



## **2022 SUMMER ARTS FOR LEARNING ACADEMY (SALA) STUDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

Reports to: Summer Arts for Learning Academy Site Director  
Classification: Seasonal Full-Time Exempt

### **The SALA Student Support Specialist Job Description:**

The Summer Arts for Learning Academy Student Support Specialist works side by side with the Summer Arts for Learning Academy Site Directors to create and foster a positive, safe and productive learning environment for all students and staff at the site. The Student Support Specialist is a key member in developing the student support plan for the site, and will effectively oversee this plan throughout the Summer. The position requires the staff member to facilitate one on one, and group conflict resolution sessions and provide in-classroom support when needed. The student support specialist is also required to provide supervision to students while not in classroom settings (during meal times etc.)

### **About the Summer Arts for Learning Academy:**

Baltimore City Schools' Summer Arts for Learning Academy (SALA), operated by Arts for Learning Maryland (formerly Young Audiences of Maryland), offers students an opportunity to imagine, create, and express who they are through the arts. This is an action-packed, full-day, six-week program (Monday - Thursday) that introduces students to a wide variety of art forms—from illustration and spoken word to percussion, drama, and dance—which gives students a chance to work alongside students from across the city and be taught by professional Artists. Students' work is celebrated through a student showcase on the final day of the program. Arts for Learning Maryland will host nine Academy sites throughout the city, locations TBD. Each classroom will have 26 students.

### **Mission and Core Values:**

The mission of Arts for Learning Maryland's elementary grade Summer Arts for Learning Academy is to provide students with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to spend a Summer learning from the best Teachers and Teaching Artists our state has to offer. Through a dynamic, creative, and supportive environment, students will explore math and literacy in a unique arts-integrated environment that prevents the Summer learning slide, allows them to develop socially and emotionally, expands their personal creative process, and introduces them to many different art forms taught by professional Artists.

We...

- believe unwaveringly that ALL students can achieve high standards in and through the arts.
- provide opportunities for students to develop powerfully articulate voices through art forms and honor their creative processes along the way.

- create safe, brave learning environments for students to grow, make mistakes, and contribute to the community.
- collaborate and reflect by learning from and with each other at every step of the process, cultivating positive relationships between all ages.
- encourage the development of critical thinking, problem solving, inquiry, imagination, and creativity, and provide multiple ways for students to demonstrate knowledge and mastery.
- learn about, honor, and leverage the cultural knowledge, experiences, and frames of reference of our students and community to make learning more relevant and effective.
- ensure that our students are known, loved, supported, celebrated, and valued.

### **Ideal Student Support Specialists Have:**

- An ability to support inclusive environments where all students' unique gifts and talents are discovered and cultivated, and where students' identities (racial, cultural, social, gender, etc.) are acknowledged, affirmed, and reflected around them.
- An ability to examine biases and an understanding of the concepts of institutional and structural racism and its impact on policies and practices, especially related to the administration of public education.
- A passion for students: an ability to build meaningful relationships and a desire to "go above and beyond" to ensure each student's success.
- A commitment to seeing families as partners in education and communicating with them regularly.
- A strong desire to fully integrate into a non-traditional learning environment where flexibility is strongly valued and where new and innovative ideas are not only cultivated but expected from all staff.
- Experience utilizing restorative practices when conflict arises.
- A willingness to use either the school office landline or their personal cell phone (number blocking is acceptable) to contact parents and guardians, as needed.
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### **Required Dates, Times and Working Hours:**

Student Support Specialists must be able to commit to attending all training and program days listed below:

- **Before Professional Development Week:** All SALA Student Support Specialists will need to attend approximately 7 hours of professional development training sessions prior to the start of PD week. First-year Student Support Specialists will need to attend an additional orientation. The

dates and times for these events will be shared at a later date. All sessions are required and paid.

- **Training and Professional Development Week:** Monday, June 27th through Thursday, June 30th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.
  - Student Support Specialists will not attend all PD week days/sessions. The exact dates and times they will need to attend will be shared at a later date. All required sessions are paid.
- **Academy Dates:** For all sites, the program will run Monday through Thursday and will begin on July 5th and end on August 11th. Program hours are 8:30 am (Breakfast) to 3:00 pm.
  - Student Support Specialist time commitment: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm on program days (Monday - Thursday).

### **Compensation:**

- The SALA Student Support Specialist position is a seasonal full-time exempt position and is not eligible for health benefits or overtime.
- Student Support Specialists will be paid an hourly rate of \$25.00.

### **Job Responsibilities:**

- In collaboration with the SALA Site Director, a comprehensive Student Support Plan for the Academy
  - Determine the best ways to support and counsel children who struggle with behavior and/or academics, given the limitations of COVID.
  - Share best practices, strategies, and pedagogies that will help Teachers and Teaching Artists support students in times of crisis.
- Implement the Student Support Plan:
  - Connect with staff and parents/guardians as needed to ensure student support in the classroom.
  - Support Classroom Teachers and Teaching Artists in fostering an inclusive environment by adapting lesson plans / schedules as needed so that all students can participate.
  - Assist in training site staff around the Student Support Plan.
  - In partnership with Classroom Teachers, Teaching Artists, and Site Directors, identify, monitor, and provide services to students who are struggling to be successful in SALA using all available resources.
- Assist and supervise in ensuring COVID protocols are followed, including but not limited to:
  - Taking staff temperature upon arrival.
  - Taking student temperature upon arrival.
  - Monitor hallways and bathrooms.
- Crisis Management:
  - Assist children who need to be removed from the classroom due to behavioral issues.
  - Work one-on-one with children on academic content as needed when a child has been removed from the classroom.
- Student Supervision:
  - Supervise during Breakfast and Lunch.
  - Supervise students that arrive early or leave the site late (before 9:00 and after 3:00).
- Act as a positive role model to students.

### **To Apply:**

For consideration, apply online at

[www.artsforlearningmd.org/programs/summer-arts-academy/work-with-us/](http://www.artsforlearningmd.org/programs/summer-arts-academy/work-with-us/)

***Arts for Learning Maryland (formerly Young Audiences of Maryland) is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to cultivating a diverse workforce and equitable workplace. We encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, national origin, veteran status, and disability. All qualified applications will be given equal opportunity.***