Call for Applications for Artist-in-Residence Program (ArtReach Partnership: Vashon High School)

Session: Quarters 3 and 4

Our partner: Vashon High School

First founded in 1927, Vashon is the second oldest historically black high school west of the Mississippi River. Three campuses later, the high school presently lies on Cass Avenue in St. Louis' JeffVanderLou neighborhood. The school has been a focus of the St. Louis Public School initiative to raise performance levels via partnerships with community organizations. In 2017, Vashon had been without a consistent art program for approximately five years. In response, the school partnered with the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis to bring a new, innovative art curriculum to the school. Each quarter, CAM invites a new resident artist to devise an original and challenging project proposal for up to three art classes, and then to guide students to the project's completion.

Our Mission

CAM's mission is to create meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. CAM's dedication to this cause is clearly visible in its commitment to the communities in its one-mile radius. As Vashon lies a mere four-minute drive from the museum, a partnership between the two organizations seemed a natural fit. ArtReach Partnership: Vashon seeks to use contemporary art as a vehicle for multidisciplinary learning, self-discovery, and skill-building. At the same time, it exposes students to local artists and other art professionals working in the community.

The Residency

CAM seeks two local artists to develop a project-oriented curriculum for high school art students in collaboration with CAM Learning & Engagement staff and Vashon faculty. Previous resident artists have included Roland Houston, [Sarah Harford](#), [Tiffany Sutton](#), [Lizzy Martinez,](#) [Lois Ingrum,](#) [Natalie Pinson,](#) and [Marley Bellman](#). Past projects include a [sculptural cardboard box installation, paper and printmaking](#), [digital portraiture](#), and [assemblage installation](#). Completed student projects from the first two quarters will be on display in CAM's education gallery during the fall with more opportunities to exhibit throughout the year.

Check out press for our photography students' show at UrbArts last May:
[Vashon Through a Lens Features Student Subjects — and Photographers](#)
["Vashon through a Lens" shows off the work of student photographers](#)

Spring 2021 semester:

Goals:
- Expose the students to the artistic techniques and creative process of the artist's practice
- Give students a platform for self-discovery and expression
- Expose students to the manifold occupational options in the arts
- Increase student visual literacy and their ability to articulate ideas

Conditions of the Residency:
- The Residency will take place during one of the two quarters of the spring 2021 school semester. Each residency will be approximately 10 weeks long

- The artist will receive a stipend of approximately $1,300
- If selected the artist must be available throughout the entirety of a quarter* to:
    - Respond to time-sensitive e-mail correspondence throughout and leading up to the program
    - Work with the School and Community Programs Manager to develop curriculum that will enable the classes to acquire the knowledge, skills, and technique required to complete their respective projects
    - Be available to teach virtually from 8:00 AM to 11:30 AM on Mondays and Wednesdays
    - Be available to teach virtually for **approximately 40 hours of classroom instruction**
    - Help/direct/be present for final installation/opening night/other culminating events**.
- It is preferable that the artist have a prior teaching experience

To apply, send a resume, letter of interest, and any supplemental materials to Miriam Ruiz at mruiz@camstl.org. Applications should be received by November 10th.

*Third quarter: Jan 4th-Mar 12th; fourth quarter: Mar 29th-June 3rd
**Details dependent upon project