

GLASS ROOTS

10 Bleeker Street, Newark, NJ 07102 www.glassroots.org 973.353.9555

Glassblower Apprentice

GlassRoots is looking for a **full-time apprentice** to become a part of GlassRoots team working in a combined position including work as a studio technician, assistant glassblower, assistant glassblowing teacher and demonstrator. GlassRoots is willing to make a big investment in training for this individual, and for that reason, we will give preference to candidates willing to make a two year commitment.

GlassRoots, located in Newark, NJ, with the mission to transform the lives of underserved youth through the process of making glass art. We are a small nonprofit and we function as a supportive team to accomplish our mission.

The position reports to the Director of Programs, 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
- Inquisitive and willing to take direction

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
- Clear background check and fingerprint screening

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Previous glassblowing experience preferred but not required
- Associate Degree or higher educational experience
- Willingness to learn equipment fabrication, including metal working, wood working, plumbing and understanding the operations and regular maintenance of the equipment.

SUCCESSFUL APPRENTICE WILL LEARN TO

Work with the Youth

- We work with teens and young adults to create glass pieces while building a space for a comprehensive personal development. We teach glass art, design and business, but in the process touch upon many life skills, and incorporate an in-depth educational curriculum and the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Teach community classes and private lessons

- Willingness to learn best practices for teaching youth and adults, including individuals with special needs.
- Often requires availability some nights and weekends

Assist in Public Glassblowing Demonstrations

- Mostly on site, but also at various locations when we offer our portable hot shop
- Includes speaking in front of crowds and narrating the glassblowing process

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

Technical Studio Work

- Providing technical support to teachers, students and renters
- Charging furnaces with glass (often requires work outside of a traditional 9 – 5, including late nights)
- Repairing and building equipment in the hot and cold shops
- Steel fabrication, welding, and woodworking
- Mold making and casting of refractories

Assist in fulfilling Glass blown Commissions

- Working on pieces large and small, sculptural and traditional vessels. Some mass commissions require an ability to work in a production style.

Cold working

- Finishing commission pieces, shop pieces, and class pieces.

- Teaching students how to use the equipment in the cold shop
- Monitoring student and renter use of the equipment.

Administrative Tasks

- Participation in organizational administrative meetings and requirements.
- Participate in development and implementation of GlassRoots programs, classes, and special events.
- Maintaining logs for hot and cold shop use.

This is a full-time salaried position with benefits. As an apprentice in training, the salary will be in the low 30's.

Application Process: To apply, submit a cover letter that speaks directly to how you meet the qualifications of the job, and include a resume and salary requirements to Lisa Duggan, Program Director at lduggan@glassroots.org. No phone calls please. GlassRoots is an equal opportunity employer.