

NEW YORK STATE SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
SCHOOL OF MEDIA ARTS
Job Description – Artistic Director

The New York State Summer School of the Arts (NYSSSA), School of Media Arts (SMA) is accepting applications for the position of Artistic Director. One of seven four-week summer residential programs administered by the New York State Education Department, SMA offers pre-professional training for approximately 50 high school students from across New York State. This 47 year old program is operated by the New York State Education Department and for 2016 will be hosted at the State University of New York at Oswego.

One of seven schools that comprise NYSSSA, the goal of the School of Media Arts is to develop each student's creative process. All students work on the creation of personal, meaningful, increasingly complex, artistic statements. Our faculty encourages students in ideas, curiosity, discovery, critique, and the discipline of engaged creative exploration. Students audition for participation in one of five disciplines: video, 16mm filmmaking, photography, electronic sound art and computer animation. With extensive viewings and discussions of work, each class includes a strong foundation in the history of its medium. Classes also involve extensive teaching of the technical skills associated with each individual discipline. The first 2 1/2 weeks are generally spent learning foundations, history, and technical skills, and completing assigned exercises. The final week and ½ is spent developing and finishing individual final projects. More information about the program is available at www.oce.nysed.gov/nysssa/SMA.

Position Overview

The Artistic Director is responsible for achieving the mission of the New York State Summer School of the Arts (NYSSSA) School of Media Arts. The Artistic Director will develop and implement the school's program, hire program faculty in consultation with the NYSSSA Administrative Office, assist with student adjudications and manage the program's overall budget in accordance with programmatic needs.

Responsibilities are required throughout the year, with major responsibilities in the summer (July) during the operation of the program.

The individual hired will assume the Artistic Director position in Fall 2016 for Summer 2017. This individual will work with our current Artistic Director to facilitate a transition during Summer 2016 and visit the program during its operation.

Pre-Program Responsibilities

Assist the NYSSSA Albany office with the organization of the School of Media Arts prior to arriving on campus.

Hiring all faculty and visiting/lecturing artists as determined by curriculum offerings and budget allocations. Assist in the hiring of residential life staff.

Assist with student adjudication for acceptance to the School (additional audition fee stipend is provided).

Meet with instructional staff, NYSSSA Albany Office Representative and Assistant Director for Administration to review basic procedures and program expectations as a part of a general orientation prior to the school's opening.

Consult with faculty regarding curriculum, instructional materials and classes.

Program Responsibilities

Supervise the Assistant to the Artistic Director (AAD) who will oversee finalizing scheduling and logistics.

Ensure with assistance from AAD that all materials needs are met and kept in adequate supply in accordance with the budget.

Serve as liaison with the host campus to ensure all facility spaces are meeting programmatic needs.

Meet, as necessary, with the faculty and Assistant Director for Administration regarding program administration.

Review teaching schedule with instructors in cooperation with the Assistant Director for Administration to maximize the use of all students' time and skills.

Ensure that all facilities are cleaned and materials are returned to the host site at the conclusion of the program. Coordinate with AAD to ensure that all faculty members have returned all items belonging to host site.

Other duties as required including but not limited to communication with parents regarding program concerns and working with the Albany office to respond appropriately to any student disciplinary or dismissal issues.

Post Program Responsibilities

Provide an assessment of the program to the NYSSSA Albany office.

Assist the NYSSSA Albany Office in recruiting students for the Media Arts program via your professional and educational contacts within the State of New York.

Qualifications

NYSSSA is seeking candidates with vision, passion and commitment to working with talented teen artists. Experience working with youth or students at the collegiate level is desirable.

The ideal candidate will have strong leadership and personal communication skills, particularly with young people, excellent management technique, knowledge of media art suitable for youth and a demonstrated history of artistic achievement and creative vision. NYSSSA seeks a strong leader, with vision and ideas to carry NYSSSA SMA into the future.

Compensation

The Artistic Director is provided with faculty housing and board at SUNY Oswego and a stipend of \$7,500-\$8,000 commensurate with experience.

Application Process

Qualified applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, list of at least three references or three letters of recommendation (to be sent sealed and under separate cover by the recommending person). A sample of the candidate's work is strongly encouraged.

Please send materials by February 1, 2016 to:

NYSSSA
Attn: Sara Paupini Fittizzi, Executive Director
Cultural Education Center Room 10D79
Albany, NY 12230

Or via email to: nysssa@nysed.gov
(Please call (518) 474-8773 to confirm receipt of emailed materials.)