



Youth Artist Assistants Program (YAAP)

Are you interested in a career in the arts? Do you want to gain hands-on experience teaching art to kids? Coyote Central is looking for creative young folks to join our **Youth Artists Assistants Program (YAAP)**! Youth Artist Assistants have an excitement for the arts and support Teaching Artists in studio courses at Coyote Central during the Summer.

What you'll be doing:

- Supporting a Teaching Artist during Summer courses, working directly with Coyote youth
- Helping the Teaching Artist with classroom setup and cleanup, as well as supporting students individually with creative tasks (like finding materials, supporting gluing, threading a needle, chopping ingredients, etc)
- Assisting in classroom demonstrations
- Helping students work through their creative process and the challenges that may come with it
- Bringing enthusiasm and positive energy to the classroom to encourage students to participate and feel confident in class
- Representing Coyote as a role model - you'll be someone for younger students to look up to!

Qualities we look for in a Youth Artist Assistant:

- Is between 15-19 years old
- Has an interest in the creative arts or in working with kids ages 10-15
- Has prior experience working with youth (preferred, but not required)
- Has experience in the creative mediums being offered at Coyote Central (preferred, but not required)
- Will be a team player!
- Is willing and excited to learn new things
- Has strong communication skills, both with youth and adults
- Is able to maintain patience while assisting struggling students of all backgrounds
- Is a leader, and someone for younger students to relate to and look up to
- Is familiar with Coyote's mission and community agreements, and is willing to enforce them as needed

Why be a volunteer youth mentor?

- Gain volunteer service hours (SPS students need 60 hours before graduation!)
- Get time to work on or make your own creative projects
- Work directly under a professional artist with the opportunity for mentorship and advice
- Bridge a path to becoming a teaching artist with hands on experience in arts education
- Gain skills for adaptability, creative thinking, teaching, supervising, and mentoring
- Stay connected to the Coyote Central community!

The commitment:

Each Coyote course during the summer is 4 hours long, Monday-Friday, from 9am-1pm or 1:30-5:30pm. Summer courses typically run from the week after July 4th until the last week of August. We ask that our Youth Artist Assistants commit to attending ALL sessions of at least *one week* during the summer. Youth Artist Assistants may participate in *up to 4 weeks of courses*. In your application, you will be able to request which weeks you would prefer to work. We also require presence at our Beginning of Summer Mentor meeting/training, which will take place in June (date TBD).

How to apply

To apply, fill out [this application](#) by May 15th. Interviews will take place in late May/Early June.

About Coyote Central/commitment to equity

MISSION: Our mission is to spark creativity in young people, putting tools in their hands to build skills and forge their futures.

VISION: An equitable world powered by curiosity, creativity, and collaboration.

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY: Coyote Central strives to lead with equity in everything we do. We acknowledge that our communities have been adversely affected by long standing white supremacy and privilege, creating barriers in access to creative opportunities for low-income communities, immigrant and refugee communities, and communities of color. We aim to dismantle these barriers by engaging diverse voices in our decision-making processes and continually pursuing new knowledge about equity.

We start with a racial equity lens but also address inequities in income, gender identity, culture, language, ability, and any other oppression that our community might experience.

COYOTE VALUES:

We believe in...

- **YOUTH IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT:** It is the heart of what we do. We count on self-reliance to fuel curiosity and creativity.
- **FEARLESS EXPLORATION:** We trust the process of taking creative risks. There is no one path and no one right answer.
- **REALIZING POTENTIAL:** We rely on challenges and high stakes to encourage surprising outcomes and self-discovery.
- **EXPERTS AND BEGINNERS SIDE BY SIDE:** We thrive in collaborative spaces where everyone is an equal partner in learning.
- **MAGNETIC CONNECTIONS:** Our collective success is built on listening, powerful relationships, and igniting one another's strengths.
- **HAVING FUN:** Creativity is contagious. Spread the joy.