

## **Position Description**

### **Memphis Is Music Initiative Music Engagement Fellow**

#### **Initiative detail**

The Memphis Is Music Initiative is a community-initiated, developed, and implemented strategy to use high-quality music engagement activities to drive student, youth, and community outcomes. The initiative was founded on the fundamental belief that music matters and that by making targeted, coordinated youth-focused investments in the city's musical legacy, we can leverage music and music engagement as a powerful tool to strengthen the city's youth, communities, and future.

*The initiative has been designed with three critical goals in mind:*

1. To sustain existing in-school music education and expand instruction through partnerships with local musicians
2. To expand high-quality, out-of-school time programs to reach more youth and remove barriers to youth engagement and participation
3. To develop places to spur innovation, where youth can learn, play and hear music and where musicians and community leaders can work together to develop music projects

For more information: <http://vimeo.com/105578191>

#### **Music Engagement Fellow description**

Music Engagement Fellows will play a critical role in advancing goals one and three of the strategy. They will assume professional responsibility for working closely with school Music Directors and Leadership to design and implement high-quality learning experiences in music and the performing arts. Fellows will partner with each school's Music Director (and/or school Leadership) to develop high-quality musical instruction and coaching in a supportive, positive, and creative climate that develops each student's skills, attitudes, and knowledge to meet and exceed the National Standards of Music. Teaching Fellows will be responsible for instructing students ranging from grades 6-12 with various levels of previous musical experience. In addition, Music Engagement Fellows will be expected to work 3-5 days (20 hours) a week and primary duties will be scheduled during school days. Exact schedules will be set between fellows and respective schools.

#### **Responsibilities**

- Support school Music Director and/or school leadership in designing and implementing high-quality learning experiences in music and the arts

- Work with students individually or in small groups to both coach and tutor students in support of instructional goals
- Act as a mentor and positive role model to students, supporting their overall development and instilling in them a love of music and an appreciation of hard work and tenacity
- Offer smaller music lessons, demonstrations, and seminars that showcase your particular musical genre and/or musical expertise
- Work with larger cohort of Fellows and Memphis Is Music Leadership to track and measure program success, assess program design, and redevelop and/or update program approach as needed in support of outcome goals
- As time allows, support music engagement activities in communities, working with community hubs and youth development CBO's
- Act as advocate and spokesperson for this work and this initiative in your respective musical communities and with your professional peers

### **Professional qualifications**

- Demonstrated professional music skills in soul, R&B, gospel, rock, classical, jazz, or hip hop genres
- Strong musical theory literacy, a thorough understanding of comprehensive musicianship, and a demonstrated ability of supporting students of diverse skill levels and backgrounds in learning music in your genre of expertise and one or two others with a commitment to bridging genres to drive relevant instruction
- Demonstrated experience and commitment to working with low-income and diverse communities and engaging schools and families
- Demonstrated ability of working collaboratively to both design and deliver music instruction
- Strong passion for the critical role music engagement can play in strengthening youth outcomes and developing youth leaders

### **Personal characteristics**

- High energy, ability to think creatively and work collaboratively and a sense of humor
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to interact effectively with youth, students, and a diverse range of people

### **Salary**

This position is half-time (20 hrs/week) and for the spring term (January-May) with the expectation that fellows will continue through the fall term. Fellows receive a \$25,000 stipend for the full school year, paid in monthly installments, and an additional \$200/month health stipend. Fellows are expected to commit to a full academic year of service with the potential to extend fellowship for an additional year.

## **Application Process**

All applicants **MUST** attend an information session on one of the dates below in order to be considered for the fellowship. At this time we will explain the program, walk candidates through the interview process including the group interviews and matching event, and answer questions about the fellowship. All information sessions are at:

Arts Memphis  
575 South Mendenhall  
Memphis, TN 38117

### **Information Session Dates:**

**December 14: 3:30-5:00**

**December 15: 10:30-12**

**January 19: 3:30-5:00**

**January 20: 10:30-12:00**

**February 18: 3:30-5:00**

**February 19: 10:30-12:00**

### **Application deadline (online application, resume, and cover letter)**

**March 25, 2016** (All applicants must be 6 months removed from a full-time teaching position in the Shelby County Schools at the time of their application.)

### **Group Interviews**

**April 11: 6-8:30, Group Interviews, Location TBA**

**April 12: 6-8:30, Group Interviews, Location TBA**

### **Matching Event**

**April 18: 6-8:30, Matching Event-Orchestra, Piano, and General Music**

**April 21: 6-8:30, Matching Event-Band, Choir, and General Music**

**May 2: Notify new fellows**

Please RSVP to [MemphisIsMusic@gmail.com](mailto:MemphisIsMusic@gmail.com) at least 24 hours in advance of all meetings.

*The Memphis Is Music Initiative is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages candidates of all backgrounds to apply for this position. Employees are chosen on the basis of ability without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, marital status or sexual orientation, in accordance with federal and state law.*