



2026 Summer Program Academic Lead Teacher

Position:	2026 Summer Program Academic Lead Teacher and Program Associate
Term:	June 1 – July 21, 2026. Meetings and individual prep in April / May. There is an option for work to extend to July 31.
Compensation:	DOE. Total contract \$5,500 - \$12,000
Job Type:	Part-time, seasonal, non-exempt <i>or</i> full-time, seasonal, exempt
Orientation, Prep and Post Program:	June 1 – 5, July 21 – 23
Program Dates:	June 8 – July 18 with opportunity to work until July 31
Hours:	20 – 40 hrs / week

About the Program: Prescott Circus Theatre’s Circus and Academic program is a six-week, performing arts education and academic program that serves a core group of 25 – 30 OUSD students ages 8 – 17, primarily between 8 – 11 years old. Students work daily with a team of teaching artists, an academic lead, and teen apprentices to learn and build circus and performance skills, increase literacy and critical thinking, and create an original production. The program culminates in a Family Literacy Day and our annual free community performance series that takes place at the Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts the week of July 13th.

Academic Lead (AL) Position: The academic leader’s job is to prepare and facilitate the delivery of a 5-week academic curriculum that supports participants’ retention, practice, and advancement of academic skills in the areas of literacy, math, and critical thinking. Curriculum can be developed by the AL with input from PCT leadership to include cultural connections of performing arts disciplines and student reflections on their circus learning. Academic activities take place in the morning and through small group afternoon rotations and focus on literacy and math skills through project-based learning. They encompass approximately 30 - 40 hours of program time during the 5 weeks. The AL will also assist in day-to-day student engagement during circus training sessions, choice time, and lunch and meals.

Optional Program Associate role: This position can be expanded full-time to include assisting with program operations including oversight and management of student data, coordination of nutritional services, and supporting post-program reporting. See below for details.

Summer Program Academic Objectives

- Students will retain and build on learned math facts, reading, and comprehension skills to prepare them for the coming year
- Students will complete creative writing projects for presentations at the Family Literacy Day
- Students develop a deeper understanding about cultural connections of circus / performing skills to specific historic and geographic roots.
- Older youth engage in a self-driven research project that can introduce new information and/or content to the entire summer learning community.

Direct Teaching & Student Engagement Responsibilities

Part-time: 100% | Full-time: 80%

- Design and lead a 5-week project-based academic curriculum focused on literacy, math fluency, cross-cultural learning through performing arts, and critical thinking.
- Facilitate engaging academic sessions, including at least one all-student lesson weekly in collaboration with Teaching Artists and staff.
- Co-plan and support a Family Literacy Day/Open House showcasing student projects and presentations.
- Support daily program operations, including student transitions, check-in/check-out, meals, enrichment activities, and performing arts practice sessions.
- Build positive relationships with students and families through ongoing communication and engagement.
- Participate in weekly staff meetings, program reflections, and assessment/evaluation activities.
- Assist with daily community-building activities, including end-of-day closing circles.

Optional Full-Time Program Associate Responsibilities

Additional 20% (Full-time only)

- Coordinate daily meal and snack operations with OUSD Nutrition Services, including attendance reporting and field trip meal planning.
- Supervise teen program assistants supporting meal coordination and cleanup.
- Maintain student attendance and records, including City Span data entry and tracking.
- Support family communications through newsletters, website updates, and written/electronic outreach.
- Assist with program closeout and reporting, including attendance summaries, survey analysis, and final narrative reports.
- Provide additional operational support for preparation of the upcoming program year as needed.

Qualifications

- Demonstrated teaching skills with elementary and middle school students
- Experience working in informal education, afterschool and/or summer programs is a plus
- Ability to collaborate, take initiative, and work independently
- Ability to prioritize student achievement while creating a nurturing environment
- Experience with and interest in working with students of different ages, backgrounds, and skills
- Experience developing and implementing open-ended learning activities for children and youth
- Bachelor's degree required; degree in Education, Science, Engineering, Design or related field is a plus
- Availability for all weeks. Mandatory orientation, June 1 - 5
- People of color strongly encouraged to apply
- Special preference for individuals who hold or are working towards CA Multiple Subject teaching credential
- CA Driver's License preferred

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit the following:

- Brief, 1-page, cover letter or email describing your interests and experiences. Please share any experience with arts integrated learning and how your skills and experience may support our children.
- Resume
- References

Please email these to David Hunt at dhunt@prescottcircus.org; subject line: Summer Teacher - Your Name

- Applications are welcomed until position filled
- Someone will confirm receipt of your information within 48 hours

Questions? David Hunt: 510-350-7207 or dhunt@prescottcircus.org