

PUBLIC FELLOWS PROGRAM

Job Title:	Community Organizing Manager
Organization:	Yerba Buena Center for the Arts
Location:	San Francisco, CA
Stipend:	\$67,500 with health insurance for the fellow
Start Date:	September 1, 2017

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) is one of the nation’s most innovative contemporary art centers. Founded in 1993 as the cultural anchor of the Yerba Buena Gardens development, we serve the diverse and ever-evolving community that surrounds us. YBCA believes that culture is an essential catalyst for change, and that it is the responsibility of arts organizations to spur and support societal movement. From our leading edge exhibitions, performances, and films, to our groundbreaking civic initiatives and community partnerships, YBCA is a new kind of art center that expands and extends its impact beyond its walls and that is in constant, conscious evolution, on the front lines of social change. As a citizen institution, all people are welcome at YBCA: all artists, thinkers, and makers. Please visit our website: ybca.org.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Community Organizing Manager will work closely with the Director of Visual Arts, in collaboration with YBCA’s Chief of Civic Engagement, to lead community organizing projects and engage the Bay Area’s diverse organizations and communities to involve them in co-creating artistic and community-based projects conceived by YBCA’s curators and guest artists. The manager will work to identify core community issues and community leaders to grow YBCA’s connections beyond our campus, and expand the creative ecosystem that informs the core of our institutional practice. Community outreach work will include building and fostering relationships with residents, community-based organizations, and institutions throughout the Bay Area, aiming to embed the fabric of the community into YBCA’s gallery presentations—particularly in its work with social practice artists such as Futurefarmers, Andrea Bowers, Suzanne Lacy, and others.

A key element of this position will be to understand the communities that compose our region—both historically and in the present moment—to empower local residents to impact the work of artists and creative producers who work in their communities. The Community Organizing Manager will do this by convening groups at both public events and private gatherings, investigating shared histories, and inviting marginalized communities to engage with our programming in meaningful ways. As a strong advocate for these constituencies, the Community Organizing Manager will apply this knowledge of local communities to a variety of projects at YBCA, including exhibition-making, civic engagement programs, and other curatorial programs suited for this type of community practice.

This position is *only* available through the Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows program. You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.

Key duties and responsibilities:

- Engage Bay Area residents, community-based organizations, and institutions in co-designing and participating in community outreach and public history projects supported by YBCA and its community of artists.
- Conduct research about Bay Area communities and disseminate results internally to expand institutional knowledge of the context within which we work and apply that research to the process of engaging specific communities.
- Create community-building strategies to anchor YBCA's projects into diverse neighborhoods across the Bay Area and to lend YBCA's resources to broader community concerns.
- Plan and implement recruiting strategies to increase involvement of a wide variety of committed participants in YBCA's initiatives across the Bay Area.
- Organize and facilitate meetings, convenings, and events, as well as develop marketing and outreach strategies, for the successful organization and implementation of public programs both within the YBCA campus and beyond.
- Work with the visual arts team, the YBCA Fellows program, and the YBCA Youth Fellows, in addition to other departments and programs at YBCA, to connect the community organizing and public history initiatives to existing educational programs.
- Create and implement evaluation procedures, including measuring success, tracking participation and outcomes, reporting results, and taking follow-up actions as necessary.

QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD in the humanities or humanistic social sciences;
- Highly organized and responsible self-starter;
- Effective communicator, both verbally and in writing;
- Proven ability to work as part of a team in a fast-paced environment;
- Experience working in a multi-cultural environment;
- Experience with and/or knowledge of one or several of the following research methods: ethnography, oral history; participant observation; survey and interview research; and
- Experience in community organizing, with proven ability to develop and implement concrete community outreach goals through engagement, preferred but not required.

APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows Program: www.acls.org/programs/publicfellows
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: March 22, 2017, 8 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

This position is *only* available through the Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows program.
You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.