



POSITION DESCRIPTION – ASSOCIATE ARTIST

Under the mentorship of Artistic Director Red Sky Performance, the Associate Artist helps to mobilize the next generation of Indigenous artists towards careers in leadership within Canadian Performing Arts.

Red Sky provides the Associate Artist with opportunities in performance, dance (including all Indigenous dance forms) and theatre training, one-on-one mentorship opportunities with the Artistic Director, and acts as a representative for the company.

The Associate Artist requires a deep commitment to and engagement with Red Sky's artistic goals and company ethos, as well as a strong sense of responsibility and an excellent work ethic. Under the expert mentorship of the Executive & Artistic Director, the Associate Artist will assist Red Sky in moving forward to achieve its vision: *To create inspiring experiences of contemporary Indigenous arts and culture.*

Red Sky's Associate Artist will learn and apply fundamental principles for engagement with the Indigenous community and assist Red Sky to bring a rich and wide array of performance and community outreach experiences to Canada's reserve, rural and urban communities.

As an Indigenous arts organization, we believe that a cultural connection is important for effective communication within our office and artistic environment and the Associate Artist embodies this ethos. In an environment respectful of Indigenous cultural traditions, we are committed to nurturing the Associate Artist into a seasoned professional.

Responsibilities and Accountabilities

Artistically the Associate Artist will:

- Collaborate with the Artistic Director in artistic discussions regarding season planning, casting, auditions, and artistic visioning.
- Participate in the assessment of scripts, both solicited and unsolicited.
- With support of the Production Coordinator, manage artistic outreach programs such as Community Connections, REDTalks, youth programming, and develop and participate in the Training Program.
- Foster an appreciation for Indigenous culture and performance through input into workshops, educational outreach initiatives, mentoring initiatives, community development through dialogue, lecture presentations, and company classes to enrich our communities.
- Plan and deliver unique community classes and share his/her experiences and skills with fellow artists and communities.
- Maintain networks and communications with other companies to stay apprised of current trends and changes within the artistic community.
- Work towards growing and strengthening the company's presence and impact in the community, including relationships with other organizations within and outside of the arts, through attendance.

Administratively (Organizational Management) the Associate Artist will:

- Work with the Artistic Director to refine the organization's Strategic Plan on an ongoing basis with long- and short-term objectives for approval by the Board of Directors.
- Communicate with colleague's in-office to ensure completion of relevant tasks.
- Provide related content for Red Sky's social media such as Facebook, twitter and Instagram.

Administratively (Public Relations) the Associate Artist will:

- Network and liaise with other companies; theatre, dance and music communities.

- Participate in marketing and public relations strategies with the Artistic Director for the development of company, production and special events marketing and promotion plans.
- Act as a representative of Red Sky through attendance at productions, workshops, conferences and community events and through speaking engagements and interviews with the media.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Degree, diploma or educational courses related to:
 - Indigenous Studies
 - Communication
 - Performing Arts
 - Community Engagement and Outreach
- Knowledge of the performing arts, arts administration, educational and community outreach, presenting networks.
- Exemplary organization, time management and administrative skills to set goals and achieve success;
- Familiarity with arts communities and Indigenous communities is ideal;
- Openness to work in a cross-cultural, multi-national and international team environment;
- Exceptional verbal and written communication skills;

The ideal candidate:

- Is preferably First Nations, Inuit or Metis descent and ideally rooted in their Indigenous values and culture.
- Exhibits a passion for arts and culture and is interested in Indigenous worldviews and traditions.
- Possesses the ability and desire to develop a deep understanding of, commitment to, and engagement with the artistic vision of Red Sky.
- Demonstrates the ability to work with and contribute to a multi-faceted team.
- Is organized and demonstrates abilities to multi-task and prioritize.
- Is confident, friendly, independent, and professional.
- Demonstrates a strong work ethic.

Timeline: March 1, 2020 - March 1, 2021 (with a possibility of extension pending funding)

NOTE: Candidates for the Associate Artist position must be eligible for, and currently registered with, Miziwe Biik Aboriginal Employment and Training. As this position is grant-dependent, the trainee position is only open to those who self-identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuit, and reside in Toronto.

We invite qualified candidates to submit a detailed resume and cover letter, outlining qualifications and describing why you are suited to the position.

Application E-mail: sandra@redskyperformance.com Application Deadline: January 31, 2020

Position Start Date: March 2, 2020 Salary: commensurate with experience

Location: Toronto, Ontario

This Employment Opportunity is made possible by the following:



Miziwe Biik
Aboriginal Employment and Training