

# NEW URBAN ARTS

## ARTIST MENTOR VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTION

New Urban Arts is a nationally recognized interdisciplinary arts studio for high school students and emerging artists in the West End neighborhood of Providence, Rhode Island.

Our mission is to build a vital community that empowers young people as artists and leaders, to develop a creative practice they can sustain throughout their lives.

For more information about mentoring, or to see profiles of current and alumni mentors, visit our website:

[www.newurbanarts.org](http://www.newurbanarts.org)

*Under the direction of the Director of Programs, each Artist Mentor will:*

### **ENGAGE & GUIDE** a group of 4-8 high school students

- introduce new media and techniques
- encourage students to incorporate various media within their artwork
- document student work and progress
- prepare artwork for public exhibitions
- design & implement long-term projects
- communicate with your mentees weekly via phone or email
- demonstrate effective use of studio environment (i.e. respect & responsibility for studio space & materials)
- introduce students to new media, artists, galleries, libraries, museums, books

### **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS** with young people through creative practice and community building

- respond to the diversity of backgrounds and experiences of students
- model creative process & building community within your mentoring group
- use an inquiry, asset-based and supportive approach to meeting students' needs that promotes self-esteem and self concept of youth

### **CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT** for students to develop their creative practice

- create a learning environment clear of bias and judgment
- promote an atmosphere of collaboration and high expectations for each student
- support students to grow and learn

### **PARTICIPATE IN YEAR-LONG PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

- participate in mentor monthly trainings/meetings
- attend two weekend retreats throughout programming year
- exhibit personal process as artist mentor through reflective activities

### **CONTRIBUTE** to New Urban Arts community

- participate in organizational events, such as: exhibitions, annual campaign, performances, and workshops
- exhibit personal artwork in gallery in November

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## ARTIST MENTOR APPLICATION

Mentoring youth in the arts at New Urban Arts is a volunteer position. Each volunteer contributes at least 6 hours a week between October and May, and also participate in a professional development program of monthly meetings, a two-day orientation and a full day retreat in February. Artist mentors receive a small honorarium in appreciation for their contribution. Artist Mentors must be available in the afternoons, preferably 3-5pm at least two days per week.

### EXPECTATIONS:

**GUIDE** a group of 4-8 high school students in the arts, twice a week for two hours each session from October-May

**PARTICIPATE** in yearlong professional development program

**DOCUMENT** student work, with emphasis on process and voice for gallery viewing

**COMMIT** to mentoring and learning in a diversified learning environment

**INTRODUCE** a variety of new media/techniques/resources

**COLLABORATE** with artist mentors, students, staff, and community.

**EXHIBIT** personal artwork in our gallery in December

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (street, city, zip) \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

MAJOR \_\_\_\_\_ WORK STUDY ELIGIBILITY ☐ YES ☐ NO

PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

### HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY HAD CONTACT WITH NUA?

- YES ☐ I've attended events  
☐ I've volunteered  
☐ I'm a former NUA student  
☐ I've applied previously

### HOW DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT NUA?

- ☐ through a friend  
☐ through the NUA website  
☐ work-study office  
☐ other (please specify)

.....  
**REFERENCE #1 (non-family)** \_\_\_\_\_

professional occupation \_\_\_\_\_

phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE #2 (non-family)** \_\_\_\_\_

professional occupation \_\_\_\_\_

phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION DEADLINE September 4, 2015

All applicants must submit five digital images of personal artwork on a disc or in an email as jpg attachments, along with this completed application.

Filling out this application does not ensure that you have a position at New Urban Arts. There is a formal interview process to follow once your application is on file. Please return this completed application in person, by mail or email to:

### NEW URBAN ARTS

Att: Emily Ustach  
705 Westminster Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
emily@newurbanarts.org  
401.751.4556

### WHAT TIMES CAN YOU MENTOR DURING THE WEEK?

Artist mentors must be available two days per week in the afternoons, preferably from 3:00 to 5:00pm, *(please check all available times)*.

MONDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 to 5:00	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 to 7:00
TUESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 to 5:00	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 to 7:00
WEDNESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 to 5:00	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 to 7:00
THURSDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 to 5:00	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 to 7:00
FRIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 to 5:00	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 to 7:00

### WHAT AREA WOULD YOU LIKE TO FOCUS ON IN YOUR MENTORING GROUP?

*(please check all that apply)*

- ☐ **Visual Art** (drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, bookmaking, sculpture ...)
- ☐ **Poetry** (freestyle, creative writing, spoken word performance ...)
- ☐ **Design** (fashion, sewing, graphic, publishing ...)
- ☐ **Photography** (traditional, digital, video ...)

### WHAT MEDIA DO YOU WORK IN? *(please check all that apply)*

- |                                      |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Painting    | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Media                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Book Arts                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comics      | <input type="checkbox"/> Textiles       | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography    | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing / Poetry              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Printmaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Film/Video     | <input type="checkbox"/> other <i>(please specify)</i> |

### PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER *(legibly handwritten responses are acceptable)*

1. What arts and education experience do you have?
2. What other relevant experience do you have, such as: volunteering or mentoring in community based organizations?
3. Please describe yourself as an artist.
4. Why do you want to be an artist mentor at New Urban Arts? What do you want from the experience? What can you contribute to the New Urban Arts community? How can New Urban Arts help you develop your creative practice?
5. Have you ever had a mentor? If so, what qualities best describe your relationship with your mentor; if not, please describe the attributes that you think make a good artist mentor.