



northwestern settlement

ADVENTURE STAGE CHICAGO

CO-LEAD TEACHING ARTIST

Position Announcement

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Thanks to grants from Allstate and the **Department of Family and Support Services** (DFSS), 30 Chicago youth ages 9-16 can take part in a free, 7-week summer camp with Adventure Stage. Adventure Stage Chicago's Trailblazers ensemble is a unique mentoring program that places young people (9-16) with mentors who are professional theater artists. Student participants guide the program's content with thoughtful assistance from their mentors. In addition to creating original performances, Trailblazers go on field trips, stretch their creative muscles with exposure to different forms of theater, and learn to work collaboratively in a supportive environment.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Under the supervision of the Camp Supervisor, the (2) Co-Lead Teaching Artists will lead the summer camp program in a thoughtful and ensemble-based methodology while adhering to the mission of Adventure Stage Chicago (ASC). With attention to their partnership, co-lead TAs will collaborate on the design of a curriculum and program outline that reflects the voices of the young people in the program, builds leadership skills, engages community, and nurtures devising theatre skills. Lead TAs will develop a script with campers and co-direct the young people towards a final performance. Together, they will guide and participate in the overall "camp" atmosphere and work as part of a team along with the Jr. Leaders and AmeriCorps. They will maintain thorough communication with their Co-Lead, Camp Supervisor, Stage Manager, Education Manager, and Producing Artistic Director.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

❖ *Preparation*

- Camp falls within the scope of ASC's themed season and Co-Leads should make a concerted effort to tie their plans to that theme whenever possible. For 2020, the theme is Shelter.
- Work closely with Co-Lead, Camp Supervisor, Stage Manager, Education Manager, and Producing Artistic Director to develop a cohesive weekly and daily plan for this 8-week experience.
 - Each week should include a focus and goals, rituals, and a detailed schedule of morning and afternoon activities.
- Have a clear understanding of the production limitations required by the final performance in order to optimize the devising process for success.
- Provide input into camper evaluation tools and assessment strategy.

❖ *During Camp Time*

- Maintain safety of campers at all times.
- Work closely with the Stage Manager to ensure they have what they need for each activity.

- Communicate thoroughly with Stage Manager, AmeriCorps and Junior Leaders about expectations for successful delivery of planned activities.
- Guide campers through evaluation tools to ensure 100% participation.
- Distribute and collect program assessment tools

❖ *Rehearsal/Devising*

- Lead with a positivity-first approach.
- Foster a healthy atmosphere for ensemble building/work.
- Train young people in use of body/voice/imagination and all skills needed to be a successful ensemble member.
- Design a play development process that upholds the needs and visions of the young people involved.
- Supervise and delegate roles to Jr. Leaders/AmeriCorps that contribute to the development process.
- Compose and update a script.
- In collaboration with the Stage Manager, maintain thorough documentation of final performance requests.
- Keep guest mentors informed and engaged in the process.

❖ *Tech*

- Transition to a “co-director” role in preparation for the final performance.
- Communicate effectively with designers and be on the same page as co-director in terms of choices made.
- Delegate responsibilities to AmeriCorps and Jr. Leaders, including but not limited to performing, assisting with stage management duties, assisting with design duties, etc.
- Direct tech while handing over many organizational responsibilities to Stage Manager.

❖ *Performance*

- Sit back and enjoy the performances!
- Lead post-performance discussions.
- Support Junior Leaders as they fulfill their roles in production

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Northwestern University Settlement Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin.

Interested candidates should email a resume, cover letter and professional references to Jamie Macpherson, Education Manager at jamie@adventurestage.org.