

CHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL

MANAGER OF LEARNING INITIATIVES

The Chicago Architecture Biennial is seeking a full-time Manager of Learning Initiatives to collaboratively create and execute educational programs that at once build upon the Biennial's legacy of exhibitions and programming, and tie closely into the perspective lent to the 2019 edition by the Artistic Director and Curatorial Team. Reporting to the Executive Director and working closely with the program coordinator, and the senior staff, the Manager of Learning Initiatives will foster a set of diverse and dynamic learning opportunities and resources including those targeting K-12 students and teachers by creating materials that are accessible to learners of all ages, and a subset of material focused on young adults in college/university environments. Programs under the rubric of Learning Initiatives help connect a wide range of audiences to the broader cultural conversations about architecture --- including youth and adults of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. The learning initiatives program is a conduit to continuously engage Chicago's citizens with the Biennial as an ongoing platform that stewards architectural thinking and dialogue year-round

This is an ideal role for a hands-on, creative professional with strong writing and organizational skills. Candidates must be highly self-motivated, creative and organized with 3-5 years of experience in education. They must be driven, able to multitask, work well as part of a team and excel in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment.

The Chicago Architecture Biennial is dedicated to providing a platform to unite the global vanguard of architectural thought and practice with the city of Chicago's unique legacy of architectural innovation. In addition to its biennial constellation of exhibitions, full-scale installations, programming, and educational initiatives, the organization stewards and promotes an ongoing conversation on architecture in and around the city. Each edition of the Chicago Architecture Biennial takes as its core a theme that addresses the most compelling issues in contemporary architectural practice. Designed to deepen and expand the conversation on architecture and the built environment with field leaders and everyday citizens. The Chicago Architecture Biennial is a platform created to further our understanding globally and locally of the way we organize society through the exploration of the built environment. The Biennial seeks to envision a future of architecture that is, first and foremost, shared, inclusive, diverse, sustainable, and equitable.

POSITION OVERVIEW

Goals of Learning Initiatives of the Biennial:

- Elevate and make the cultural role and social value of architecture accessible in people's lives
- Promote access and equitable participation in the Biennial's discourse on architecture and its intersection with other forms of art and culture
- Foster critical and creative thinking
- Cultivate the Biennial's unique platform as a source of collaboration and participation able to strengthen the fabric of communities and the life of our city.

The Manager of Learning Initiatives is responsible for being an active member of the educational community of Chicago and the museum field including school communities. S/he will collaborate with Biennial staff and the Curatorial Team to deepen audience connections and position the Biennial as an important catalyst for architectural thinking in the cultural ecosystem of Chicago. The responsibilities of

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the Manager of Learning Initiatives are informed by the Biennial's values to model a diverse, equitable, and inclusive cultural organization.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities:

Curriculum Development

- With direction from the Artistic Director and Curatorial Team establish a K-12 curriculum drawing from the 2019 edition and its' exhibition commissions, publications and programs
- Working in collaboration with the Artistic Director and Curatorial Team, support the development, implementation and management of pedagogical projects in the 2019 edition
- Work with communications and marketing team to distribute curriculum to partners across various platforms including the Biennial website

Partner Relations

- Lead the Biennial's efforts to continue engagement and collaboration with existing educational partners (including the Chicago Architecture Foundation, Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Public Libraries)
- Lead the Biennial's efforts to work directly with K-12 constituencies including after-school programs, and develop an outreach strategy to connect with a broad set of partners and cultural organizations
- Work with external Biennial education partners to coordinate daily guided K-12 tour program. This program is organized and managed by an external partner.
- Identify opportunities to engage higher educational partners with the Curatorial Team and other Biennial support staff; organize opportunities for programmatic engagement and tour opportunities

Programming Development and Operations

- Under the direction of the Executive Director develop an annual Educational Design Challenge including, managing outreach to Chicago Public Schools, working with Biennial staff to manage the competition submission process, oversee and manage the jury, and coordinate with the Biennial event staff to produce related prize ceremonies
- Work with curatorial team to develop resources to train docents for K-12 youth tours and general public tours; and develop interpretive documents targeting special groups such as families (a "Family Guide") including bi-lingual materials

Evaluation and Ongoing Engagement

- Work with development team to coordinate efforts to collect data and information for evaluation
- Work with Biennial staff to develop programmatic opportunities to maintain relationships with educational entities and cultural institutions after the 2019 edition closes

Professional Skills and Disposition

- Demonstrable leadership skills, including ability to successfully mentor, manage, and motivate diverse teams; adept at leading change processes that involve multiple individuals.

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- Excellent interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills, including ability to communicate with audiences of different backgrounds, levels of knowledge, and types of ability. Must be diplomatic and tactful.
- Excellent organizational, project, and time management skills; demonstrated ability to adapt to the changing needs of a dynamic, high-volume work environment.
- Exceptional collaboration skills including the ability to work within a framework of shared authority with a range of communities and stakeholders
- Ability to take initiative and exercise excellent judgment, both as part of a team and independently.
- Interest in keeping current with research and trends practices in formal and informal learning environments.
- Energy and enthusiasm for the mission of the museum and demonstrated commitment to advancing the goal of making educational institutions, including museums, more pluralistic, equitable, and inclusive.

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree required, preferably in art education, art history, museum education, architecture/design, studio art, or other related education, humanities, or social science field; Master's preferred
- Minimum 3-5 years of experience working with K-12 audiences and/or in museums
- Strong research and writing skills with experience of producing interpretive materials and education curriculum
- Previous experience teaching at the intersection of architecture, design and art
- Previous experience training and managing a team of docents and volunteers
- Demonstrated experience with conducting evaluation
- Command of Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite