Creatives Rebuild New York: Artist Employment Program

The Art Effect is a not-for-profit community-based, multi-arts educational organization, seeking a collaborating artist for a two-year position funded through the Creatives Rebuild New York Artist Employment Program. We seek an artist whose practice aligns with our youth-led model for creative community development and whose practice will support the establishment of the Youth Arts Empowerment Zone (YAEZ) as a vibrant, youth-led cultural district in the City of Poughkeepsie. The annual PKX Festivals, in and around the Trolley Barn, serve as the building blocks for the development of YAEZ.

The ideal artist-collaborator will
- Possess a record of artistic achievement in any of the following three areas: 1) murals and sculpture; 2) multimedia public art (e.g. light, sound, & kinetic art installation; projection); and/or 3) participatory/immersive outdoor or indoor installations (e.g. VR, AR);
- Embrace opportunities to grow their practice through collaboration with young creatives to create art productions informed by youth generated themes;
- Invite a community-based approach to art creation;
- Share their expertise with The Art Effect’s youth and professional teaching staff;
- Leverage their professional network to bring attention to their work with The Art Effect; and
- Bring an open mind, be intellectually and artistically curious; and
- Willing to collaborate on a joint application process.

The Art Effect will:
- Share our network of professional teaching artists, arts professionals, and community leaders;
- Document the artist’s collaborative work in film and video and promote their work through our communications channels;
- Offer the artist access to a vibrant art community;
- Feature the artist in an exhibition or equivalent celebration; and
- Provide time and work space for the artist to pursue their personal artistic practice.
Background
The Art Effect empowers young people to develop their creative voice to shape their futures and bring about positive social change. The Art Effect helps youth explore, experience, and excel in the arts, introducing them to visual arts and media, giving them the opportunity to develop real skills in these fields, and guiding them towards achieving their academic and career goals. We believe that the arts have the power to create a more vibrant, caring, and sustainable world led by a generation of youth who value creative thinking, diverse voices, and stronger connections between all people. In 2021, The Art Effect impacted 2,700 individuals through programming and an estimated additional 8,000 through events, exhibitions, and film screenings for diverse audiences throughout the Hudson Valley.

The Art Effect’s Youth Arts Empowerment Zone is a 10-year plan to establish a youth arts district along Main Street in Poughkeepsie, with The Art Effect at the Trolley Barn as the anchor arts institution. Central to the establishment of the YAEZ are two annual youth-led arts festivals - the PKX Festivals - featuring community-inspired artworks, created by local youth and professional artists. Youth are responsible for every aspect of planning these events and partner with the CRNY artist on these festivals. They choose a featured artist, engage with city officials on permits and planning, and develop partnerships with community organizations for the festival. The PKX Festivals demonstrate placekeeping by reactivating Middle Main with youth ideas and vision.

Interested artists should email cory@thearteffect.org with a CV, links to webpage or portfolio, and a brief paragraph summary of your interest in this collaborative opportunity by Tuesday March 8th, 2022.