



Rio Grande Academy of Fine Arts Founding Special Education Teacher

Who We Are:

Rio Grande Academy of Fine Arts (RioGAFA) is a new free, public charter school that educates students through an arts-integration curriculum that promotes critical and creative thinking and supports all K-12 students in achieving grade-level standards. Located on Albuquerque's Westside, we are currently offering K, 1st, and 6th grades, with the goal of adding two grade levels yearly until we are K-12. Through our vision and collaboration with home, school, and the community, every RioGAFA student will be well prepared for the demands of the 21st Century with the ability to:

- Inquire – Think Curiously,
- Imagine – Think Beyond,
- Innovate – Think Creatively,
- Inspire – Influence Excellence.

We are looking for enthusiastic professionals who enjoy creative, "out of the box" teaching methods and are dedicated to working within our community.

What We're Looking for:

- **High-capacity, energetic individuals** who believe that all students deserve rigorous academics and arts education.
- *A **passionate educator** committed to upholding our mission and vision for arts integration and arts enhancement.*
- *A **growth mindset thinker** who is open to feedback, coaching, and continually striving to improve their practice.*
- *A **determined and driven supporter** of equitable outcomes.*
- *An **enthusiastic team player** who actively contributes and collaborates towards a common goal.*
- *An **authentic, nurturing educator** striving to serve and ensure high expectations for all students.*
- *Have **experience or willingness** to work in an urban public school setting*

What You'll Do:

Provide special education students with learning activities and experiences designed to help them fulfill their potential for intellectual, emotional, physical, and social growth. Develop or modify curricula and prepare lessons and other instructional materials to student ability levels. Specific responsibilities shall include:

- Share passion for the **arts, reading, writing, math, science, and/or history with students.**
- Receive mentorship, coaching, and professional development from school leadership with a growth mindset.
- Provide professional development for teachers and staff as needed around special education and student needs
- Collaborate with students, parents, and other members of staff to develop IEP for each student assigned.
- Work cooperatively with classroom teachers to modify regular arts-integrated curricula as needed and assist special education students in regular classes with assignments.

- Establish and communicate clear objectives for all learning activities.
- Observe and evaluate student's performance and development.
- Encourage and monitor the progress of individual students and use the information to adjust teaching strategies.
- Maintain accurate and complete records of students' progress and development as required by laws and school regulations.
- Prepare required reports on students and activities.
- Consult with classroom teachers regarding the management of student behavior according to IEP.
- Manage student behavior and administer discipline. This includes intervening in crisis situations as necessary according to IEP.
- Develop meaningful relationships with students and families that inspire a love of learning and lead to exceptional academic gains.
- Communicate to students and guardian(s) the instructional expectations and student progress.
- Participate in professional growth and development activities, including staff meetings, Professional Learning Communities, and staff development activities as required or assigned.
- Ensure that the classroom and/or instructional environment are attractive, healthful, safe, and conducive to learning.
- Maintain confidentiality of information as required by school policy, including all students' records, grades, performance, and other related matters.
- Maintain a high level of ethical and professional standards as expected of all personnel.
- Guides student transitions and supports student-led conferences.
- Maintain a valid New Mexico professional teaching license and is responsible for the renewal of the license.
- Assume other reasonable and equitable job-related duties assigned by the Directors.

What We Provide:

- Founding staff members
- Work in a community-oriented environment.
- 13 days of paid professional development
- Weekly individualized observations and coaching sessions
- Monthly training
- Growth opportunities where through coaching, outstanding teachers can move into leadership positions
- Small Class Sizes (22 students per cohort)
- Competitive Salaries based on NM 3 tiered salary schedule
- Paid leave
- New Mexico Public Schools Insurance and Retirement

Qualifications:

By the time employment begins, all teachers must provide evidence of holding a valid New Mexico teaching license with the correct grade level and content endorsement. Applicants that have a bachelor's and enroll in the alternative licensure route WILL be considered.*

RioGAFA is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristic *as outlined by federal, state, or local laws*. Hiring is conditional upon cleared FBI background check and verification of all licensure requirements.

*RioGAFA can help in navigating the [alternative licensure](#) process.

Compensation:

Salary Range*: Based on NM's Three Tiered Salary Schedule. \$50,000 - \$70,000+ (depending on experience and licensure level)

* Salary schedule will be approved in the Spring of 2022.