



## ARTS UMBRELLA

### **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, ART & DESIGN**

Full-time, permanent

(Please note: this position has been recently endowed and will be titled the “Audain Artistic Director, Art & Design”.)

### **About Arts Umbrella**

Arts Umbrella is where young artists ages 2–22 cultivate their creativity in Dance, Theatre, and Visual Arts. As a non-profit organization for arts education, we believe that art is powerful. Powerful enough to change kids’ lives in incredible ways. When young people connect with the arts, they gain self-confidence, develop self-discipline, and discover creative expression—things they carry with them for life. Arts Umbrella has four locations in Vancouver and Surrey, as well as donor-funded programs at schools, community centres, neighbourhood houses, and healthcare facilities across Metro Vancouver. We reach close to 21,000 students every year, with nearly 80% participating at little to no cost.

Recently celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year, Arts Umbrella will be moving into the South Building of the former Emily Carr University of Art + Design on Granville Island in April 2021. This exceptional opportunity will allow Arts Umbrella to further our vision for a better world where all young lives are inspired to pursue a lifelong journey towards self-expression, compassion, and humanity. It is our mission to be Canada’s leader in arts education for young people; to build community and deliver profound life experiences through our commitment to innovation, excellence, and inclusivity. Arts Umbrella (“AU”) is an organization full of heart, where self-expression and creativity are valued and nurtured.

### **The Opportunity**

Reporting to the Senior Director, Programming, the Artistic Director, Art & Design is responsible for creating and implementing the artistic vision and mandate of Art & Design programming at Arts Umbrella. The Artistic Director oversees Art & Design programming while also leading day to day activities of the Art & Design department, all with an eye to supporting the organization’s strategic plan. The Artistic Director, Art & Design is based out of AU’s Granville Island facility, but is also responsible for Art & Design programming at AU’s two locations in Surrey, in addition to community programs being delivered at partner facilities. The Artistic Director, Art & Design leads a small administrative team as well as a large roster of approximately 100 part-time faculty.

#### Key Accountabilities:

- Provides leadership in developing relevant and engaging programming for a wide range of ages and skill levels, from Early Learners to ages 6-19, entry level to advanced
- Based on a wide scope of knowledge and experience, provides artistic direction in areas including Animation, Architecture, Clay Sculpture, Drawing & Painting, Media Arts, Mixed Media and more
- Ensures the successful implementation and continued development of AU’s Art & Design curriculum within programming at all AU locations and community partner locations
- Supports the recruitment and retention of Art & Design staff
- Provides day to day supervision, coaching and mentoring of Art & Design staff (administrative and faculty) in collaboration with the Senior Director, Programming, Director, Community Programs, and/or Manager, Program Operations
- Supports student recruitment and retention efforts, providing leadership in admissions for advanced programs
- Develops relationships within the larger Art & Design community, identifying opportunities for AU programs (e.g. Visual Arts Summer Intensive with the Contemporary Art Gallery, Art Exchange with Vancouver Art Gallery)



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- Works within the parameters of the annual operating plan to meet growth targets, including new program development
- As a member of the artistic management team, contributes to strategic planning and implementation through articulating artistic and programming objectives
- Instructs Art & Design classes, providing student mentorship, as required
- Collaborates with various departments and artistic disciplines at AU, including but not limited to Dance, Theatre, Fund Development, and Marketing
- Develops and manages department annual budget and schedule/program mix in partnership with Senior Director, Programming, Manager, Program Operations, and Director, Community Programs

### Here is what you bring

An ideal candidate for this position will have an inspired artistic vision for the future of Arts Umbrella's Art & Design program and the experience to carry their vision to fruition. We are looking for a visionary and optimistic candidate who demonstrates leadership, tenacity, and enthusiasm in their work. As a leader for our artistic team, our ideal candidate has the ability to influence and lead others towards a clear direction while mentoring and coaching the instructional team to deliver excellence in programming.

We are on the lookout for the following technical competencies:

- Masters of Fine Arts preferred
- Strong knowledge of best practices and current trends in Art & Design pedagogy
- Minimum three years' experience as an Artistic Director in a visual arts, media arts and/or design environment with a proven ability to lead towards a strong artistic vision
- Minimum two years' experience leading an administrative team of two or more people
- Minimum two years' experience instructing young artists in any related discipline
- Minimum two years' experience recruiting, managing, and coaching instructors in their work teaching young artists
- Experience in building collaborative community partnerships and relationships integral to maintaining Arts Umbrella's place in the broader community
- Highly developed communication skills, both written and oral
- Advanced interpersonal skills, able to relate and interact with multiple stakeholders, including children
- Experience exercising budget and project management skills

### Our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion

Arts Umbrella values diversity and inclusion and is committed to building a team that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills and reflects the children and youth in our programs. We strongly encourage applications from people of all backgrounds.

### How to apply

Send your resume and cover letter to [careers@artsumbrella.com](mailto:careers@artsumbrella.com), indicating **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, ART & DESIGN** in the subject line. We strongly encourage applicants to apply as soon as possible, as we will review resumes and schedule interviews as they arrive. This position will remain open until filled.

Arts Umbrella thanks all applicants for their interest and advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted. **No phone calls please.**