

## Teaching Artist for School Collaboration

**Position:** Teaching Artist

**Location:** Virginia MOCA and Off-site locations

**Duration:** August 2024- January 2025

**Application Deadline:** Sunday, July 7, 2024

**Overview:** Virginia MOCA, in collaboration with Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS), seeks a dynamic and experienced Teaching Artist to assist in the creation of an environmentally themed public art installation. This project will involve students from a local elementary school (5<sup>th</sup> graders) and Environmental Studies students (12<sup>th</sup> graders). **Through this project, students will transform their experiences and knowledge into an outdoor sculpture that promotes environmental awareness and stewardship.** In addition to producing the sculpture, the overall goal of this project is to foster students' personal connections, curiosity and responsibility for their local environment.

**Project Background:** This project was inspired by two Virginia MOCA exhibitions. In Year 1 (2023-2024) and in response to [\*Mark Dion and Alexis Rockman: Journey to Nature's Underworld\*](#), students worked in handmade nature journals to document their observations of the local watershed and ecosystems. These journals served as a foundation for understanding and appreciating their natural surroundings. In Year 2 (2024-2025) and in response to Virginia MOCA's upcoming exhibition with artist Duke Riley, students will transform their observations and knowledge into a collaborative outdoor sculpture, guided by the Teaching Artist. The final artwork will be displayed on the grounds of Virginia MOCA through 2025.

### Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with Virginia MOCA staff and Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) educators to design a thoughtful learning experience that will work towards desired outcomes.
- Guide and mentor students through the creative process, from conceptualization to the completion of the sculpture.
- Facilitate hands-on making sessions, teaching students various artistic techniques and materials relevant to outdoor sculpture.
- Collaborate with the school's art teacher to develop ideas and determine next steps in the creative process.
- Ensure the artistic integrity and environmental relevance of the student-created sculptures.
- Oversee the installation of the final artwork on the Virginia MOCA grounds.

- Attend regular project meetings and provide progress updates to collaborators in alignment with project deadlines and budget.

**Qualifications:**

- Proven experience as a Teaching Artist, preferably with experience in public art.
- Background in sculpture and familiarity with materials suitable for outdoor installations.
- Excellent communication and organizational skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively with students, educators, and museum staff.
- Interest in environmental education and sustainable art practices.
- Flexibility to adapt to the needs and pace of the project and its participants.
- Background check clearance required for working with students.
- Must have a reliable method of transportation.

**Compensation:** A work stipend of \$3,000, supplies provided.

**Application Process:** Interested candidates should submit the following:

- A cover letter detailing your interest in the project and relevant experience.
- A resume or CV highlighting your qualifications.
- A portfolio or examples of previous work, particularly any relevant public art or environmental projects.
- Contact information for three professional references.

Please submit your [online application](#) by Sunday, July 7, 2024.