

Job Description: Media Instructor



c/o: PO Box 206950 New Haven, CT 06520 phone: 203.776.4034 email: Imc@youthrightsmedia.org

ABOUT YOUTH RIGHTS MEDIA

Youth Rights Media is a nonprofit organization based in New Haven that is dedicated to empowering youth to protect and advance their rights in relation to the criminal justice system. YRM's work is grounded in the belief that youth who have been marginalized and stigmatized by the criminal justice system – and disregarded by the public at large – have the potential to become committed, focused, and passionate leaders. In order to create transformative leadership opportunities for traditionally disengaged youth, YRM engages young people in video media production and community organizing so that they are equipped with the tools, skills, and strategies for affecting change within themselves, their communities, and Connecticut's deeply troubled juvenile justice system.

YRM's accomplishes this mission through:

- *Youth Empowerment.* YRM empowers youth voice by channeling their collective insight. With programming that is anchored in popular education pedagogy, YRM provides youth with tools, skills, and strategies for analyzing and articulating the connections between community problems and social-political issues, thereby building youths' conviction in – and capacity for – creating positive social change.
- *Media Advocacy.* YRM weds youth media production with youth-led, workshop-based media distribution, thereby enabling young people to use their own video media productions as organizing tools. Youth have created numerous public service announcements in addition to documentary and dramatic films about youth-police relations, juvenile incarceration, drug policy, and the school to prison pipeline.
- *Community Partnerships.* YRM recognizes the importance of cultivating comprehensive partnerships that will maximize and sustain the impact of our young people's self-development and advocacy efforts. To this end, YRM works jointly with local public schools, juvenile detention centers, local law schools, the police department, public defenders, policymakers and media professionals in order to better serve young people in the surrounding community.

MEDIA INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Media Instructor will be responsible for developing and facilitating video-related programming at Youth Rights Media. Currently, YRM operates the Media Lab, an after-school program that meets twice weekly. In the Lab students discuss, plan, develop, and produce public service announcements and documentaries aimed at stimulating community change. As YRM's in-house technical media expert, the media instructor will work hand in hand with YRM's media coordinator, not only teaching youth production skills but also driving the creative production process. This is a part-time position.

The Media Instructor's responsibilities include (but are not limited to):

- **Provide Media Instruction and Support:** co-facilitate YRM's Media Lab program and support research, planning, production and satisfactory completion of youth public service announcements, documentary films, and other media projects.
- **Program Planning and Curriculum Development:** participate in weekly media program planning sessions and contribute to the development of media production and media literacy curriculum, including developing production workshops (on camera operations, framing, lighting, audio, logging, editing, etc.)
- **Organize and Maintain Media Files and Media Equipment:** manage and maintain media files for video programming and oversee inventory and general maintenance of YRM's media equipment.
- **Participate in other YRM program and staff meetings, events and retreats as required.**
- **Engage in media network development, including, but not limited to communication and outreach with other youth media organizations and distribution outlets and participation in relevant training sessions, site visits and/or seminars relating to youth media.**

QUALIFICATIONS

- Expertise in video media production, including use of DV cameras, audio recording, and lighting.
- Expertise with post-production software, including Final Cut Pro, Adobe Aftereffects, and DVD Studio Pro.
- Strong teaching and group facilitation skills
- Background in youth development and leadership

- Capacity to work in fluid, fast paced, youth-centered environment
- Familiarity/knowledge of New Haven community a plus
- Keen political/social/critical analysis skills
- Patience and a sharp sense of humor
- Commitment to social justice and youth movements

STARTING DATE
Summer 2006

SUBMISSION PACKAGE

Please submit materials that detail your interest, unique qualifications and other relevant information. At a minimum, application materials should include:

- Cover letter
- Resume detailing background and skills
- Names and numbers of three professional references.
- Sample reel of work with cover sheet explaining your role.

FINAL SUBMISSION DATE:
May 31, 2006

SEND SUBMISSION PACKAGE TO:
Laura McCargar
Youth Rights Media
PO Box 206950
New Haven, CT 06520
lmc@youthrightsmedia.org