

Job Description

Position: Recreate Studio Lead

Reports to: Executive Director

Position open until September 30th but may be extended.

Perennial is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on applicants based on race, color, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, faith, disability, age, or veteran status.

Perennial was founded as an accessible arts + sustainability organization. Our mission is not just to divert waste, but to build a creative culture of sustainability where discarded objects can be transformed. We believe that learning creative skills and having space and time to explore them is a powerful and healing experience. Our Recreate Studio program seeks to empower women-identifying individuals with both skills and confidence. This program has been an important way for Perennial to reach under-resourced audiences who may themselves feel discarded. It is important to our organization to make sure the creative culture we are building is inclusive and meets the needs of folks with diverse backgrounds and a spectrum of artistic experience.

Program overview:

Since 2012, Perennial has partnered with local social service agencies to provide free creative studio time with an emphasis on reuse and resourcefulness to under-resourced women, including those experiencing homelessness, formerly incarcerated individuals, survivors of domestic violence and sex trafficking, and refugee and immigrant populations. Women in this program receive free access to tools, instructors, and materials and are welcome to work on a variety of independent projects including sewing, mosaics, woodworking, and more.

Position Summary:

The Recreate Studio Lead would lead the program which takes place 3 Sundays a month from 1-4pm.

Job duties would include:

- helping with project design and skills across a variety of mediums
- managing the studio space to keep things clean and safe
- building trust with under-resourced individuals who may have a history of trauma
- working with the Recreate Studio Woodshop Assistant
- communicating schedule changes and updates
- reviewing program applications and onboarding new participants
- maintaining an inclusive and caring space for all participants to feel welcome and confident to create
- dealing with participant challenges that arise in a professional and confidential manner
- regularly documenting and sharing program successes through pictures and communication with the Perennial team
- considering strategies to increase program attendance and retention

Required skills:

- 1-2 years experience working with under-resourced populations

- knowledge and experience of multiple artistic disciplines and DIY techniques
- 1-2 years teaching experience
- commitment to resourcefulness and sustainability
- consistent Sunday availability
- conflict management skills
- comfortable managing programs and communication independently
- passion to share skills and invest in building a creative culture of sustainability for all

Preferred skills:

- background in art therapy or working towards an art therapy degree/license
- certification, training, or knowledge of best practices in trauma-informed care

A passion for reuse is required. Just as we teach people the skills they need to transform discarded items we know this program gives folks tools to go through their own transformations, gaining confidence and working to heal from past trauma. This is a unique opportunity for someone interested in applying art therapy practices in a community-based setting.

While there is no specific artistic discipline required for a successful candidate, an eagerness to learn new techniques and teach is important. Some of the disciplines women engage with at Perennial include sewing, knitting, woodworking, glass working, candle making, paper arts and more. Resourcefulness, specifically working with discarded and salvaged materials in beautiful ways, is core to all of Perennial’s programming.

Compensation:

\$20 an hour, approximately 15 hours a month

Work Schedule and Agreement:

This program takes place 3 Sundays a month from 1-4pm and the ReCreate Studio Lead should be able to lead most sessions with a half hour to set-up and clean up. A few additional hours each month can be flexibly used to manage communication and administration tasks.

To Apply

Please send a resume and an introductory email or one-page cover letter that mentions:

- One example of a creative reuse project that you have created and/or taught
- Highlight any teaching experience and what populations you have served
- Why you are interested in the position

To Katie Carpenter, Perennial Executive Director at katie@perennialstl.org