

The Encampment for Citizenship – Program Director

The Encampment for Citizenship is seeking a qualified person to fill the position of Program Director for its 2014 summer teen program. This is a year-round leadership position that includes a residential summer leadership program for youth, ages 16-17. During much of the year, the position will be part-time, involving approximately 20 hours per month. For approximately 2 months, including the summer program (June 30 - July 20, 2014), the position is full time. This year's site for the program is the University of Illinois, Chicago campus. Approximately 30 young people, from diverse ethnic, economic, social, religious and geographic backgrounds will participate in the 3-week program. They will explore a variety of social and political issues challenging ethnic, cultural, gender and sexual orientation stereotypes. The program is philosophically grounded in principles of democracy and belief in human efficacy. Methods are based on participatory education. Field trips, guest speakers and community service projects complement ongoing workshops. During the program, the Program Director and all summer staff live on site and are responsible for youth 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. The staff:youth ratio is 1:6. The Program Director and summer program staff participate in all program activities.

Description of Organization

The Encampment for Citizenship (EFC) is a non-profit organization that organizes residential summer programs for young people of widely diverse backgrounds and nations. It provides youth with a compelling experience in democratic living, with emphasis on critical thinking and social action. Through this transformative experience, young people become more informed and sensitive about the key social and political issues of our time and committed to active citizenship and involvement in their community as justice seekers. The EFC was founded in 1946 by Algernon D. Black of the New York Society for Ethical Culture and civic leader Alice K. Pollitzer and was sponsored by the American Ethical Union. Youth participated in EFC leadership programs for 50 years, from the 1940s until the late 1990s. The program was relaunched in 2013 through the efforts of dedicated alumni.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

Specific duties of the Program Director include supervising staff who will work with Encampers; providing oversight for development of the overall Encampment curriculum; facilitating bi-monthly conference calls with staff prior to the summer program; planning and facilitating a 3-day training for summer staff, which will take place in March or April; establishing and supporting a year-round program component; developing a 3-week workshop that addresses an issue of interest/ concern to the youth participants and staff; and involvement in the Encampment application acceptance process. The Director will provide leadership to the staff in assigning and ensuring that all tasks are completed. The following tasks are not meant to be inclusive but are suggestive of the range of responsibilities the Director will assume: collaborate with staff to set the overall schedule of events; set up guest speakers and field trips; arrange for transportation logistics during the summer program; serve as Encampment liaison to the summer program site and to Encampment administrative office; coordinate logistics during the summer program; participate in recruiting of sponsoring organizations and youth; maintain contact with all parents and sponsor organizations during summer program; maintain contact with youth, parents and sponsor organizations before and after summer program; write and enforce protocols for medical care and emergencies.

Qualifications

Bachelor's degree or higher, at least one degree should be in a relevant area; at least 10 years' experience in youth development, teaching and/or counseling older teens; expressed commitment to the mission and methodologies of the Encampment; experience developing curriculum; extensive experience with supervising diverse staff; knowledge in some topic area appropriate for the Encampment; experience planning/presenting workshop topics in a participatory, democratic environment; ability to work in intensive living/working/learning situation; enjoy working with teenagers from diverse backgrounds; capacity for self-reflection; self-initiated work style; ability to work in cooperation with staff and youth; flexibility and a sense of humor. A driver's license is required, Class B (bus driver) license is a plus. **Plus qualifications** are: musical and artistic ability; experience in developing cultural and/or recreational programs for youth; CPR and Water Safety Instructor Certification; experience working with older teens in a residential situation; media/technical skills.

Dates and Compensation

The 2014 program dates are June 30 through July 20. The Program Director will begin part-time (approx. 20 hrs/month) in February and will start working full-time (40 hrs/week) June 1. Following the summer program, the Program Director will work full time through the remainder of July and part-time throughout the rest of the year. Compensation based on applicant's skills, work and life experience.

To Apply

The Encampment values diversity: people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ, people with disabilities, and people from all backgrounds are encouraged to apply. **Applications must be received by February 24, 2014. Please include the following:**

1. Cover letter, including an explanation of your interest in employment with the Encampment for Citizenship, your experience working with youth and your particular interests and skills concerning social, political, cultural and recreational issues. Include any other pertinent personal or life experience.
2. Resume, including any camp-oriented or educational certifications that may be useful (include classification and expiration dates).
3. Names and addresses, emails, phone numbers of 4 references, including at least 3 current work-related references.
4. A brief workshop outline (no more than 2 pages) of small and large group activities for 3 weeks, addressing a social/political issue with which the applicant has knowledge and experience. Workshops meet 3 times per week.
5. Written description of how you have dealt with a challenging issue(s) and/or problem(s) that has arisen in your work with young people in similar programmatic situations. Include description of the issue, your responses and outcomes.

Please forward the above to efcyouthprogram@gmail.com or:

Encampment for Citizenship
PO Box 1210
Aptos, CA 95001-1210

Contact person: Marion Silverbear