

Teaching Artist

Seasonal/temporary, hourly part-time

Reports to: Education Coordinator



Position Overview:

Teaching Artists at SVMA comprise the team of seasonal museum educators who are responsible for developing and delivering hands-on art instruction for students in grades 3-12 across a variety of programs during the school year and summer camp season. Seasonal programs primarily include but are not limited to Art Rewards the Student (A.R.T.S.) in Sonoma Valley schools, Family Days, the annual Holiday Make-in, and Summer Studios at the Museum. SVMA Teaching Artist staff are the principal instructors for all of these offerings. Teaching Artists occasionally attend Museum staff meetings as needed, and participate in and occasionally lead professional development workshops.

About A.R.T.S and Key Program Dates:

Initiated in 2000, A.R.T.S. is the Museum's longest-running education program that places Teaching Artists in third-, fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms throughout Sonoma Valley at no cost to the schools, serving around 750 students. Art lessons and themes are integrated with the California Visual Arts Content Standards and offer tie-ins to classroom curriculum and SVMA exhibitions. In addition, each classroom visits the Museum, engaging in highly participatory gallery tours as well as working on their art projects in SVMA's studio classroom. In the spring, SVMA presents a major exhibition of student work alongside the exhibitions that inspired the lessons.

- November: Training, planning, and scheduling for A.R.T.S. participation
- November-December: Class schedules submitted to SVMA
- January-March: A.R.T.S. runs in elementary schools around Sonoma Valley
- April: Installation of A.R.T.S. exhibition and opening Family Day
- Closing reception and deinstallation of exhibition takes place 3 weeks later

Teaching Artists are responsible for:

- Participating in all A.R.T.S. planning meetings, training workshops, and professional development opportunities.
- Developing lesson plans that incorporate California State Visual Arts Content Standards, Common Core Standards, and/or meet classroom goals.
- Submitting at least one complete lesson plan to share with other classrooms and Teaching Artists.

- Coordinating with Classroom Teachers to provide high quality instruction for each assigned third-, fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms.
- Tracking and maintaining a budget and managing reimbursements for art supplies purchased.
- Actively participate in the design, installation, and deinstallation of the A.R.T.S. student exhibition at SVMA. Provide written project descriptions and student names for printed or digital wall labels.
- Participate as an instructor in the A.R.T.S. Family Day that kicks off the student exhibition.
- Return any physical artwork to schools and unused art supplies to the Museum at the end of the program.
- Complete an individual self-assessment and evaluations for each assigned classroom.

About Summer Studios and Key Program Dates:

In late June and July SVMA offers 3-4 weeks of summer art camp programming for students ages 10-15 in a variety of themes and media. Camps are typically 5-6 hours each day, 5 days a week, and organized by age groups.

Teaching Artists are responsible for:

- Designing and developing the camp lessons and providing instruction for 10-15 students in week-long day camps.
- Setting-up and maintaining the art studio as an inspirational and functional space
- Supervising participatory gallery visits and discussions
- Organizing and presenting the students artwork in a “show” for parents and friends on the final day of camp

About Family Days | Holiday Make-in and Key Program Dates: (April, early-August, mid-November):

Depending on the Museum’s exhibitions and time of year, SVMA typically presents 2-3 single day, multi-generational workshop days intended to engage parents, grandparents, and children in a variety of easy-to-learn and self-directed art projects and crafts.

Multiple art-making stations are positioned inside and out with Teaching Artists:

- Assisting in the set-up and clean-up of the Family Day or Make-in
- Designing and developing their station’s projects and providing instruction/guidance
- Maintaining the station as an inspirational and functional work space; organizing and replenishing supplies

Teaching Artist Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree (or academic equivalent) in art, education, or related field
- At least 3 years of art teaching experience working with large groups (30+)
- Proven proficiency with a variety of art media and techniques that are appropriate for primary and secondary students
- Knowledge of and curiosity about artistic traditions and art history
- Excellent organizational skills, with attention to detail and meeting deadlines
- Ability to maintain timely, personable communications (phone, email, in-person) with classroom teachers, school principals, parents, and fellow museum staff
- Flexibility and patience, especially with regard to scheduling classroom time
- Equally effective working independently and as part of a team
- Bilingual in English and Spanish is a huge plus, but not required

Compensation and Perks:

- Starting hourly rate of \$27.50
- Training: Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion (DEAI) and Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS)
- Workshops: Lesson Planning and Hands-on art classes relevant to the theme
- Ongoing support and training from Museum Education Staff
- Other opportunities for professional development
- Annual Museum membership and discounts

To Apply:

Please send resume and cover letter to: admin@svma.org

Be prepared to bring/show sample lessons to discuss in an interview.

Sonoma Valley Museum of Art (SVMA) is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, class, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability, family/marital status, religion or other protected classes.