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GINA GIBNEY DANCE, INC.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT (300 HOURS)

NEA RESEARCH: ART WORKS GRANT

JOB DESCRIPTION: AUGUST 2019 – AUGUST 2020

The mission of Gibney is to tap into the vast potential of movement, creativity and performance to effect social change and personal transformation. Gibney's vision is to deploy resources and bring together disparate communities to ignite a cultural renaissance that has ripple effects far beyond the studio and stage. Gibney values:

- Respect – we are inclusive, courteous, and thoughtful
- Advocacy – we are supportive, principled, and catalytic
- Responsibility – we are collaborative, responsive, and empowering
- Action – we are resourceful, proactive, and entrepreneurial

These values are intrinsic to Gibney and guide how we work together and interact with our core audiences.

Summary Statement: The Research Assistant (300 hours) will support a two-year \$190,000 clinical trial, funded in part by a National Endowment for the Arts Research: Art Works grant, which aims to determine the effects of group-based dance/movement on physical and mental health in survivors of domestic/intimate partner violence. The study is conducted as a partnership between Gibney's Community Action Team, Sanctuary for Families, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst ("UMass Amherst"), with Institutional Review Board oversight by UMass Amherst.

The ideal candidate is a highly responsible, organized, and reliable individual with a keen interest in conducting Dance Science research. Specifically, this candidate must be prepared to interact with study participants from a trauma-informed orientation. The candidate should be comfortable collecting behavioral, physiological, physical, and mental health data within a population of individuals who are survivors of domestic/intimate partner violence using a range of research methods.



RESPONSIBILITIES

OVERVIEW

The Research Assistant (RA) works to advance Gibney within the Community Action Research Laboratory ("Action Lab") and as part of a coordinated Community Action Team consisting of the Senior Director of Community Action and Strategic Initiatives (Kara Gilmour); Director of Community Action (Yasemin Ozumerzifon); UMass Amherst Assistant Professor of Dance Science, Principal Investigator, and Action Lab Director (Dr. Aston K. McCullough); Sanctuary for Families Deputy Clinical Director (Dr. Allison Ross); and the Action Lab Manager (Tessa Brinza). The RA reports to the Principal Investigator, with support from the Action Lab Manager. **This is a part-time, paid position that will fulfill up to 300 hours. The duration of the position is from August 2019 – August 2020.**

The Research Assistant will receive training in trauma-informed interventions, project-specific data collection and management techniques, ethics in human research, and intimate partner violence awareness. **The RA will be expected to successfully complete all requisite trainings and requirements, including passing a background check, I-9 form confirmation, and fingerprinting.**

DATA COLLECTION

The RA will be responsible for collecting the following data in the field:

- Physiological signals using electrocardiography
- Self-reported behavioral, physical, and mental health data
- Behavioral and physiological signals using wearable sensors

DATA MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

Additionally, the RA will be required to:

- Regularly attend lab meetings in the Action Lab
- Maintain the study database and routinely complete data entry
- Conduct periodic data fidelity checks

NONPROFIT EMPLOYMENT CONSIDERATION

Gibney is a mission-based nonprofit performing arts organization. Working in this sector can be personally rewarding, with intrinsic benefits and distinct opportunities for growth. However, the compensation will never match that of the private sector or more highly resourced art forms. Candidates for employment are advised to carefully consider their decision to work in this field before seeking or accepting a position at Gibney.



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QUALIFICATIONS

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science, Nursing, or related field
- Knowledge of, and strong interest in, dance, social justice, and Gibney Dance's mission
- Superior verbal and written communications skills
- Strong attention to detail
- Proven organizational, multitasking, and project management skills
- Ability to work independently within a team environment
- Excellent interpersonal skills and professional demeanor
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree candidate in the health sciences
- Data entry and database management experience (REDCap or other software/system)
- Questionnaire administration and data collection experience
- EKG and wearable sensor data collection experience

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis beginning August 15, 2019 until the position has been successfully filled. Prompt submission is strongly encouraged.

To be considered for the position, please email the items below in one PDF-formatted file with your name as the filename to position@gibneydance.org. Include "Research Assistant (300 hours)" as the email's subject line. Submissions must include:

- A substantive cover letter including the following information: your interest in the position and the organization, evidence of the required experience (indicating prior research experience, relevant training, and specific interest in conducting social justice-oriented research in Dance Science), and the date you are available to start
- CV or résumé outlining your educational and professional experience
- One (1) letter of recommendation

All expressions of interest and conversations will be held in the strictest confidence. Incomplete submissions will not be considered nor will submissions sent via postal mail or fax. No calls please.

GIBNEY DANCE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.