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## **Viola Teaching Artist Job Description**

September 7th, 2021-June 8th 2022

**Title:** Viola Teaching Artist  
**Reports to:** Director of Education  
**Start date:** September 7th, 2021

**Hours:** Appx. 10 hrs/week

**Pay Rate:** \$30/hour

**Review process:** The Viola Teaching Artist will participate in an in-depth annual review with the Director of Education.

### **Buffalo String Works' Mission**

Buffalo String Works strives to foster vibrant, inclusive communities through the transformative power of music. We provide rigorous music instruction and a creative home for refugee and immigrant children displaced from all over the world.

Our classes encourage a sense of community and possibility. For our students especially, the universal language of music can be a lifeline. We aim to cultivate a positive space that supports their development into curious, confident, committed individuals who make a difference in their new home: exceptional musicians who are also exceptional citizens. We are also a training ground for young artists and teachers. For those working with our students, we seek to provide a transformative experience that inspires a lifelong commitment to inclusive community-building through pedagogy and music. Through our programming, which also includes introducing acclaimed artists to underserved neighborhoods where they are rarely seen, Buffalo String Works transcends borders and bridges opportunity gaps between our students and their adopted city.

### **Responsibilities**

- Implement the Viola curriculum as articulated in the BSW curriculum
- Teach appropriate pedagogy to Viola students
- Complete weekly lesson plans and class reports

- Encourage learning in a positive environment that builds students' self-esteem and confidence
- Participate in weekly team meetings and monthly faculty meetings
- Participate in ongoing Professional Development workshops pertaining to pedagogy, cultural humility, and other related topics
- Communicate and build rapport with parents and students in the class
- Participate in up to 2 concerts per semester, playing/supervising students/planning etc.

**Minimum Qualifications (Education, Experience, Skills)**

- 4-year degree in Music or Fine Arts with specialization in stringed instruments, preferably Viola and/or Violin.
- 5 years strings teaching experience in high level, professional settings (general classroom, formal private lessons, and/or collegiate) - group class teaching experience preferred.
- Ability to be a strong role model for youth during all working hours.
- Strong commitment to the ideals and mission of El Sistema and Buffalo String Works.
- Ability to communicate and work with multiple constituencies, diverse personalities, and populations.
- Demonstrated experience working with underserved communities and marginalized populations
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills with demonstrated ability to effectively facilitate meetings, present publicly, and provide professional written information utilizing various media
- **Ability to work well on a team and in a high-pressure, multi-tasking environment, with strong communication skills**
- Strong desktop computer skills (business professional level) and excellent time management and organizational skills
- Must pass background check

To apply: Please send a current resume and a short paragraph outlining your teaching philosophy to Andrew Borkowski: [andrew@buffalostringworks.org](mailto:andrew@buffalostringworks.org)

***Buffalo String Works is an equal opportunity employer***

*We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees.*