TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Destiny Arts Center’s mission is to inspire and ignite social change through the arts. Our community of Teaching Artists provide the foundation for all our programs. We are building a robust pipeline that those looking to develop into trained and skilled Teaching Artists can enter into as Teaching Assistants. Our classes develop an appreciation for the arts, develop skills in various artistic disciplines, allow students to create and express for themselves, promote a sense of pride in youth and help young people build stronger ties within their community.

We are currently hiring for Teaching Assistants who have training in Hip Hop Dance, Martial Arts, Theater, Percussion, African Dance and Latin Dance, and want to learn how to teach and reach youth in those fields. Anyone with an interest in learning to teach hands-on, but with very intentional support, should apply. Perhaps you have already taught some studio youth classes or have been teaching adults for years. Or perhaps you are taking your first steps on your journey to developing youth. If you’re interested in working with youth and making an impact on the generations of tomorrow, this role may be the perfect stepping stone on that path.

Customary Schedule:

a. Customary Work Hours: Variable

b. Potential Work Days: Monday-Saturday

c. Part-Time (average of 4-10 hours per week)

d. $15-$25 per hour assistant rate
Position Summary:

Teaching Assistants would learn from and provide support for Destiny’s Senior Teaching Artists in classes at our North Oakland site and in our school programs out in the East Bay community. Teaching Assistants would shadow the teaching style of Destiny Teaching artists to master the Creative Youth Development Framework that structures all of our classes and provides social and emotional development for all of the youth in all of our programs.

Teaching Assistants would be tasked with providing some light administrative support for Teaching Artists such as classroom preparation, attendance taking, performance tracking and student supervision. Teaching Assistants will also be trained in leading groundings, check-in circles, community building activities, sharing artistic expertise (including, but not limited to technique and historical/social context of art forms), engaging youth in creative process and providing youth leadership opportunities, reflective group practices and preparing young people to showcase their art in capacities that empower them.

Teaching Assistants will also work closely with Teaching Artists to plan for classes ahead of time, learning how to establish long-term student goals and scaffold curriculum in order to build students toward reaching those outcomes. Assistants will also be given guidance on how to provide individual support to students who may need extra time or attention to pick up concepts and train in how to engage with parents, partners, Destiny administrative staff and other stakeholders.

As ambassadors of Destiny Arts Center, Teaching Assistants are expected to embody Destiny’s culture of welcome and carry Destiny’s values into the venues where they teach. Teaching Artists are expected to maintain a high level of professionalism, artistic growth and administrative accountability.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Help plan class content, which include opening and closing circles, performing arts technique, choreography, and scaffold opportunities for creative exploration.
- Provide social and emotional support for all Destiny youth you encounter.
- Role model to all youth the strict adherence to all Destiny rules and expectations.
- Embody Destiny’s mission of inspiring and igniting social change when creating curriculum, choosing music and performance material for your students.
- Meet with the lead Teaching Artist weekly or bi-weekly to receive feedback and training on performance and plan for upcoming classes.
- Attend at least 2 Teaching Assistant trainings per year.
- Administer student evaluations and take attendance if necessary.
- Complete and submit accurate time sheets and reimbursements in a timely manner.
Non Physical Demands/Qualifications:

- Any experience teaching youth or teaching movement or martial arts preferred.
- Passionate about working with young people.
- Able to be professional with time and communications.
- A strong commitment to the mission, goals and work of Destiny Arts Center.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills with the ability to facilitate, support and inspire youth and collaborate with colleagues.
- Experience working with diverse youth populations.
- Must be patient with the ability to clearly instruct youth in the discipline being taught.
- Ability to be flexible and calm in unstructured school environments.
- Ability to commit to school year-long residencies is preferred.
- Effective interpersonal skills necessary to interact with staff, students and guardians.
- Maintain consistent communication through email, phone and in person.
- Basic computer skills and familiarity with Microsoft Suite or Google Drive.
- Negative TB Test.
- Live Scan Test.
- Reliable, personal transportation is preferred.
- Multilingual, people of color and LGBTQI2S candidates are encouraged to apply.

How To Apply:

Actively accepting applications on a rolling basis. To apply: email a resume and references with the subject line: DAC Teaching Assistant to careers@destinyarts.org. Only complete applications will be accepted. No phone calls or inquiries.