



Martial Arts Teaching Artist

Hourly Rate: \$45–\$55/hour

Hours: Part-Time (average 4–15 hours/week)

Work Days: Monday–Saturday (variable schedule)

Location: North Oakland community center and East Bay School, and Community partner sites

About Destiny Arts Center

Destiny Arts Center’s mission is to inspire and ignite social change through the arts. For over 37 years, we’ve provided safe, inclusive spaces where young people can express themselves through movement, creativity, and connection. Our teaching artists are the heart of our mission—empowering youth to cultivate peace, power, and purpose through dance, martial arts, and performance.

Position Summary

Destiny Arts Center is seeking a Martial Arts Teaching Artist to lead youth classes rooted in our Warriors Code: Love, Care, Respect, Responsibility, Honor, and Peace. Teaching Artists work directly with young people across Oakland and the East Bay—both at our North Oakland community center and through our School & Community Programs.

The ideal candidate is a skilled martial artist and passionate educator who can integrate physical discipline, mindfulness, and creative expression. This role blends technical instruction with youth development, helping young people connect body, mind, and community.

Teaching Artists serve as ambassadors of Destiny’s values, maintaining professionalism, artistic excellence, and administrative accountability in every setting.

Key Responsibilities

- **Plan and Teach Classes:** Design and facilitate engaging martial arts classes that include warm-ups, technique development, self-defense fundamentals, and opportunities for creative expression and reflection.
- **Cultivate Safe Learning Environments:** Establish clear class agreements and model respectful behavior aligned with Destiny’s mission and Warrior’s Code.
- **Youth Development Focus:** Incorporate practices that promote emotional regulation, confidence, teamwork, and self-discipline.
- **Community and Collaboration:** Work closely with Destiny program staff and school partners to align instruction with site culture, schedules, and student needs.

- **Professional Practice:**

- Attend weekly staff trainings (Trainings are held on Friday, alternating between in-person and virtual)
- Communicate regularly with supervisors and caregivers regarding student progress or classroom concerns.
- Take attendance, administer student evaluations, and complete timesheets promptly.
- Select training activities, techniques, and learning materials that are developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive to the youth you serve.

Qualifications and Experience

- Minimum three years of experience teaching youth, ideally in martial arts, self-defense, or movement-based education.
- Deep commitment to youth empowerment and social-emotional learning through the martial arts.
- Strong classroom management and communication skills.
- Experience working with diverse communities and a trauma-informed, culturally rooted teaching approach.
- Ability to plan lessons for both short-term workshops and long-term residencies.
- Flexibility to teach in community and school-based environments.
- Must pass Live Scan and TB tests.
- Reliable transportation is preferred.
- Multilingual, people of color, and LGBTQQI2S candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Ideal Candidate Profile

You are a grounded, compassionate leader who understands that martial arts is more than technique—it's a path toward healing, confidence, and peace. You believe in building strong relationships with youth, families, and community partners, and you model the Warrior's Code both inside and outside the classroom.

How To Apply:

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