ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

Position Title: Development and Communications Specialist
Organization: Educational Video Center, Inc.
Location: New York, NY
Stipend: $62,500 in the first year, $65,000 in the second year, plus health insurance and professional development funding
Start Date: September 2022

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Educational Video Center (EVC) is a pioneering youth media and social justice organization dedicated to teaching documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy, and career skills of young people, while nurturing their idealism and commitment to social change. Our vision is a just and equitable world created by young people and the power of their stories. EVC is advancing the next generation of activists by building the artistic, cultural, and political power of young New Yorkers—youth who live on the front lines of racial and economic injustice—through documentary film. Over the last 37 years, EVC has supported positive life and career paths for 28,000 historically marginalized young people; shared our proven media arts methodology with 15,000 practitioners; trained over 1,100 educators in our pedagogy; generated 5 million+ global impressions for 200+ acclaimed youth-produced documentaries. Learn more at www.evc.org.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

EVC recognizes the important role that the humanities play in advancing anti-racism and anti-colonialism in America today, in exposing the harmful legacies of prejudice and inequity that continue to divide our society. EVC’s award-winning archive of youth-produced documentaries evidences historically marginalized youth from high schools across NYC, critically examining issues such as systemic racism and its legacies, gender discrimination, unequal access to healthcare and public transportation, the carceral state, gentrification and urban history, queer identities, and youth involvement in culture and the arts. These films show how young people’s stories are a vital part of a shared legacy of resistance against oppression, offering inspiring examples of ways to join together, speak out, and act to change American society at local, citywide, and national levels.

The events of the past two years - the pandemic, economic crisis, and exacerbated systemic inequities - have brought new urgency and importance to EVC’s mission and work to amplify underrepresented stories by historically excluded BIPOC youth. Through community-centric fundraising, special events, and strategic communications, the Development and Communications Specialist will advance the sustainability and visibility of EVC’s archive and youth/alumni, while advancing youth-led social justice and systemic change.

The Development and Communications Specialist will report to EVC’s Executive Director; will be part of the Organizational Advancement & Administration Department; and will work closely with the Archive & Distribution Department, and program staff.

The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

This position is only available through the Leading Edge Fellowship program. You may not contact the host institution to inquire about this position.
Responsibilities and tasks:

In consultation with the Executive Director, and with the support of the Development and Communications team (Admin & Development Assistant, Digital Media Specialist, and consultants):

- Research, develop, write, submit, track and steward fundraising proposals for institutional funders (foundation, government, corporate) with a long-term relationship building approach.
- Develop creative strategies to engage individual and institutional donors, with a movement-building approach.
- Curate and organize special events incorporating EVC’s archive and youth/alumni in resource development efforts.
- Produce creative, effective outreach materials (newsletters, eBlasts, impact reports, social media posts etc.), including content that tells compelling stories about EVC to influence funders, policy-makers, media outlets, social justice organizers.
- Imagine and implement new development and communications strategies to advance EVC’s archive and youth/alumni.

Qualifications:

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. Read more about eligible fields in our FAQ;  
- Exceptional research and writing skills for a variety of audiences and formats;  
- Excellent organizational skills and project management skills;  
- Ability to work under time pressure, meet deadlines, and prioritize tasks;  
- Deeply rooted in anti-racism, anti-oppression, anti-colonial and social justice frameworks;  
- Understands fundraising as part of community organizing;  
- Demonstrates self-awareness, humility, and ability to cede and share power with young people;  
- Passion for and alignment with EVC’s mission, vision, and values.

Preferred:

- Familiarity with New York philanthropic, youth media, and social justice landscapes;  
- Familiarity with community-centric fundraising principles and practices.

APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: [https://www.acls.org/competitions/acls-leading-edge-fellowships/](https://www.acls.org/competitions/acls-leading-edge-fellowships/)
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: March 28, 2022, 9pm EDT

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