

Artistic Director – Upper School, Children's Dance Foundation

Job Category: Programs

Job Location: Birmingham

Job Status: Part-Time

Position Summary

This new part-time position will provide leadership and management of more than 100 students in Children's Dance Foundation's (CDF) upper school program. CDF's Upper School consists of dance classes for students in 3rd grade through high school. Upper School dance classes include ballet, modern, jazz, tap and dance for musical theatre, with the majority (75-80%) of students taking one class a week. Also part of the upper school is a drop-in adult program and several community outreach classes serving students 3rd grade through adults. The adult program currently offers contemporary dance (a combination of modern and jazz) and hip hop classes for an average of 15-20 teens and adults each week.

The goal of this new position is to strengthen and grow the upper school studio and outreach through caring, collaborative and skilled leadership, inspired teaching and the cultivation of dance technique. The ideal candidate is one who believes in the power of dance and can articulate this through leadership, teaching and service.

Mission and Programs

Children's Dance Foundation's (CDF) mission is to provide quality dance education to all ages and abilities, fostering many essential skills, creativity and confidence. Founded in 1975, CDF is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) corporation, and offers classes and programs to more than 700 students in its state-of-the-art Community Arts Center. In addition, CDF has an extensive Community Partnership Program which teaches more than 2000 typical and challenged children each week; a school touring program, "Math In Motion", and a Creative Community Workspace program for local artists and organizations.

Please note: all prospective employees of Children's Dance Foundation are subject to a criminal background check and must have clearance to work with children.

Preferred Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in dance is preferred, and a master's degree is desirable.
- Minimum of five years of professional teaching and performing experience is preferred.
- Minimum of three years experience managing, leading, coordinating and producing dance classes, activities, events and performances.
- Genuine affinity for working in a collaborative, student-centered, community-based environment.

Responsibilities

- Provide leadership for the upper school program
- Set long range plans, goals and overall work for upper school with Program Director, Executive Director, board and staff
- Set policies and procedures for staff, programming with Program Director and Executive Director
- Supervise upper school artistic staff: scheduling; training; programming, evaluation
- Supervise outreach and special events and performances for upper school in studio and in community; schedule classes; schedule staff; oversee programming
- Manage and cultivate students: correspond and communicate with upper school students, parents
- Supervise overall curricula, including ongoing content refinement, training and implementation
- Supervise and coordinate spring performances and all logistical details
- Teach selected classes (compensated at an hourly rate above salary)
- Facilitate or lead demonstrations as necessary
- Provide support and perform duties as assigned

Start Date: Preferred start date is August 1, 2008.

How to Apply: Please send resume to:

Diane Litsey

Executive Director

Children's Dance Foundation

1715 27th Court South

Birmingham, AL 35219

diane@childrensdancefoundation.org

(if via e-mail, please include "Artistic Director – Upper School" in subject line.)