

The Washington State Arts Commission and Seattle Children's Theatre, in collaboration with: the National Endowment for the Arts, the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture, 4Culture, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Arts Corps present:

TATLAB | WASHINGTON STATE TEACHING ARTIST TRAINING LAB

**An eight-month professional development program for
Washington State teaching artists working in all artistic disciplines.**

TAT Lab 2015-2016 Application Deadline: July 16, 2015

INTRODUCTION

The Teaching Artist Training (TAT) Lab is an eight-month professional development program with a focus on supporting arts education as part of basic education in K-12 schools. Participants benefit from ongoing learning over eight months, individualized coaching from master teaching artists, connections to state and national organizations, and peer learning and reflection. The TAT Lab cohort will include up to 32 teaching artists, working in all artistic disciplines and all regions of Washington State. Further program details are below and at www.sct.org/For-Educators/TAT-Lab

TAT Lab is intended to support mid-career teaching artists as well those new to the field.

"TAT Lab gave me new perspectives on the learning process, on what it is exactly that I do in a classroom, how to quantify it and how to communicate it effectively to others"

-TAT Lab graduate, 2012

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

TAT Lab is based on the philosophy that reflective practice and thoughtful planning are essential to effective educational experiences – and a key building block for partnering with schools and classroom teachers. TAT Lab defines teaching artists as individuals who are both artists and educators: they are professional artists who are dedicated to arts education as an integral part of their professional practice; they cultivate skills as educators in concert with their skills as artists.

TAT Lab focuses on arts education in K-12 public schools. Working to ensure all students receive high quality arts education as part of basic education, with teaching artists playing a significant role, is core to the program philosophy. TAT Lab participants also work outside of K-12 schools; there is no one way to be a teaching artist. TAT Lab curriculum covers foundational concepts that support good teaching practice in a wide range of settings.

TAT LAB CURRICULUM

TAT Lab curriculum is informed by four key questions:

- What unique qualities do teaching artists bring to a classroom?
- What are “reflective practice” and “thoughtful planning” and why are they important?
- How can we teach arts skills along with higher order thinking skills and habits of mind?
- How do we create safe, inclusive, and effective learning environments for all students?

With these questions in mind, TAT Lab addresses both philosophical and nuts-and-bolts aspects of teaching artist practice, with a focus on instructional design: developing and articulating clear arts learning objectives and assessment strategies.

Join TAT Lab to:

- Learn about best practices in arts education through in-person workshops, reading assignments and discussion
- Develop strong and effective learning plans
- Receive ongoing, individualized support from teaching artist mentors and peers
- Learn how to collaborate with K-12 teachers and use state standards to support your work
- Connect with a community of dedicated teaching artists
- Gain skills to assess student learning in the arts
- Understand the role of social justice within the world of arts education
- Engage with 21st Century Skills and Habits of Mind

“The depth of planning and hours to make this a purposeful and quality training was amazing. I cannot say enough about how this will change my arts education practice.”

-TAT Lab graduate, 2013

SCHEDULE & PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

TAT Lab runs September 2015 - April 2016. Participant responsibilities include:

- Attendance at all in-person workshops (dates and times below)
- Participation in monthly teleconferences for small-group learning
- Complete readings and assignments following given deadlines
- Teach at least one workshop or residency between February 1 and March 20, 2016

**** Attendance and participation at all in-person sessions and teleconferences is mandatory. ****

In-person Workshop Dates (held in Seattle):

| September 2015 | November 2015 | April 2016 |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday, September 10, 3-7pm• Friday, September 11, 9am-5pm• Saturday, September 12, 9am-3pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday, November 6, 11am-5pm• Saturday, November 7, 9am-5pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thursday, April 7, 3-7pm• Friday, April 8, 9am-5pm• Saturday, April 9, 9am-3pm |

TUITION, SCHOLARSHIPS, SPONSORSHIPS & TRAVEL SUPPORT

Tuition for TAT Lab is \$600, which represents a significant reduction in the actual cost, thanks to our public funders. In addition to the workshops and teleconferences, tuition covers a resource notebook, one-one coaching from TAT Faculty, and meals at the in-person trainings.

Scholarship assistance is available although full scholarship is rare. Participants are generally expected to pay a minimum of \$300. Scholarship decisions are based on a variety of factors, including demographic variables, applicant suitability for the program, and the applicant resources.

Separate from program scholarships, arts and education organizations are encouraged to support professional development for their teaching artists by covering a portion of TAT Lab tuition. Sponsorship forms are available at www.sct.org/For-Educators/TAT-Lab; sponsorship forms received by July 16 will serve as a positive supplement to other application materials.

Travel support is available for participants commuting to in-person sessions from outside King County. TAT Lab endeavors to include cohort members from all parts of Washington State. Participants may request reimbursement for expenses such as lodging and transportation. We strive to devote as much of our budget to programming as we can, and will minimize travel expenses by asking participants to share hotel rooms, carpool as possible, etc.

"I am so glad that I was able to connect with so many teaching artists across so many disciplines – seeing teaching through another art form really helped me see how I could expand my own teaching."

-TAT Lab graduate, 2014

PROGRAM PARTNERS

TAT Lab is taught and produced as a partnership between arts organizations and independent teaching artists. Bios available at www.sct.org/For-Educators/TAT-Lab/Faculty.

TAT Lab Faculty and Advisors:

Daemond Arrindell, Independent Artist and Teaching Artist
Anne Banks, Program Supervisor for the Arts, Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction
Kayti Bouljon, Education Director, Pacific Northwest Ballet
Lisa Jaret, Arts Education Program Manager, Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA)
Tina LaPadula, Education Director, Arts Corps
Darwin Nordin, Independent Artist and Teaching Artist
Karen Sharp, Education and Interim Managing Director, Seattle Children's Theatre

We are grateful to the organizations that created the original version of TAT Lab in 2005: Denver Center for the Performing Arts, the Shakespeare Theatre Company in D.C., and the Seattle Repertory Theatre. We are also grateful to Seattle Rep for their role in evolving the model to serve all artistic disciplines, and partnering with the Washington State Arts Commission to develop the current statewide program, which launched in 2011. In 2014, Seattle Children's Theatre became the hosting program partner, joining other founding partners.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Deadline: Friday, July 16, 2015

All application elements (full application, resume, and sample lesson plan) must be received by this date. Participants will be notified by July 31, 2015 of their status. First tuition payment will be due by August 28, 2015.

Basic Eligibility

Applicants must:

- live or work in Washington State
- have prior experience as a teaching artist (experience working in K-12 schools is a plus)

TAT Lab welcomes certified K-12 teachers, particularly arts specialists, as well as teaching artists. Clock Hours are available through OSPI at no additional charge.

Step 1: Interest Form

Teaching artists interested in applying should complete the online information form at <http://www.sct.org/For-Educators/TAT-Lab/Request-Information>. After completing this form, you will receive an email with a link to the full online application.

Step 2: Full Application

The full application includes questions about your background and experience, as well as three narrative questions (100-200 words). Consider these questions in advance:

- *What do you hope to get out of TAT Lab? Why are you drawn to this professional development opportunity at this time? In what areas do you hope to grow?*
- *Describe your experience as a teaching artist: types of classes, students, past success, etc.*
- *Why are you drawn to this work? What motivates you to teach your art form to young people?*

Step 3: Supplemental Materials

In addition to the online application form, applicants must submit a

- Resume- addressing training and experience both as an artist and teaching artist
- Sample lesson plan- reflecting a typical workshop/residency for a K-12 public school, including: arts learning goals, age group, length of time, and reflection and/or assessment strategies (1-3 pages)
- These items must be emailed as attachments, either as a Word document or as a PDF, to TATLab@sct.org with the subject line "TAT Lab Application."

Application Evaluation

The following factors will be taken into consideration for building a diverse and dynamic cohort:

- Geographic diversity and racial/ethnic diversity: teaching artists of color and/or outside the Puget Sound region are encouraged to apply
- Inclusion of a variety of artistic disciplines
- Range of teaching experience: emerging as well as more experienced teaching artists
- Applicant's clarity of purpose about their work and professional development goals
- Applicant's demonstrated commitment to complete all aspects of TAT curriculum

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & APPLICATION LINKS:

More information and Application Links are at www.sct.org/For-Educators/TAT-Lab

If you have any questions about TAT Lab or the application process, please contact:

Karen Sharp (karens@sct.org; 206-443-0807) or

Lisa Jaret (lisa.jaret@arts.wa.gov; 360-586-2418)