Creative Connections
2015-16 Intern Guidelines and Application

The Claire Trevor School of the Arts Outreach program, Creative Connections, provides curriculum-based arts projects to K-12 students. The program helps to fill the arts curriculum gap for Orange County area school districts, which offer little or no arts education programs. Participation in the Creative Connections program is free for schools and school districts. Priority is given to educators teaching at schools with a significant portion of the population benefiting from Title 1 of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Creative Connections interns are undergraduate and graduate students majoring in the arts at UC Irvine’s Claire Trevor School of the Arts. Interns, in collaboration with classroom educators and faculty mentors, develop and implement an arts-integrated curriculum. The Creative Connections project should complement the Common Core curriculum while providing basic arts education. Interns are selected via a competitive application process, work with faculty mentors and receive educational training, resources and support from staff and area educators.

Core curriculum-based projects will be conducted in K-8 classrooms. At the high school level, Creative Connections interns may act as mentors to juniors and seniors planning to apply to colleges and universities as arts majors faced with navigating the unique arts application and audition process.

Requirements

• Projects will span much of the school year; students must commit to completing their projects.
• Interns will collaborate with classroom educators, and receive guidance from designated faculty mentors, as well as participate in appropriate trainings.
• Projects will be conducted over approximately 100 hours with approximately 50% of the time spent in the field and 50% of the time spent in training, research and preparation.

Perks

• Interns may receive either Independent Study credit or a stipend, depending on available funding, for completing a project.
• Limited materials stipends are available.
• Having completed a Creative Connections project, interns receive an invitation to the Arts Awards Ceremony prior to their graduation from the University.
• Completing a Creative Connections project counts towards the internship requirement for the Minor in Civic and Community Engagement.
• Interns will have successfully planned, collaborated, taught, and assessed curricula they have developed.
• Interns will have infused area classrooms with the arts!

Creative Connections Project Timeline

• October 16 – Intern applications due
• October 23 – Receive Classroom/Educator Match at First Intern Training (Time TBD)
• Month of November – Plan/Collaborate/Meet with Educator, Mentor
• December 6 – Second Intern Training (Time TBD)
• Month of December – Observe Classroom, Plan/Collaborate/Meet with Educator, Mentor
• Week of January 6 – First Lesson in Classroom, Plan/Collaborate/Meet/Reflect
• January – May – Subsequent Lessons, At least 2 additional trainings will be held during this time
• May 30 – End-of-year Celebration (Time TBD)
Application
To apply to be a Creative Connections intern, please submit a completed Intern Application. Please note, we do our best to match the interests of interns with the interests of classroom educators, but we may not be able to partner all interns with an educator.

Application Materials
Intern application should consist of no more than two pages. Please email application to megan.macdonald@uci.edu with the subject “Creative Connections Intern Application” no later than October 16, 2015. Interns applying in a group must each submit a complete application. A complete application must include:

A.) The Intern’s Name, Local and Permanent Address, Email Address, Phone Number, and Student ID Number.
B.) The Intern’s Major/Minor, Degree, Year, Expected Graduation Date, GPA and the Number of Winter and Spring Credits in which the Intern is enrolled.
C.) Project preferences including grade level, dates, length and frequency of each session, core subject preferred and art form (Art, Dance, Drama or Music).
D.) Description of previous teaching experience including the age and grade of pupils, subjects taught, length of teaching appointment.
E.) For projects in K-8 classrooms describe:
   a. A specific project idea including how you might integrate your art(s) with other curricular topics, how the project would address the California State Standards for Visual and Performing Arts, how it would fit into the Common Core Curricula for the grade level for which the project is geared, and materials and outside influences you expect to introduce
   b. Artistic and creative goals you have in mind for your classroom
   c. Desired educational outcomes for the project and how you would assess these outcomes
F.) For mentorships at the high school level describe:
   a. Ideas, skills and special qualities you have that would make you successful in your mentorship
G.) One letter of recommendation from a professor, teacher or supervisor who can speak to the Intern’s aptitude for completing a Creative Connections project; this may be included as a separate page.

Applications will be reviewed, and classroom educators and Creative Connections interns will be matched, in late October; the first intern training will be in early November; interns and educators will meet to collaborate on the structure of the project in November and December; a second training will be held at the beginning of December. Projects will be conducted in the classroom beginning in early January and will continue through the end of May.

Please email your application to megan.macdonald@uci.edu no later than October 16, 2015.

Thank you for your interest in the Creative Connections program!