Teaching Artist | Instrumental Music

Mission: BlackRock Center for the Arts brings inspiring, performing and visual arts experiences to diverse audiences in a welcoming and intimate setting, providing opportunities to explore, celebrate and engage in the arts.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS: Independent Contractor; Part time hours reliant on program enrollment

REPORTS TO: Chief Program Officer, Education Manager

BlackRock is currently seeking talented, skilled, and motivated individuals that have teaching experience in piano and/or guitar instruction for students of all ages. This part time role would focus on group instruction at the beginner level for youth, teens and adults as well as building a private studio for students for all ages. The class schedule is part time and may take place on evenings and weekends. This position serves as an independent contract role for BlackRock Center for the Arts.

About BlackRock

BlackRock Center for the Arts, the leading venue for the performing and visual arts in Upper Montgomery County, Maryland provides the community with the highest-level performances, free gallery exhibitions, arts education classes, and offers a summer camp in a welcoming setting close to home. BlackRock Center for the Arts brings inspiring performing and visual arts experiences to diverse audiences and young aspiring artists in a welcoming and intimate setting, providing opportunities to explore, celebrate and engage in the arts.

Position Summary:

The Teaching Artist is a highly effective music educator who leads all aspects of instruction from planning to implementation for piano and/or guitar students. The Teaching Artist prepares lesson plans incorporating developmentally appropriate skills, pedagogy, and music theory for students at every age and every level. The Teaching Artist will collaborate on instructional practice to ensure continuity and quality of programming from beginner programs through more advanced levels including student assessment. Instructional programming includes small group beginning classes at every age range and will schedule their own private programming, communicating confirmed schedule to BlackRock. The Teaching Artist will prepare students for performance opportunities at BlackRock. The Teaching Artists cultivates learning experiences that instill a love of music in a fun, engaging, and safe environment. The Teaching Artist will report directly to the Education Manager, and work closely with the Director of Facilities, Chief Program Officer and Patron Services team.
**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

*Developing programming that will engage youth and inspire love and appreciation for music.*

- The Teaching Artist will be tasked with planning weekly lessons aligned to developmental growth of the student’s age and ability.
- The Teaching Artist will consistently collaborate with BlackRock leadership and staff, including staff meetings as necessary.
- The Teaching Artist will adhere to BlackRock policies to ensure consistency and quality of programming.

*Implementing BlackRock safety plan and protocols.*

- Teaching Artist is expected to be knowledgeable of and adhere to all safety protocols.
- Teaching Artist is responsible for ensuring that students follow safety protocols.

*Communicating with students/families as well as with BlackRock Staff.*

- Teaching Artist will communicate as necessary to student families.
- Teaching Artist will demonstrate outstanding communication skills, using clear, concise, and professional language when interacting with others.
- Teaching Artist will clearly outline assignments, updates on events, and student progress.

*Fostering an environment of excellence and inclusion in a safe “arts-for-all” environment.*

- The Teaching Artist will be a part of the BlackRock community and will use their presence to engage the student families, staff, and community at large.
- The Teaching Artist will embrace teaching in a way that aligns to the BlackRock vision and mission.

**Other Job Duties:**

- Collaborate and open to ongoing personal and professional growth as it relates to working with a diverse team.
- Adhere to budget allocation for demonstrations, class needs, and tech.
- Work closely with and understand facilities and proper usage and guidelines for instructional use.
- Handles emergency situations in conjunction with facilities, CPO, and CEO followed by documented incident reporting.
- Implement prepared lessons with fidelity.
- Encourage and support student vulnerability that accompanies trying something new.
- Monitor and ensure appropriate student behavior and adherence to BlackRock guidelines and policies.
- Work effectively with others in all levels of the organization in a professional manner.
- Other duties as assigned.

**Other Attributes:**

- Seeks advice and/or assistance from BlackRock leadership, as necessary.
- Work effectively with others at all levels of the organization in a professional manner.
- Be responsible, reliable, and safe.
• Always have a positive, can-do attitude.
• Be patient, caring, and creative.
• Produce consistent, high-quality work.
• Demonstrate excellent judgment; identify problems and work quickly to find solutions.
• Be flexible, adaptive, and a team player.

Qualifications
• Bachelor’s degree in education, arts education, fine arts, performing arts, arts management or related field is required.
• Previous experience planning, implementing, and providing music instruction at all levels.
• Superior customer service skills.
• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
• Able to work both collaboratively and independently.
• Ability to work with a team that is dedicated to BlackRock’s success.

Additional Requirements:
• Must be willing to be fingerprinted and have a full federal and state background check performed.
• Must be willing to complete staff training including Child Abuse and Neglect.

Physical Requirements
The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

• Ability to work a flexible work schedule, including weekends and evenings, as required.
• Respond to emergency situations.
• Possess the physical capacity to fulfill all responsibilities listed above.
• Ability to lift up to 50 lbs.

Compensation and Benefits
Compensation is competitive and based on the applicant’s experience. Teaching Artist candidates will serve as an Independent Contractor to BlackRock Center for the Arts for the weeks worked, and education programming held. Compensation may include training.

Accountability
The Teaching Artist will receive ongoing feedback. Renewal of contract will be dependent on performance review.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Blackrock Center for the Arts has an institutional commitment to the principle of diversity. In that spirit, we welcome applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, religion, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or national origin.

This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation, and training.

How to Apply

To submit your application, email jobs@blackrockcenter.org with the following:

- Job Title as Subject Line
- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Two References

NO CALLS PLEASE.

DATE REVISED: OCTOBER 2021

*BlackRock Center for the Arts is an equal opportunity employer. We honor diversity of race, gender, sexual orientation and ethnicity. We are committed to equity, diversity and inclusiveness. We are proud of our richly diverse community.