Citizen Teacher Position Announcement

About the Position
Bethel Woods Center for the Arts seeks two dynamic individuals to help develop and serve as “Citizen Teachers” for the pilot of an exciting new in-classroom program, E²=E²: Bethel Woods in the Classroom. Citizen Teachers will work with Bethel Woods education staff and in collaboration with a US History classroom teacher to develop engaging, hands-on lessons that teach American history through the dual lenses of artistic exploration and civic engagement. One Citizen Teacher must have a background in American history while the other must have experience in the arts, broadly defined (visual, performing, musical, literary, or other). Both Citizen Teachers must be creative thinkers and team players, have an engaging personality, an interest in education, and demonstrated experience in working with a high school aged audience. This is a part-time, one-year position running June 2012 to June 2013.

Position Description
Citizen Teachers will contribute to the development, implementation, and assessment of the pilot program of E²=E²: Bethel Woods in the Classroom (program described below). They will play an integral role in the creative development of this program, establishing and testing a framework that will be the basis for this long-term, landmark program. Citizen Teachers will collaborate with Bethel Woods staff and classroom teacher(s), and under guidance from an advisory committee to develop, implement, and assess arts- and civics-infused lessons into an 11th-grade American history classroom. These lessons, taking place on a regular basis throughout the school year, will help to teach the required learning standards through the lenses of arts and civics. In addition to these classes, the CTs will coordinate the partner school’s visits to Bethel Woods and will help develop and run a cumulative project, TBD, by pilot students at the end of the school year. A fair amount of travel, between Bethel Woods and partnering school(s), is anticipated.

Position Logistics

Hours: 25 hours/week running June 2012 to June 2013

Schedule: (3) days per week, loosely based around the following schedule:
- 10 hours per week in the pilot school(s) leading classes
- 15 hours per week in office working on program development

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1/3/2012
Stipend: The position pays a stipend of $13,500 for the twelve-month period and includes furnished housing on the Bethel Woods campus. Citizen Teachers will be responsible for food, transportation, and other expenses.

Eligibility
Open to recent graduates with a Bachelor’s degree, including seniors graduating in spring 2012. Applicants must have a solid grounding in either American history or the arts (visual, literary, performing, or other), as well as an interest and demonstrated background in working with high school aged audiences. Must have an engaging personality and an ability to interact effectively with a range of audiences, including students, school teachers and administrators, colleagues, members of the community, and other stakeholders. Candidates must be available for the entire 12-month period of June 2012-June 2013. Candidates must be licensed drivers with a reliable car. Once hired, the incumbents will be required to undergo a series of background checks, including screening through the New York State Education Department given to all in-coming school workers.

How to Apply
Applicants should submit a résumé and a cover letter expressing their interest in this position, their previous experience, and any special areas of particular interest or expertise. Please also include three references with contact information. All materials should be e-mailed to Margaret Hughes at mhughes@bethelwoodscenter.org no later than Friday, February 17, 2012.

About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts
Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is a $100 million cultural center located approximately 90 minutes from New York City at the site of the original 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY. The park-like campus of the center is situated within nearly 845 bucolic acres. The center is comprised of a 15,000-seat outdoor performing arts pavilion, 1,000-seat amphitheater, 400-seat indoor event gallery, and history museum that tells the story of the 1960s and the Woodstock festival. Through these spaces and related programs and performances, Bethel Woods inspires creative expression and civic engagement to enrich the human spirit.

About E²=E²: Bethel Woods in the Classroom
Bethel Woods in the Classroom: E²=E² (Exposure and Experience = Expression and Engagement) is an innovative secondary school educational program designed
to integrate our center’s unique resources into classroom teaching in schools through a sustained, year-long collaboration. The program is designed to infuse experiences of creative expression and civic engagement (citizenship) into core classroom subjects using artistic exploration and significant historical examples of social activism as the learning vehicles.

The goal of the program is to inspire students to be more engaged academically, socially, economically, and philanthropically by transforming their educational experience, helping them to connect the depth and breadth of the arts directly with the subjects they study in school. We believe that by exploring arts and civic engagement within the context of ongoing school learning, students will be more likely to internalize these values, understanding them not as abstract concepts but as integral components of core subjects. This in turn will transform the learning experience, helping to make classroom learning more meaningful and relevant to life after school.

By providing stimulating learning environments for core subjects over a sustained period, the goal is to inspire a generation of student citizens. Participating individuals will understand the ideal of leading expressive lives and the importance of their role in participating and contributing to society in whatever career path they choose. We envision this program as a paradigm shift in the way we view education, learning, and active citizenship, and that this approach will become a model across America and the world.

This initiative will be led by “Citizen Teachers,” recent graduates from universities that practice innovative approaches to education. These Citizen Teachers will collaborate with secondary school classroom teachers to identify areas throughout the syllabus that are most appropriate for the arts/engagement connection. The Citizen Teachers will then create interactive, hands-on learning experiences that help students connect classroom subjects with the broader themes of arts and engagement.

In addition to these regular classroom lessons, E²=E² classes will take advantage of the rich variety of on-site programming at Bethel Woods, including talks by renowned activists, artists and historians, museum-based field trips that further explore the messages of the 1960s, and school-based concerts that celebrate diversity through the arts. In this way, the messages that Bethel Woods promotes--arts and engagement--will be fully intertwined with the classroom learning experience.