

Music Teaching Artist - Summer Camp 2023 (West Loop)

Job Type: CONTRACT / HOURLY

Job Department: Education

Reports to: Education & Community Programs Manager, 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 to devise musical theatre songs and dances in our summer camp program. 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 and significance of theatrical powerhouses such as Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, and Lookingglass Theatre. Likewise, CCT has always believed children should be treated as the sophisticated audiences that they are, showcasing high-profile and award-winning talent, inventive production values and compelling stories that challenge, educate, and 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.

Summer Job Summary

We are seeking a teaching artist enthusiastic about teaching & devising music with elementary-aged children in the context of creating an original show. Teaching Artists will create their own lesson plans, which will collaboratively with other teaching artists serve the goal of creating an original show based on CCT's curriculum. The teaching artist will be expected to make their own lesson plans, write original music and lyrics alongside students, music direct/play along with the final show or provide backing tracks, and create basic choreography with and for the students.

Chicago Children's Theatre summer camps provide high quality, theatre arts education and enrichment opportunities that support students in their creative process through devising, while developing their social emotional and critical thinking skills.

Ideal candidates will have prior experience in teaching within the arts education field for programs with **grades K-8**.

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

Primary Responsibilities:

- Arrive at CCT's West Loop location punctually and fully prepared
- Attend CCT trainings and lesson planning meetings
- Create age appropriate lesson plans in line with camp theme
- Write original songs with campers for each show
- Create basic choreography for/with campers for each show

- Collaborate with college-aged apprentices who are working as class assistants
- Collaborate with other teaching artists to create an original show
- Plan and establish a safe learning environment for all participants. Adhere to all classroom guidelines, safety, and emergency procedures as outlined by CCT.
- Provide detailed communication with CCT Education Staff in a timely manner.
- Provide excellent classroom management and structure for supporting students' development.
- Create lessons that engage students from a perspective of multiple intelligences, including auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learning.

Qualifications: Knowledge, Skills, & Activities:

- Ability to pass a background check in accordance with state and federal laws.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with a wide range of internal & external personalities in a professional & congenial manner.
- Songwriting skills, playing an instrument
- A dedication to access, inclusion, and anti-racism.
- A passion for working with children and supporting their interest in the arts as well as their overall development.
- 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.
- Consistent attendance at planning meetings and required trainings.
- Enthusiasm for working in a collaborative artistic environment with artists, educators, and children.
- Excellent communication, problem solving and organizational skills.
- Experience in devising theatre.
- Experience in lesson planning and implementing lessons for a diverse array of learning styles.
- Morning and daytime availability during the summer, Monday-Friday

Must pass a background check upon employment offer.

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.

Benefits & Hours:

This is a contract/hourly position with compensation of \$24/hr. Teaching artists are compensated for each hour of implementation in the classroom and trainings. Teaching Artists are also offered additional opportunities for paid professional development and/or lesson planning to be mutually agreed upon based on the nature of each teaching engagement (at a rate of \$20/hr). 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 this summer.
2. Give a brief background of your experience teaching music and drama to kids, including any music devising experience you have.
3. What grades/age groups do you have experience teaching?

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.