



MANAGER, PROFESSIONAL LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

ArtSparks Foundation is an educational not-for-profit organization that works to support the development of 21st century learning and life skills in children, particularly children from under-served communities. ArtSparks also supports the professional development of teachers/facilitators, encouraging them to reflect on their teaching practice, and explore new ways to enrich their students learning.

What We Do?

At ArtSparks, we believe that a great education should equip children with skills to handle life's complexities—skills such as problem solving, flexible thinking, creative risk-taking, perseverance, collaboration, communication, and so much more. We believe that creativity is a critically important skill for the future with far reaching benefits. And, that visual art & design provide rich and diverse opportunities to help foster meaningful learning. Through our programs, we create vibrant opportunities for learning, through the arts, that help develop essential 21st century learning and life skills in children, Grades 1-8. And, we help build the capacity of teachers/facilitators to create more enriched learning environments for their students.

Why 21st Century Learning & Life Skills?

"21st century learning skills are increasingly being recognized as the skills that separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments in the 21st century, and those who are not" (Partnership for 21st Century Learning). In an age where change is the only constant, understanding and applying 21st century learning skills allows children to be adaptive and innovative in responding to new demands and changing circumstances. Life skills on the other hand form the core of children's social and emotional wellbeing. And, the extent to which children are able to apply them can determine how well they adjust and respond to life's myriad experiences. These skills must be nurtured within students.

Why Creativity?

Creativity is recognized as one of the most important skills for the next generation. Its value reaches well beyond the arts to affect every discipline and numerous industries. The ability to dream, take chances, and create the things we imagine. These are the skills of entrepreneurs, innovators, and changemakers. Children are born with these exceptional abilities, but research shows that over time they begin to lose them. We must offer rich opportunities that keep children's natural creativity alive.

Why Visual Art & Design?

Research indicates that robust art & design education contributes to the development of valuable thinking skills and attitudes whose benefits extend well beyond the art room (Harvard University; Wallace Foundation). The ability to pose questions, test ideas, take creative risks, solve problems, think flexibly, deal with ambiguity, collaborate effectively, are just some of the many skills and attitudes that are developed and strengthened through engagements with art. Involvement in the arts is also associated with gains in critical thinking and communication skills. Beyond this arts learning helps improve motivation, concentration, confidence, and teamwork. In fact, studies show that students with high involvement in the arts, particularly those from low-income communities, stay longer and perform better in schools in comparison to those that receive no arts education.

www.art-sparks.org | <https://www.instagram.com/artsparksfoundation/> | facebook.com/artsparksfoundation/



JOB DESCRIPTION

Role: Manager, Professional Learning & Development (Full-Time)

Purpose: The primary purpose of this role is to envision, plan, organize, implement, all of ArtSparks' professional learning and development programs. As Program Manager you will be designing workshops and building the capacity of others (NGOs across India as well as individual educators/teachers/education administrators), helping them set up art education programs of their own. You will also be routinely engaging a wide audience (including the general public), building their awareness by sharing your passionate belief in the value of alternate pedagogies, including the arts. Furthermore, you will work on monitoring and evaluating your program, refining the interventions, and reporting out on the outcomes of the program through program reports, newsletters, and more.

Key Responsibilities:

(Include but are not limited to)

- Manage and oversee ArtSparks' professional learning and development programs
- Set goals, strategies, processes, and ensure benchmarks are met for optimal program delivery
- Conduct outreach for EdSparks Collective, as well as manage all aspects of set up and implementation of EdSparks
- Implement ArtSparks other professional learning and development program activities
- Design workshops on an ongoing basis
- Collect and maintain comprehensive data on an ongoing basis
- Monitor and assess implementation of the program components, using data to continuously strengthen
- Report on the impact of the program; capture and disseminate stories of professional learning
- Build and maintain relationships with various stakeholders to leverage support aimed towards achieving the broader vision set for the program and its various components
- Oversee the building of a robust online professional learning platform, market its presence, and manage its various offerings (curated resources; online courses; webinars; online communities of practice; etc.)
- Conduct periodic field visits, and facilitate periodic in-person meets with beneficiaries of the professional learning and development programs, particularly EdSparks Collective
- Other tasks as assigned

Education & Experience:

- Graduate or post-graduate degree (Education, Psychology, or Social Work preferable)
- 2 to 3 years of experience working in education with children in schools or through an NGO
- Any experience of conducting professional development workshops or trainings is an asset
- Experience in the visual arts, while not necessary, is welcomed. However, the ideal candidate must have a deep interest in immersing themselves in this domain of education.

Competencies:

- Fluent in English. Proficiency in report writing, journal writing, in English, is needed for this role
- Possess excellent leadership and strong spoken and written communication skills
- Possess the ability to influence and motivate people
- Possess a deep sense of integrity as well as personal responsibility and commitment towards your work as an education administrator working within the nonprofit sector
- Be self-motivated and proactive in taking initiative
- Be resilient with a can do attitude, possessing the ability to adapt and innovate in challenging situations



- Possess excellent planning, organizational and multi-tasking skills. Possess the ability to efficiently handle multiple projects and priorities in a timely manner
- Possess excellent attention to detail, and be skilled at following up
- Possess an energetic and sunny personality with a genuine interest in working with others, helping build their capacity through professional learning and development opportunities
- Possess patience and a deep understanding that educational change takes time and effort

Location

Bangalore

Compensation:

Salary will be commensurate with current market standards and candidate's prior experience.

Application:

We're looking for a dynamic and passionate individual to be part of our core team. Someone capable of rolling up their sleeves and actively managing, developing, and strengthen programming. If this is you, and you're passionate about serving children, believing that they deserve an education that unlocks their creative potential, this is the place for you. We believe that great people with shared enthusiasm, commitment, and hard work, can achieve wonderful things.

To Apply:

Please send a resume and detailed cover letter to employment@art-sparks.org