



ARTIST APPLICATION 2009-2010

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Thursday March 26th
5:00 – 6:30PM
205 W. Randolph Suite 1700

DEADLINE

Friday April 10, 2009



ABOUT URBAN GATEWAYS

The mission of Urban Gateways is to ignite the full creative potential of all young people.

Urban Gateways Center for Arts Education specializes in bringing the best of the visual, literary, media and performing arts to children in school-based and community settings throughout the Chicago area. Founded in 1961, UG excels at deepening the artistic experience for all youth by ensuring that the arts play a critical role in every child's education.

As the oldest and largest multidisciplinary arts organization in Chicago, we pride ourselves on and are known for the scope of arts programming, the quality of artist training, the reputation of our teaching artists and our responsiveness to diverse school populations and needs.

Every art. Every child. Every day.

We believe that active engagement and education in the arts are essential components of every individual's academic, aesthetic and personal development.

We accomplish our mission by promoting and fostering learning in and through the arts within the Chicago metropolitan area.

We believe in:

- **Equitable access to the arts:** all children must have the opportunity to be regularly engaged in meaningful artistic experiences
- **Diversity:** broad forms of creative expression enrich the learning process
- **Artist as educator:** the artist brings unique perspectives and skills to the learning process that catalyze young people's development in profound ways
- **Collaboration:** working together we succeed; everyone has a part to play in furthering arts education for our youth

State Standards in Fine Arts

Each of our programs is developed in connection with the Fine Arts Standards established by the Illinois State Board of Education and familiarizes students with the following goals:

- Goal 25: Know the language of the arts**
Through observation, discussion, interpretation and analysis, students learn the "language" of the arts. They learn to understand how others express ideas in dance, drama, music and visual art forms.
- Goal 26: Through creating and performing, understand how works of art are produced**
Students acquire skills to produce and perform dance, drama, music and visual art. As students create and perform their own artworks and review the works of others, they become more imaginative, strengthen their problem-solving skills and learn to respond to the creativity of others.
- Goal 27: Understand the role of the arts in civilization, past and present**
Artists are influenced by—and influence—the times and places in which they live and work. As students learn through the arts about people and civilizations, they learn about others and themselves.

ARTIST APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Applicants may apply as a **teaching** or **touring** artist. If applying for both areas, please complete a separate application for each area.
- Urban Gateways artist **contracts are annual**.
- All artists must be **available a minimum of two weekdays**.
- Applications will not be considered unless your ensemble (touring artists) is **available from 7:30 am – 6:00 PM** at least one school day a week.
- New artists **provide background and program information** used in the development of educational materials.
- Artist **fees are competitive** with industry rates.

Criteria for Acceptance

Artist applications are reviewed and auditioned by a panel consisting of Urban Gateways staff, artists, educators, and students. Artists must be currently working professionally in their discipline, but previous teaching experience is not mandatory. Urban Gateways provides training for all new artists.

For 2009-2010 school year we are seeking the following disciplines:

- Musicians (Teaching Artists)
- Literary Artists (Teaching Artists)
- Digital Media Artists (Teaching Artists)
- Hip Hop musicians/dancers (Teaching Artists)
- Graphic/animation artists (Teaching Artists)
- Performing artists of all disciplines (Touring Artists)

The review panel appraises each application based on:

- Artistic quality
- Supporting materials
- Urban Gateways need/interest in the artistic discipline or performance
- Personal interview/audition
- Applicant's available time for professional development and site assignments

Application Requirements

For Teaching Artist Applicants

- A completed artist information form and questionnaire
- Resume
- Example of artistic work that may include slides, photographs, creative writing samples, link to website, and/or video, DVD, CD Rom. Limit number of slides to 8.
- Two references—may be in the form of published reviews or letters that address your professional experiences.
- Additional relevant literature or materials. Please limit the number of newspaper/magazine articles to 3.

For Touring Artists and/or Ensemble Applicants

- A completed artist information form and questionnaire
- Resume of the artist and/or ensemble
- Video, DVD, or CD Rom footage of the piece you intend to audition, or a selection from a different performance by the ensemble. Please limit the footage to 10 minutes and cue the tape to the selection to be previewed.
- A typed description of the performance
- Reviews or articles on the company and/or artists. Please limit selections to 3 reviews and/or articles.
- A copy of the script, if available/applicable
- Two references—references may be in the form of published reviews or letters that address your professional experiences.

Please note: application materials will not be returned unless accompanied by a **self-addressed stamped envelope with sufficient postage**. Application materials submitted by artists accepted to the Urban Gateways roster remain on file at Urban Gateways.

ARTIST DESCRIPTION

Teaching Artist

Urban Gateways teaching artists are committed to giving children, teachers, parents, and other adults access to the arts. Urban Gateways artists inspire students of all ages to discover the worlds inside themselves and around them. Urban Gateways artists challenge students to take risks and shake-up preconceptions. The artist understands the educational challenges teachers face and provide strategies for more effective instruction in the arts.

- Programs may be conducted during the school day, after school, and during the weekend.
- Programs are delivered to private and public school settings and community sites.
- The length of the program varies from one week to a full year.

Teaching artists deliver instruction in the following program areas:

- **Artist-in-Residence Programs**
These programs feature a professional artist who works in residence at a school or community site and works with educators and students to encounter their creative intentions, engage in the making of art, and reflect upon the process. This process integrates the arts into the educational experience of children, educators, and other adult caretakers and is adaptive to the unique context of each classroom setting.
- **Student Workshops**
Workshops actively engage students in creative writing, dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts. Each workshop is individually designed to expand students' knowledge of the arts while addressing the Illinois Learning Standards.
- **Professional Development Programs for Educators, Parents, and Community Members**
Urban Gateways offers intensive, hands-on, professional development workshops in which educators, parents, and other adult caretakers of children learn first-hand the process of making art and how to integrate the arts into the learning experiences of children. Each participant receives instruction that includes theoretical approaches, skill and technique building, and performance development.

Touring Artist or Ensemble

- Touring performances are **40 minutes in length**.
- Performances must be **adaptable for various settings** that may include school auditoriums, park district field houses, and professional stages.
- Touring performances must be **suitable for student audiences**. Artists must demonstrate an enthusiastic attitude towards performing for children.
- Touring performances are offered in dance, music, and theatre. There is no limit to the number of performers in your group, but please be advised that it is difficult for Urban Gateways to compensate large groups while keeping the cost to the client at a minimum.

All touring performances must contain or demonstrate the following:

- High quality artistry from the performers
- A strong educational foundation
- Visual elements (i.e. costumes, set)
- Audience engagement-that is, components that elicit active response from the audience
- A closure that summarizes the audience's experience

Artists must provide their own equipment and materials for the performance; musicians must have amplification systems.

Urban Gateways provides educational materials specifically designed for each performance. These materials include background information on the artists and the art form, and suggest ways to extend the arts experience into the classroom. The artists provide information used in these materials. **Urban Gateways staff will schedule an interview/audition for any artist or performance that fulfills the requirements.**



URBAN GATEWAYS ARTIST APPLICATION

Artist or Company Name _____

Contact Person (if different) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone day (____) _____ Evening (____) _____

E-mail _____

Artistic Discipline:

Choose Teaching, Touring, or both, and specify discipline.

Teaching Artist
(Check all that apply)

Digital Media

Hip Hop

Music

Graphic/Animation

Writing (Literary Arts)

Touring Performance
(Check all that apply)

Dance

Music

Theatre

Other _____

Date submitted _____

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY APRIL 10, 2009





URBAN GATEWAYS ARTIST APPLICATION

P. 3

3. What impact do you believe your professional work can have on students, teachers, and parents?
Please include why you are interested in working in educational settings.



URBAN GATEWAYS ARTIST APPLICATION

P. 4

SECTION II. TEACHING ARTISTS: Please answer the following questions if you are applying as a teaching artist.

1. Create a course description for a typical residency or workshop that you might lead as an Urban Gateways artist. Structure your description as if it were in a course catalogue.

2. Describe your art form and its cultural and historical contexts.



URBAN GATEWAYS ARTIST APPLICATION

P. 5

3. Describe how you present your art form to the students and/or teachers in the class.

