



Title: Teaching Artist

Status: Independent Contractor (hourly)

Overview / Purpose:

Youth on Record seeks an Independent Contractor to be a Teaching Artist on a project basis. The contractor will deliver high-quality services that align with the organization's mission and project needs in the Denver and Aurora area.

More about the Opportunity:

Youth on Record (YOR) is seeking passionate and experienced **Contracted Teaching Artist** to collaborate with our team in delivering transformative, music-centered and arts-based programming. As a contracted Teaching Artist, you will directly impact the lives of young people by facilitating engaging learning experiences in music, creative writing, media arts, and other artistic disciplines.

Our mission is to empower youth through creative education that brings a trauma-informed, and career-connected lens and emphasizes nonviolent communication, self-expression, and personal growth. This role is ideal for professional artists and educators who are enthusiastic about sharing their craft, guiding students toward academic and creative success, and contributing to the next generation of artists and critical thinkers.

Contracted Teaching Artists bring their expertise into classrooms, studios, and community spaces, designing and delivering lessons that balance rigor, creativity, and inclusivity. You will serve as a mentor and facilitator, creating safe and supportive spaces where youth can express themselves, develop skills, and explore future career pathways in the creative industries.

If you are an innovative artist-educator dedicated to equity and youth development, we invite you to collaborate with us as a Contracted Teaching Artist.

Scope of Work / Deliverables: The Contractor will provide the following services and deliverables:

Classroom & Instructional Responsibilities

- Teach assigned units or workshops in schools or community settings (e.g., Contemporary Ensemble, Music Production, Creative Writing).
Arrive prepared to teach each session with a lesson plan, materials, and classroom setup complete prior to start time.
- Establish and maintain an inclusive, equitable classroom culture that reflects YOR's culturally responsive and diversity-oriented pedagogy standards.
- Collaborate with YOR staff to align lessons with program goals and, where applicable, Colorado Common Core Standards for music.
- Take attendance, maintain student engagement, and submit required documentation (grades, rosters, progress updates).



Implement YOR's teaching framework and instructional strategies, adapting as necessary for student needs.

Communicate regularly with school administrators, YOR staff, and partners to ensure program effectiveness.

Administrative & Operational Responsibilities

- Submit weekly class or workshop updates to the YOR Academic Success Manager.
- Complete required surveys, evaluations, and other program documentation.
- Attend occasional planning meetings, orientations, or professional development sessions as agreed in contract.
- Use Youth Media Studio space and equipment responsibly, following YOR's protocols for booking, care, and check-out.
- Provide feedback on curriculum and program improvements, sharing observations with YOR staff.

Professional Practice & Collaboration

- Approach youth, colleagues, and partners with nonviolent communication strategies.
- Participate in coaching, support, and accountability processes as outlined in contract.
- Maintain strong relationships with community partners, schools, and local arts networks.
- Serve as a role model of artistic excellence, professionalism, and equity-minded practice.

Additional Details

- Teach two daily Contemporary Ensemble units (120 min) at an Aurora Public Schools Middle School.
- Teach two weekly after-school enrichment classes at the YOR Youth Media Studio.
- Plan weekly goals and objectives aligned with YOR curriculum.
- Submit attendance daily and maintain grades as required.
- Participate in restorative practices with students as needed.
- Attend check-ins with YOR Academic Success Manager.
- Provide weekly updates on student progress and classroom outcomes.
- Respond promptly to YOR communications and release required student data to school partners.
- Attend relevant training and meetings, both at the host school and at the YOR offices when applicable.

**Timeline & Term:**

- Contract Start Date: As soon as filled
- Contract End Date: May 31st, 2026
- Estimated Hours Per Week: 25-30 hours week

Point of Contact:

- The Contractor will communicate regularly with the Academic Success Manager for approvals, alignment, and updates.

Preferred Qualifications:

- At least **two years of experience** teaching or facilitating workshops with youth (particularly middle school students and teens in underserved / marginalized communities).
- **Professional experience in the arts/music industry** (performance, production, or related creative work).
- Strong classroom management skills and ability to design/facilitate engaging lessons.
- Familiarity with **trauma-informed practices**, youth development principles, and culturally responsive pedagogy.
- Excellent communication skills (verbal and written).
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and basic digital tools (Google Suite, Zoom, etc.).
- Strong ties to the Denver creative community.
- Bi-lingual (Spanish) preferred.
- Advanced degree or equivalent professional experience in a related field is considered a plus.

Compensation:

- Rate: \$40 per hour
- Payment Terms: Contractor will submit an invoice to Youth on Record [bi-monthly]. Payment will be issued within 2-3 days of invoice receipt via [Bill.com](https://www.bill.com)

Contractor Status:

This is an independent contractor role. Contractor is not an employee of Youth on Record and is responsible for their own:

- Taxes
- Benefits (health, retirement, etc.)
- Insurance (general liability, professional liability, workers' compensation, etc., if applicable)