

2022 Clay Camp Assistantship

Northern Clay Center seeks college students and recent graduates, ages 18 and up, for our summer Clay Camp Assistant positions. Each summer, we provide opportunities for over 15 assistants to help run our camp programs and to gain classroom experience. The Clay Camp Assistants will work closely with the education program head and clay camp teachers to provide classroom support for weekly summer clay camps at NCC. Clay Camps and Assistantships will proceed in summer 2022 with safety protocols following the recommended state public health guidelines.

The Clay Camp Assistantship program is intended to nurture and develop classroom and artistic skills for emerging artists, and to support them towards their goals within the ceramic field as teachers and artists by providing them with the essential opportunity of hands-on classroom and teaching experience through working directly with and assisting students, shadowing and assisting experienced teaching artists, and the opportunity to lead demonstrations all in the context of a large and leading educational ceramic arts center.

Camp Assistants will be responsible for:

- Assisting NCC's teaching artists during summer clay camps
- Preparing materials, helping with demonstrations, assisting students with handbuilding or wheel-throwing, cleaning up, and working directly with youth ages 6 - 16
- Leading by example through safe use of materials and equipment in the studio

Camp Assistants in the program can expect to gain:

- Communication skills for interfacing with youth and adults
- Increased adaptability and problem-solving skills
- Classroom management skills
- Development of their teaching strategies and teaching philosophy
- Knowledge of working with clay
- Resources to expand their interest and further their involvement in the field of ceramics

Assistant Requirements:

Experience working with clay is essential, but interest and experience in working with young people are equally important. Dependability, attention to detail, and strong interpersonal skills are a must.

Assistant goals and reflection:

Assistants will be asked to articulate 3 goals or areas of growth they would like to focus on for the duration of their assistantship. At the end of their experience in the program, assistants will be asked to reflect on how they developed skills and grew in their articulated areas. Assistants who assist for at least 3 Clay Camps and receive excellent feedback from their supervising teaching artist may be asked to return to teach the following summer.

Assistantship duration:

Choose to work with one or more camps (15 - 20 hours per week) typically from 9 am - 12 pm or 1 - 4 pm. Weekly camps run June 14- August 20. For example, you could choose to work with one camp in June, two in July, and one in August, or just one week of availability in July, or you can go for the gold and work all ten weeks. Final schedules will be verified with each assistant. See the Clay Camp schedule for more information.

Compensation:

This is a volunteer position. If you assist with 5+ camps, NCC will offer you a free summer adult class in exchange for your efforts. (Limited offer, five spots available; first-come, first-served.)

Application deadline:

For priority consideration, apply by Friday, April 8, 2022. Applications will be considered so long as space is available, through July 2022.

TO APPLY:

Your application should include:

- A letter of interest describing your qualifications for the position and how you will benefit from a summer volunteering at NCC. Send your letter as a PDF.
- A resume (not more than 1 page) outlining your clay and teaching experience. Send your resume as a PDF.
- Contact information for 2 references who can speak to your clay experience and/or work ethic. Send your reference sheet as a PDF.
- 3 images of current ceramic work. Submit images as JPEGs at 72 ppi.

Email your application to Samantha Longley at samanthalongley@northernclaycenter.org.

Documents should be submitted as PDF files and images as JPEGs at 72 dpi. Applications may be mailed (with images on CD) to: Northern Clay Center, Attn: Samantha Longley, 2424 Franklin Avenue East, Minneapolis, MN 55406.

All applicants must be 18 years of age or older.