist

Job Type: CONTRACT / HOURLY

Job Department: Education

Reports to: Education management, direct report varies based on program

Chicago Children's Theatre is seeking a diverse pool of candidates that have a passion for working with children and their families and who will encourage the diversity of perspectives and experiences. Candidates with arts education experience will be prioritized for this position. The hired candidate will be supported by the Education Team at Chicago Children's Theatre who are experienced with our curriculum building, lesson planning, and programming.

About Chicago Children's Theatre

Since its launch in 2005, Chicago Children's Theatre has cemented its reputation as the city's largest professional theatre company devoted exclusively to children and families. The company evolved out of Chicago's need for high-quality, professional year-round children's programming to match the quality, & significance of theatrical powerhouses such as Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, & Lookingglass Theatre. Likewise, CCT has always believed children should be treated as the sophisticated audiences that they are, showcasing high-profile & award-winning talent, inventive production values & compelling stories that challenge, educate & entertain.

Education Programming Vision

The Education Department of Chicago Children's Theatre aims to empower the next generation of performers, innovators, and collaborators. Through theatre education, we not only foster students' artistic skills, but develop confident voices, encourage open-mindedness, and build community. Our programs are led by experienced teaching artists who are passionate about championing young people's stories regardless of background. Our programs emphasize student authorship, youth empowerment, and community leadership.

Job Summary

Chicago Children's Theatre residencies provide high quality, in-school and after-school theatre arts education and enrichment opportunities that support students in their creative process through devising, while developing their social and critical thinking skills. Our residency programs across Chicago range from Early Childhood Education to K-5th. Teaching Artists will implement lesson plans based on the CCT curriculum and will work with our partner schools and their students in-person.

Below is the list of normal job duties, but it is not exhaustive.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Adhere to all classroom guidelines, safety, and emergency procedures as outlined by CCT.
- Arrive at residency location punctually and fully prepared.
- Attend teaching artist training and lesson planning meetings.
- Document program successes and challenges and share with CCT.
- Document and report any and all incidents to CCT staff immediately after the incident.
- Ensure that CCT's mission, values, guidelines, policies and procedures are implemented and maintained when working with peers, partnering schools and students.
- Execute goals, expectations, and requirements laid out in your schedule and lessons.
- Manage and track program activities such as class attendance, lesson plans, and student assessments in collaboration with the School Partnerships Manager.
- Plan and execute age-appropriate theatre based lesson plans.
- Provide excellent classroom management and structure for supporting students' development.

Responsibilities cont.

- Support students in learning and engaging in activities that include a diverse and inclusive range of storytelling and concepts.
- Plan and establish a safe learning environment for all participants.
- Work collaboratively with the CCT staff through the duration of the program(s) by meeting deadlines, reporting any concerns including lessons, goals, attendance, materials, and facility issues.

Knowledge, Skills, & Activities:

- A passion for working with children and supporting their interest in the arts as well as their overall development.
- An abundant curiosity to learn and a willingness to assist.
- Ability to use theatre techniques and exercises to help students develop empathy and broaden their understanding of each other and the world around them, empowering them with valuable tools that can be applied throughout their lives.
- Ability to work independently and with a wide range of internal & external personalities in a professional & congenial manner.
- Ability to pass a background check in accordance with state and federal laws.
- Consistent attendance at planning meetings and required trainings.
- A dedication to access, inclusion, and anti-racism.
- Daytime availability, Monday-Friday to teach our year-round residency programs.
- Extensive experience working directly with students and teachers.
- Excellent communication, problem solving and organizational skills.
- Enthusiasm for working in a collaborative artistic environment with artists, educators, and children.
- Ideal candidates will have prior experience in teaching within the arts education field for programs with grades K-5th and/or Early Childhood Education.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and Google Suite.
- Spanish language proficiency (preferred, not required).
- Ability to travel to program sites in Chicago schools and bring program supplies to sites as needed.
- A sense of humor!

Working Environment:

Residencies can take place in a traditional or conventional classroom space. Position may include occasional lifting (up to 50 lbs individually), carrying, pushing &/or pulling, climbing & balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching &/or crawling.

We are an equal-opportunity employer committed to accessibility and inclusion for all staff, students, and patrons, and priority will not be given to those with the ability to perform the physical tasks listed.

Compensation & Hours:

This is a contract/hourly position with compensation of \$55/hr. Teaching artists are compensated for each hour of implementation in the classroom. Additionally, employees are eligible for comp tickets to our shows.



To Apply:

Please send a link to a brief **video-recorded statement of interest** (emphasizing any previous arts education &/or childcare experience) and resume to jobs@chicagochildrenstheatre.org. In your statement please address the following:

1. Introduce yourself with your name and pronouns, and why you would like to teach with CCT.
2. What areas within the arts do you have experience teaching (i.e. acting, improv, design, etc.)?
3. What grades/age groups do you have experience teaching?
4. What experiences do you have working with residencies (in-school and/or after-school programs)?

No calls please. The position is immediately available for hire.

Chicago Children's Theatre is committed to equity, diversity, inclusion and justice in our organization and our community, and thus we seek a broad spectrum of employees. We strongly encourage and welcome applicants who are Black, Indigenous or People of Color, as well as those who are from other underrepresented communities. AA/EOE

Chicago Children's Theatre is strongly committed to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion in our audiences, our programs and in all of our hiring for staff, artists, and recruiting of board members. CCT is committed to a future where our theatre is a home for all people, all families, and is truly reflective of our community. We are also committed to providing a work environment that is free from discrimination. CCT prohibits discrimination in employment against any employee or job applicant because of that person's race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, familial status, veteran status, status with regard to public assistance, membership in a local human rights commission or any other legally protected status.