

TACOMA ART MUSEUM

JOB POSTING

Position:	Museum Educator / Teaching Artist
Reports to:	Associate Director of School and Teacher Programs
Department:	Education
Position Type:	Hourly/Variable
Salary:	\$15/hour

Summary of Position

TAM seeks Museum Educators and Teaching Artists who are dependable and mission-driven with a positive attitude and enthusiasm for art education. They will facilitate in-gallery experiences and art-making activities for TAM's school field trips, Art After School programs, off-site Sketch Club, family programs, and community events. Gallery experiences include careful looking at works of art, discussion, and activities, all designed to build students' cultural empathy and visual literacy. Educators must be skilled in facilitating conversations about race, ethnicity, and identity; TAM especially seeks candidates whose lived experiences intersect with these topics.

School field trip programs are designed for PreK-12th grade students to emphasize critical thinking, problem-solving, and language skills. Programs focus learning around themes, which students explore through careful looking and discussion during gallery tours. Art-making activities further enhance the experience by providing time to apply program concepts directly to the creative process.

Art After School provides youth with new ways to connect to art and their community. Youth participating in local community-based organizations engage in dynamic conversations about contemporary social issues sparked by encounters with original works of art in TAM's galleries, before experiencing a hands-on activity designed to inspire creative self-expression.

Sketch Club provides students at 12 Tacoma public elementary schools with authentic art-making experiences before or after school. During five 8-week sessions, students create art in an open-studio format with a variety of different materials. Sketch Club helps youth develop social-emotional skills as well as creativity and art skills.

Schedule

This position will have a variable schedule, dependent upon program bookings, 0-20 hours per week. Monday – Friday shifts may start as early as 7:15 am and end as late as 8:30 pm; weekend shifts will be scheduled as needed.

We are currently seeking two educators. One educator will be responsible for facilitating Sketch Club programs on Mondays and Tuesdays, both before school (7:15 – 8:45 am) and after school (3:15 – 5:45 pm). One educator will be responsible for facilitating Sketch Club programs on Wednesdays and Thursdays before school (7:15 – 8:45 am). Both will also be expected to facilitate school field trip programs, dependent on educator availability.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

- Equitably facilitate hour-long gallery tours and/or art-making activities, utilizing provided lesson plans, with a combination of discussion and activities.

- Facilitate Sketch Club programs, family programs, and other programs as assigned, utilizing provided lesson plans.
- Act as a friendly and gracious representative of TAM when interacting with teachers, afterschool program coordinators, chaperones, and community members.
- Work with education staff to ensure experiences meet program goals and advance the mission of the museum. Track progress, achievements, and challenges.
- Maintain tidy classrooms and storage closets.
- Attend monthly meetings and periodic training sessions.

Perform other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Experience teaching or working with youth in PreK-12th grade, particularly students with low income and/or students of color.
- Strong commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity, and access.
- Strong facilitation, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to follow lesson plans and help youth achieve stated learning goals.
- Comfortable using basic art-making materials.
- Experience working collaboratively.
- Motivation to learn new teaching techniques.
- Skilled at empowering youth voice and encouraging social-emotional development.
- Experience building community amongst youth participants.
- Must successfully pass a criminal history background check.
- The qualified candidate must possess a compatible commitment to the museum brand personalities: innovative, passionate, civic-minded, gracious, approachable.

Travel, Working Conditions, and Physical Environment

This position is subject to indoor environmental conditions typical to a classroom setting. The essential physical requirements of this position include:

- Continuously exchanges information through listening and talking with students, staff, volunteers and individuals in the community
- Frequently reaches and grasps in using art materials
- Travel to local elementary schools and local off-site meetings/trainings

Tacoma Art Museum is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Tacoma Art Museum strongly encourages applicants from members of groups underrepresented in careers related to museums and the visual arts.

About Tacoma Art Museum

Tacoma Art Museum is a public-spirited institution that champions a dynamic and complex approach to exhibitions. The museum's passionate staff are driven by the mission of connecting people through art, empowering visitors to create meaning with artworks through innovative interpretive and programming strategies. Named by USA Today as one of the "Top 10 Great Places to See Art in Smaller Cities," the museum has developed a reputation for presenting art in a thought-provoking yet accessible manner with a strong commitment to Northwest art.

Founded in 1935, TAM has strong roots in the community. Along with five other nearby museums and neighboring University of Washington at Tacoma, TAM anchors Tacoma's lively downtown core.

About Tacoma

Located in the beautiful Pacific Northwest, Tacoma is known as the City of Destiny, a city that has always marched to the beat of its own drum. Close enough to Seattle to take advantage of everything a major metropolis offers, Tacoma is its own distinctly unique and actively engaged community with a clear love of the arts.

Diverse individuals and families continue to invest in Tacoma for its charming historic neighborhoods, schools, parks, waterfront, and amenities. You'll find the beaches and forests of Puget Sound ideal to bike, run, hike, and paddle – including the nearby Mount Rainier. In addition to sports, theater and other cultural offerings, Tacoma is home to a growing restaurant and pub scene that's made national press. The thriving Tacoma Museum District lines the downtown core and showcases some of the nation's best collections. Tacoma is a great place to call home.