

# GLASS ROOTS

## *Hot Shop Apprentice*

*Beginning Late Summer 2016*

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### **SUMMARY**

GlassRoots is a glass art education program in Newark, NJ whose mission is to ignite and build the creative and economic vitality of greater Newark, with a focus on underserved youth and young adults, through the transformative power of the glass art experience. We are a nonprofit and we function as a supportive team to accomplish our mission. We are seeking a hot shop apprentice to become a part of GlassRoots team in an opportunity to hone and advance skills as a studio technician, assistant glassblower, teacher and demonstrator. GlassRoots is willing to make a serious investment in our new apprentice and requests a minimum two year commitment in return.

The Apprentice should have an Associate's Degree or higher, be able to present a clear background check and fingerprint screening. While previous glassblowing experience is preferred, it is not required.

The position reports to the Program Director, under the direct supervision of the lead glassblowing instructor; work is reviewed through inspection and observation of results.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- A love of working with kids and teens
- A hunger for developing glassmaking skills
- Flexibility to shift from one task to another in a very short period of time
- An ability to work during non-traditional hours
- A willingness to be creative about improvements we can make as a team and as an organization
- Focus and self-direction
- Interest in professional and artistic growth
- Understanding of the necessity for both inquisitiveness and willingness to take direction
- Willingness to learn equipment fabrication, including metal working, wood working, plumbing and understanding the operations and regular maintenance of the equipment

### **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKING CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL TASKS**

- Ability to work in an environment where temperatures occasionally exceed 100 degrees
- Ability to work flexible schedule
- Ability to lift 50 pounds
- General computer skills

### **OUR SUCCESSFUL APPRENTICE WILL LEARN TO**

1. Work with the Youth
  - We work with the kids to create glass pieces while building a space for a comprehensive human education. We teach glass art, design and business, but in the process touch upon many life

skills, and incorporate the common core educational curriculum and the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

2. Teach community classes and private lessons
  - Often requires availability some nights and weekends
3. Assist in Public Glassblowing Demonstrations
  - Mostly on site, but also at various locations via our portable hot shop
  - Includes speaking in front of crowds and narrating while working
4. Handle Studio Maintenance
  - Daily cleaning and reminders to students and renters about cleaning
  - Safety Orientations for students and renters with safety compliance monitoring
  - Organization of tools and equipment
  - Monitoring use of gases and other hazardous materials in the hot shop
  - Maintaining logs and records of studio maintenance
  - Awareness of safety considerations at all moments
5. Do Technical Studio Work
  - Providing technical support to teachers, students and renters
  - Charging the Furnace with Glass (requires ability to work late nights)
  - Repairing and building equipment in the hot and cold shops
  - Steel fabrication, welding, and woodworking
  - Mold making and casting of refractories
  - Awareness of safety considerations at all moments
6. Assist on Glass Blowing Commissions
  - Working on pieces large and small, sculptural and traditional vessels. Some mass commissions require an ability to work in a production style.
7. Learn Cold working
  - Finishing commission pieces, shop pieces, and class pieces.
  - Teaching the students how to use the equipment in the cold shop
  - Monitoring the student and renter use of the equipment.
8. Perform Administrative Tasks
  - Participation in organizational administrative meetings and requirements.
  - Participate in development and implementation of GlassRoots programs, classes, and special events.
  - Maintaining administrative logs for hot and cold shop use.

**Application Process:** To apply, submit cover letter that speaks to how you meet qualifications listed above, resume and salary requirements via email only to Barbara Heisler, Executive Director, at [bheisler@glassroots.org](mailto:bheisler@glassroots.org). No phone calls please. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. GlassRoots is an equal opportunity employer.