



Job Posting: Design Faculty (one position)

About GSA

Kentucky's Governor's School for the Arts (GSA) is an immersive residential summer program that empowers the Commonwealth's next generation of creative leaders. The GSA summer program convenes a community of high school rising juniors and seniors from across the state to live in residency for three weeks of intensive college-level training under the guidance of a faculty of professional teaching artists.

At its core, GSA is a youth empowerment program; we strive to affirm, inspire, and uplift our students toward embracing their identity, power, and potential as artists. The program emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration, the impact that artist-citizens can make in their communities, and accessible college/career pathways that leverage students' creative gifts.

Students are selected through a competitive application process in one of GSA's nine core artforms: Creative Writing, Dance, Design, Drama, Film + Photography, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Visual Art, and Vocal Music. The program represents a partnership between Kentucky's Tourism, Arts, & Heritage Cabinet and Kentucky Performing Arts, a non-profit organization based in Louisville, KY with a statewide mission. The summer program doubled in size in 2022 and will accept a total of over 500 students for two separate summer sessions in 2025.

About GSA's Design Program

GSA's Design program accepts students interested in architecture, interior design, product design, graphic design, fashion design, or other related design interests. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of design, iteration, and design, processes, and techniques that are applicable to a variety of design fields while at GSA. The goal of the program is to provide the framework within which students can explore the social, cultural, spatial, environmental, and abstract concepts that affect design. Project assignments focus on developing fundamental design skills, and creative and analytical design techniques they will use in future design programs. Design thinking is introduced through a series of projects, which include drawing, sculpture, and digital media exercises, as part of an iterative process. The studio curriculum is supplemented with discussions, critiques, notable examples, cross-disciplinary works, field trips, and guest artists - allowing students to observe and discuss design critically. Student work is curated for a public exhibition on the final day of GSA and prepared for collegiate portfolios, including digital documentation of their work.

We anticipate that many of our students will have varying backgrounds, interest, and experience levels outside or in addition to the fields of architecture and design. Previous experience with design is optional for student applicants, most high schools do not have design programs.

About this position

The Design faculty consists of two independent contractors who are supported by a teaching assistant. They guide a class of approximately 16 young artists who have been selected from across Kentucky through a competitive application process.

GSA seeks a faculty member for the summer 2025 Design program who has experience developing curriculum, working with young students, and can navigate a studio environment that is adaptable and responsive to student needs. Applicants with experience in design fields both within and outside of architecture are encouraged and welcome to apply.

The 2025 Design program will take place at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY. Important dates for this commitment are as follows:

Sunday, March 23, 2025: Faculty Planning Kick-Off Meeting (in-person in Lexington, KY or virtual attendance via Zoom)

April/May: Faculty work together to plan curriculum; this work can take place remotely and the pace/distribution of planning tasks is mostly self-directed by faculty. All faculty must participate in planning as a team.

SESSION 1

June 5, 6 & 7: Faculty arrival, orientation, and studio set-up

June 8 - 28: GSA program

June 29: Faculty depart campus

This position pays a base stipend of \$4,850; housing, food, laundry facilities, and campus parking are provided at no expense to faculty. A transportation stipend is provided to faculty who live more than 60 miles round trip from Lexington, KY. During the summer program, instructional days start as early as 9:00 a.m. and end as late as 10:00 p.m. Studio sessions take place seven days a week, although there are breaks scheduled in for faculty.

Position requirements:

- Master's Degree or equivalent in teaching or practical experience.
- Experience in studio teaching; experience working with high school students preferred
- Experience teaching foundation-level two and three-dimensional design
- Experience teaching software to beginning design students
- Experience teaching digital and analog methods
- Ability and desire to collaborate with colleagues and proficiently function in a high-paced and intense learning environment.
- Ability and desire to mentor, teach, and lead a diverse group of students while maintaining a safe, affirming, and supportive classroom environment.
- Ability to live in residence during three weeks of summer program.
- This position will be offered contingent upon satisfactory results of a background check. The background check is only required if the position is offered; GSA covers the expense of the check.

To apply:

Please submit the following materials via [this link](#). Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their materials by end of day Friday, January 24th, although applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Reference List
- A portfolio of no more than 20 pages/images that showcase a some or all of the following categories:
 - Professional work. This can include built, in-progress, or speculative projects if applicable.
 - Examples of teaching experience. This can include student work or assignments.
 - Research that is consistent with either GSA's values or your personal design experience.

While application materials should be submitted via the above link, please direct any questions to gsainfo@kentuckyperformingarts.org or 502.566.5192.