

Saturday, February 2, 2019

## 2019 Summer Arts Program Lead Counselor

Company: Brooklyn Arts Exchange  
Location: Brooklyn, NY  
Compensation: 15/hr

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At BAX, we foster creativity, encourage exploration, and provide a positive and nurturing environment. Our School Breaks Arts Program provides enriching and fun opportunities in dance, tumbling, theater, circus, and visual arts with an emphasis on cultivating creative expression. Working with professional performing arts and visual arts specialists, students get to experience the exhilaration of being an artist whether at age 4.5 or 11.

### SUMMER ARTS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Monday July 1, 2019 – Friday August 16, 2019 from 9:00am to 3:00pm (7 weeks; no program July 4th)

Early Bird drop-off (limited spots) starting 8:00am; Regular drop-off starting from 8:30am to 9am; Early Extended Day program from 3:00 – 5:45pm.

### PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Approx. 70 children entering Kindergarten – 6

th grades (age range: 4 1/2 -11) separated into three total groups:

GigaBAXers – entering 4th grade – 6

th grade (max group size per week is 25)

MegaBAXers – entering 2nd grade – 3

rd grade (max group size per week is 25)

NanoBAXers – entering Kindergarten – 1st grade (max group size per week is 20)

No special talent or experience is required of students – students come in with all levels of skill and interest in any given discipline.

The Mega and GigaBAXers explore a different arts specialty each week, working with a dedicated guest arts specialist (one per group for each week) to build their skills and foster their creativity throughout the week. Each week culminates in an informal performance in the BAX Theater for friends and families.

Mega and Giga-BAXer Art Specialties Include: Theater Mania, Tumble Moves, You've Gotta Have Art, Musical Madness, Dance Frenzy, and Producing Podcasts.

The NanoBAXers engage each week in a different exploratory theme through a variety of art specialties each day. Nanos work with a new guest arts specialist every day to create work that is collected and presented in a gallery-style sharing at the end of the week.

Nano Exploratory Themes Include: Free to be you and Me!, Mapping My Way, Mythical Mammals, Homelands and Heartlands, Fairy Tale Fantastic, Around the World in Five Days, Beach Blanket Bingo.

The Summer Arts Program is overseen by the School Breaks Director and Education Department staff. Additionally, each group is supervised and supported by a core staff with one Group Leader, one Lead Counselor, and two to three additional Junior and Senior Counselors (staffing structure varies slightly from group to group). These staff members remain with students throughout the day and throughout the summer, provide support to the guest arts specialists, and facilitate additional activities and projects that relate to the weekly discipline/theme and support the culminating performance/gallery.

Similarly, there is an Outdoor and Extended Day staff that works with all the children during their lunch w/ structured play in a local park and following regular program hours during "Extended Day" from 3:00pm to 5:45pm (registration is capped at 23-25 students and confirmed 24 hours in advance). Extended Day also provides a crucial break and prep time support to regular program staff during the outdoor play times. During these times, all students (ranging from Nanos to Gigas) engage in structured, but flexible activities led by this staff. The outdoor play includes non-competitive recreational activities and Extended Day programming includes a range of performing arts and visual arts activities, small/large group games (board games, improv, etc.), set-building, and more. Often activities planned during the Extended day program support the week's culminating performance and may include set/prop construction.

### LEAD COUNSELOR POSITION DESCRIPTION:

We are seeking one Lead Counselor to work with each of our groups: NanoBAXers, MegaBAXers, GigaBAXers, and Outdoor/Extended Day.

Lead Counselors will be a primary support to their assigned Group Leader and work in close collaboration with their Group Leader to establish daily program structure and build an inclusive student, group, and staff culture. In addition to mentoring a diverse population of student participants, Lead Counselors will also serve as peer-mentors and role models for high school and early college age Junior and Senior Counselor staff. To do this job successfully, Lead Counselors should have familiarity with the educational and age appropriate needs of children in the program and demonstrate a collaborative, flexible spirit and willingness to engage proactively in issues of diversity and inclusion as it relates to our student and staff populations. This includes employing adaptive and diverse teaching and learning strategies. Lead Counselors will be expected to be the primary supervisor of students and peer staff in their Group Leader's absence (during a break or in the event of illness, etc.) and should have sufficient teaching/facilitation and experience working with children.

Responsibilities include (varies slightly from group to group):

i?? Participate in two weeks of training, which will occur in the evenings and select weekend dates during the two weeks prior to the start of the program (Weeks of June 17-July 1, 2019; specific schedule TBA in contracts);

i?? Assist Group Leader with establishing the daily schedule, including arrival and departure procedures, program and workshop transitions, travel to and from the park for lunch or outdoor play, snacks and clean-up;

i?? Support Group Leader and Guest Arts Specialists during their lessons/activities as necessary;

i?? Plan and facilitate original artistic Counselor-led lesson plans and activities ("CLA") that supplement weekly performing arts curriculum and appeal to different kinds of learners;

i?? Support Guest Arts Specialist and Group Leader in preparing for the culminating share/performance at the end of each week, and participate in culminating share as necessary;

i?? Resolve conflicts among children;

i?? Communicate incidents (physical, emotional, etc.) that take place during the day to Group Leader and Program Director to ensure proper follow up;  
i?? Supervise and organize children in small groups;  
i?? Prepare and provide snack;  
i?? Daily cleaning of space before and after program;  
i?? Supervise Early-Bird Drop Off program participants on a rotating basis (small group of 10 children maximum).  
This responsibility does not apply to Outdoor/Extended Day staff.

**POSITION REQUIREMENTS:**

Lead Counselors must be at least college aged students or early career teaching artists/educators with prior experience working with youth in a leadership role and expertise or experience in a specific arts or recreation discipline. Prior experience within a summer camp and/or classroom setting is strongly preferred. Experience working with children with special needs is a strong plus.

Lead Counselors will ideally be able to commit to working the entirety of the 7-week Summer Arts Program. Priority may be given to applicants who are able to commit to a greater portion of the summer and have previous experience working at BAX.

**HOURS & COMPENSATION:**

Hours for Counselors assigned to Nano, Mega, and Giga Groups:

Hours for counselors are 7:30am – 4:00pm on Mondays and 8:00-4:00pm, Tuesdays-Fridays (hours for Giga counselors on Fridays will be 8:00-6:00pm). Lead Counselors will also be required to arrive early at 7:30 am approximately once per week to supervise our Early Bird Drop-Off program that begins at 8:00 am.

Hours for Counselors assigned to Outdoor/Extended Day

Hours for counselors are approximately 10:00am – 6:30pm, Mondays-Fridays with the possibility of early dismissal.

Lead Counselors will receive an hourly wage of \$15/hour.

**TO APPLY:**

Please send the following materials via e-mail only, and address to Education Director, Lucia Scheckner: [education@bax.org](mailto:education@bax.org). Please write "Lead Counselor SAP 2019" in the subject line. You will receive an auto-reply confirming our receipt. Due to high volume of applicants, however, we will only contact candidates we are inviting to interview. No phone calls. Positions will be filled on a rolling basis.

Include:

i?? A cover letter including the specific Lead Counselor position you are interested in and why. Cite specific professional experiences that make you qualified for this particular leadership position;

i?? A current resume highlighting your related experience and education;

i?? Two Employment/Character references including professional titles, contact number and/or emails.

The most successful applicants will become familiar with BAX, our education philosophy, and our summer program.

More information is available on our website: <http://youth.bax.org/general-information/school-breaks/>

**ABOUT BAX/Brooklyn Arts Exchange:**

BAX welcomes students, families, faculty, and artists to BAX, an organization with a core commitment to social justice.

In keeping with BAX's mission to "encourage artistic risk taking and stimulate dialogue among diverse constituencies"

we intentionally and purposefully support the voices of under-represented individuals and groups of all origins, ages, abilities, races, sexual orientations, and genders – including trans identified individuals, or those with varied immigration statuses. All our constituents join an organization whose staff and Board is actively engaged in challenging the manifestations of whiteness, able-bodiedness and privilege as part of our ongoing anti-racist efforts and our other anti-oppression, pro-inclusion work. As an equal opportunity employer committed to creating and developing an inclusive staff team, people of color and individuals of diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply.

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Brooklyn Arts Exchange  
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[Brooklyn Arts Exchange](http://www.brooklynartsexchange.org)

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For more information:  
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