Call for Educators and Artists

The Office of Child Development announces a call to Pittsburgh-based early childhood educators and Africana* artists for the P.R.I.D.E. Pop Up Mini Arts Festivals Project! This call is open to educators teaching grades pre-k through 3rd grade and Africana artists working in the following art disciplines:

Literature • Performing Arts • Visual Arts • Multidisciplinary Arts

APPLICATION DEADLINE is MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017, 11:59 p.m.

One Pop Up Festival will be hosted in each of three neighborhoods in August, September, and October 2017.

Selected educators receive a $260 stipend for participation in a June cross-training session; artists receive a $1,040 artist fee and a $300 materials budget for participation in the June cross-training and for participating in all three festivals. As a bonus incentive, participating artists will have the chance to be selected as the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh’s 2018 F.I.N.E. Art Resident where he or she will receive a $2,000 stipend and a $300 materials budget. (See below for more residency details.)

About the P.R.I.D.E. Project

The P.R.I.D.E. (Positive Racial Identity Development in Early Education) Project is a multi-faceted program that grew out of the P.R.I.D.E. Report and is designed to help adults learn to build positive racial identity in young children. When children have a positive racial identity, they understand and are able to fully embrace their race and culture with dignity. In addition to the festivals, which represent the arts component of P.R.I.D.E., the project will: offer professional development; present a speaker series; coordinate parent groups; and conduct research and evaluation, all to build positive racial identity in Pittsburgh’s African American children.

P.R.I.D.E. Pop Ups Overview

Building on the model of children’s activities offered during the widely popular Harambee II Black Arts Festivals, the P.R.I.D.E. Pop Ups Arts Festivals will consist of indoor and outdoor mini arts festivals that travel to 3 Pittsburgh communities; Homewood, the Hill District, and East Liberty, in August, September and October 2017. During the half day festivals, artists will engage children aged 3-8 and their families in developmentally-appropriate interactive arts activities. The project is designed to enable adults to use the activities to teach young African American children about their race and culture and build their positive racial identity.

P.R.I.D.E. Pop Up Festival Plan

1) Prior to the festivals, artists and educators will participate in a 4-hour training session. Artists, matched with educators, share learning about early childhood development (teacher to artist) and about P.R.I.D.E. and Africana arts (artist to teacher). Each artist-teacher team will create a developmentally-appropriate P.R.I.D.E. activity for children aged 3-8. During the sessions, teachers will be encouraged to think of ways to integrate the activities into their classrooms. Participants will also brainstorm ways parents can extend the P.R.I.D.E. activities at home.

2) During the festivals artists will engage children and families in their unique P.R.I.D.E. art activity at individual festival stations.

* People of African descent
Who Can Apply

1) Applications are open to early childhood educators (teaching pre-k-3rd grade). Professionals teaching Black/African American students in East Liberty, Homewood and the Hill District are preferred (however, selection is open to teachers working in other neighborhoods). Black/African American educators are strongly encouraged to apply. Teachers working in any setting including public, private, charter, center-based, or licensed home child care are open to apply. Preference is also for educators with solid knowledge and experience in child development and with experience creating age-appropriate interactive activities. Must be willing to collaborate with Africana artists on activity development.

2) Africana artists across disciplines, must be open to collaborating with an early childhood educator on activity development; must be willing to present activities to families at all three festivals.

Availability Requirements

The 2017 P.R.I.D.E. Pop Ups cycle begins June 2017 and ends November 2017. The project is looking for educators and artists committed to participating for the duration of the process. Stronger applicants will be available for all of the following dates:

- Educator/Artist cross-training (mandatory) Saturday, June 24, 2017, 12-4 pm, Repair the World
- P.R.I.D.E. Pop Up #1 (East Liberty) Saturday, August 5, 2017, 12-4 pm
- P.R.I.D.E. Pop Up #2 (Homewood), Saturday, September 16, 2017, 12-4 pm
- P.R.I.D.E. Pop Up #3 (Hill District) Saturday, October 14, 2017, 12-4 pm

Artists are required to attend all three festivals; educators are welcome and encouraged to come and observe. Artists must be set up and prepared to begin activities promptly at 12:00 p.m. Set up and clean up time is not included in compensation.

Compensation

Educators will receive a payment of $260 ($65 per hour x 4hrs) following participation in the artist-educator cross-training.

Artists will receive a payment of $260 ($65 per hour x 4hrs) following participation in the artist-educator cross-training. They will also receive a materials stipend of no more than $300 following submission of a materials budget after the cross-training. Artists will be paid for event participation in 3 installments of $260 following each festival for a total of $1,040 ($65 per hour x 16hrs). Artists will receive an additional $25 for participation in a debriefing focus group shortly after the October Pop Up.

All payments will be distributed in a timely fashion following completion of paperwork, including submission of invoices.

Children’s Museum Of Pittsburgh F.I.N.E. Artist Residency

Following the third Pop Up event, one participating artist will be selected from the artist cohort by P.R.I.D.E. staff as the 2018 F.I.N.E. Art resident for the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh (CMOP). The F.I.N.E. (Fresh • Innovative • Nonstop • Expression) Artist Residency Program is funded by a grant from the Fine Foundation. The artist selected will lead a program that teaches museum visitors, staff and educators how to use art as a platform for creating community conversations about weighty issues. The selectee will receive a $2,000 artist fee and a $300 materials budget. The selected artist will adapt and implement their P.R.I.D.E. Pop Up Festival activity for the CMOP space and audience. Interested artists will complete one hour of observation at the CMOP’s Maker’s Space and Arts Studio (required) following the P.R.I.D.E. artist-educator cross-training sometime between June 24 and August 30, 2017, to be considered for selection as a F.I.N.E. Art Resident. Learn more about the F.I.N.E. Artist Residency Program here.

How To Apply

Interested artists and educators should complete the P.R.I.D.E. Pop Ups application. Deadline for application is Monday, May 22, 2017, 11:59 pm.

If you have any questions, email or call P.R.I.D.E. Project Director of Engagement, Medina Jackson mjackson@pitt.edu, 412-383-7019.