



Teaching Assistant

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title:	Teaching Assistant
Classification:	Part-time, hourly
Reports to:	Director of Educational Programming
Hours:	Approximately 4-10 hours per week (90 day probation period) <i>*Variability of hours depends upon instrument played and assignment to additional teaching positions</i>
Pay Rate:	\$20 per hour
Start Date:	Training begins August 24 th , 2015 for entire week; classes begin September 8 th , 2015
Inquiry:	Please send your resume and cover letter to steven@miamimusicproject.org ; Please use the words "Teaching Assistant" in the subject line.

Teaching interviews will be held in Miami, FL during the month of July 2015

Organization and Program Overview:

Miami Music Project (MMP) uses music as a tool for social transformation, empowering children to acquire values and achieve their full potential, positively affecting society, through the study and practice of music. Miami Music Project is a Florida-based non-profit education and arts-organization founded by world-renowned conductor James Judd in 2008. In 2010, Miami Music Project developed and implemented its core music education program modeled after the El Sistema philosophy to make classical music training available to all, especially those of low socio-economic status.

Designed as an intensive, tuition-free, after-school music program, MMP provides hundreds of children from at-risk demographics with a fully integrated music curriculum, excellent training from professional musicians and music educators, and opportunities for leadership and social development. The program builds the transferable practical skills needed to improve academic motivation, classroom success and social preparedness, and creates new avenues of cultural awareness in the city's most vulnerable communities. Ultimately, by enriching the lives of individual children and creating a network of stand-alone orchestras in Greater Miami's most underserved communities, the program seeks to create social change within the communities served.

Miami Music Project currently serves a total of 300 students participating across four community chapters located in under-served immigrant communities (Little Haiti, Doral, Liberty City, and Little Havana) with distinct populations - predominantly African American and Hispanic. MMP students train after-school with

lessons taught by a team of professional musicians—Teaching Artists—following the El Sistema philosophy. Additionally, students participate in ensemble-based community performances throughout the school year. The chapters work in harmony to further a shared vision, goals, curriculum, repertoire and experiences.

Position Summary:

Teaching Assistants are responsible for assisting the lead teaching artists of beginning/intermediate string, woodwind or brass ensembles and/or orchestras at assigned chapter(s). He or she follow the lead of his or her lead teaching artists, and will ensure the highest quality string, woodwind or brass experience for students, implement curriculum and pedagogy set by MMP and in collaboration with the Director of Educational Programming and other music faculty to support each child holistically. He or she will be an advocate of the MMP philosophy and help facilitate community and family involvement. He or she will help students walk with check-in and check-out procedures, walk students to and from class, help tune instruments, set up and organize the classroom, escort students to the bathroom, and anything else that may arise in and out of the classroom. Classes take place on weekdays. Numerous performances may take place during weekends and participation will be required.

Essential Functions:

- Ensure the utmost safety and security of each child of the program while working, especially students in his/her care at all times, in and out of the classroom,
- Work closely with lead teaching artist in implementing the curriculum, pedagogy and culture inspired by the ideals of *El Sistema*,
- Assist with classes by tuning instruments, playing in the section, taking students out for bathroom and/or behavior problems, assisting ensemble(s) during concerts, check-in and check-out procedures, etc,
- Communicate consistently with staff, fellow teaching artists, parents and students in order to serve and support each child holistically.

In addition to the above responsibilities, Teaching Assistants will perform other similar and related duties, as directed by MMP staff, not requiring materially different qualifications from those described above.

Qualifications and desired skills include:

- Strong commitment to El Sistema philosophy and mission of the Miami Music Project,
- Bachelor's degree in a music field, a degree in music education is a plus, or equivalent experience
- A high level of responsibility and ability to manage and work children from diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds,
- Experience teaching beginner strings, woodwinds or brass instruments,
- The willingness to model musical and social skills with a focus on the creative learning process, emphasizing striving over achieving,
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community and the willingness to collaborate with and learn from one's colleagues,
- Knowledge of instrumental repertoire, curriculum and standard music pedagogy (Kodaly, Suzuki, etc.) with certification preferred,
- Ability to work under frequent observation,
- Interest and ability to be a motivational mentor and role model for students, parents, and peers as an artist, teacher and citizen,
- Bilingual in English and Spanish and/or Haitian-Creole a plus.

Upon hiring, a Criminal Background check and Miami-Dade County Public Schools fingerprinting (level 2 screening) will be required of the candidate prior to working within public school grounds.