**Director of Education and Community Engagement**

*Jazz St. Louis is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to lead our community in advancing the uniquely American art of jazz through performance, education, and community engagement.*

Jazz St. Louis seeks a Director of Education and Community Engagement who will be a visionary and innovative educator and leader. This person will be committed to and passionate about jazz music and education and its power, influence, and impact as America’s original art form and will be a dynamic leader of the education and community engagement team of JSL. The selected candidate must be willing to live full-time in St. Louis, Missouri.

**ABOUT JAZZ ST. LOUIS**

Jazz St. Louis began in 1995 as a presenter of local, national, and international jazz musicians in a small, intimate atmosphere. Over the years, the organization has become a unique and successful non-profit arts organization focused on teaching jazz's cultural significance and historical importance alongside presenting the music. Jazz St. Louis strives to be the leader in developing unique programming that engages youth and adults alike and preserves the shared cultural heritage embodied in jazz music.

Jazz St. Louis’ mission focuses on three areas: performance, education, and community engagement.

Pursuit of this mission led to robust growth and the completion of an $8.5 million capital campaign in 2014 which opened the **Harold & Dorothy Steward Center for Jazz** in Grand Center, the heart of St. Louis' arts district. This new space allowed for JSL to grow into its reputation as a leading jazz venue by housing all performance, education, and office resources in one place. The performance space -- **The Ferring Jazz Bistro** -- has earned accolades from patrons and musicians alike, calling it one of the top five listening rooms in the world, while **Nancy’s Jazz Lounge** provides a comfortable space to watch the performances in a casual setting. The **Centene Jazz Education Center** on the building's third floor was designed explicitly for hands-on instruction and has become a comfortable and safe space for students to share, learn, and develop as musicians.

Each year, JSL presents an 18-show subscription series consisting of five nights of performances by internationally acclaimed artists, including Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, Chick Corea, David Sanborn, Christian McBride, Marcus Miller, Ray...
Brown, Arturo Sandoval, Poncho Sanchez, Robert Glasper, The Bad Plus, and Terrace Martin. Including the subscription series, special performances, and locally led groups, Jazz St. Louis programs over 170 nights per year. More than 40,000 people attend one of our performances as part of the subscription series, special events, or local artist performances. Hundreds of local and nationally renowned musicians have graced our stage.

JSL’s education programs cultivate the next generation of musicians, patrons, and leaders through hands-on training, performance, concert experiences, resources for educators, and connections with inspirational local and touring artists. The in-house training programs, JazzU and Jazz Academy provide students from all over the area with in-depth jazz instruction from the region’s top jazz educators. The Emerson Jazz for Our Schools program provides schools with inspirational concert experiences with the national touring artists that perform on the Jazz St. Louis stage. The Artist Residency program brings top national touring artists into schools for clinics, masterclasses, and performances. JSL holds a yearly jazz band festival in conjunction with Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Essentially Ellington program, providing a fantastic performance opportunity, clinics, and masterclasses to high school bands from all around the Midwest. Finally, the Elementary Curriculum Partnerships provide teachers with curricular resources and professional development to increase the amount and quality of jazz in the general music curriculum. All of these programs are brought to students, teachers, and schools free of charge. JSL’s Community Engagement programs strengthen our community through collaborative connections to jazz in new and unique ways. The Whitaker Jazz Speaks program brings well-known authors, scholars, and musicians for free lectures paired with one-of-a-kind performances covering topics as wide-ranging as jazz and civil rights to jazz’s connection to baseball. The Jazz St. Louis Book Club, curated and led by Washington University professor Dr. Gerald Early, allows literary lovers to engage in jazz through the printed word. Our Community Engagement programs also reach families with young children. Music Heals uses the rhythms and sounds of jazz to provide a fresh take on music motor therapy for toddlers with developmental delays. Additionally, JSL provides kinder music with a jazz flair in presenting Jazz at Lincoln Center’s WeBop program. JSL’s video library of instructional videos for music teachers and students is available on the internet and viewed worldwide.

JSL joined with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis to co-commission two operas by Terence Blanchard, 2013’s Champion, and 2019’s Fire Shut Up in My Bones, the Metropolitan Opera’s first performance of an opera by a Black composer.

JSL’s radio program, The Next Set: Live from Jazz St. Louis, produced in partnership with St. Louis Public Radio, is broadcast over several regional terrestrial stations and streamed online.

Most recently, in May 2021, JSL announced the appointment of trumpeter Keyon Harrold as its first Creative Advisor, a three-year position made possible through support of the Mellon Foundation. Harrold’s involvement with JSL is an exciting opportunity to make new musical connections and grow the organization’s influence on St. Louis and the surrounding region, culminating in Jazz St. Louis’ first-ever solo commission in Spring 2024.

Jazz St. Louis employs 15 full-time staff, several part-time box officers, and a variety of contract roles supporting education and community engagement efforts. The Director of Education and Community Engagement reports to the President & CEO.
JOB DESCRIPTION

Jazz St. Louis (JSL) offers an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated, organized, and creative individual with demonstrated education and community engagement success. This person would serve as our Director of Education and Community Engagement (DECE). Working with the President & CEO, JSL staff, and Board leadership, the DECE will have the opportunity to design, develop, administer, and evaluate our education and community engagement programs and initiatives that will serve the mission of Jazz St. Louis. The DECE will supervise and manage education staff and volunteers in the planning and implementing of activities and programs and will have the exciting opportunity to represent and present Jazz St. Louis to arts, education, medicine, and civic institutions in the St. Louis community and nationally to promote exciting existing and new collaborative endeavors.

REPORTS TO: President & CEO

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Education and Community Engagement
• Supervise education staff in planning and implementing Jazz St. Louis’ existing education programs.
• Coordinate and manage community engagement schedules and programs with administrators, lecturers, teachers, musicians, and coordinators.
• Create reports assessing the strengths and weaknesses of programs.
• Collaborate with local and national educators, administrators, and community leaders to develop and implement initiatives that engage current and future patrons, students, and teachers in all areas of study.
• Develop and implement new community programs to engage all audiences.

Budget and Planning
• Assist the President & CEO and Board in establishing appropriate jazz education programs and community engagement goals for Jazz St. Louis.
• Develop budgets for programs, monitor their progress, and implement adjustments as necessary.
• Identify and explore educational trends that may present new opportunities for Jazz St. Louis and recommend a course of action considering this information.
• Work closely with the President & CEO, Board, and select staff in long-range planning for Jazz St. Louis.

Institutional Responsibilities
• Collaborate with the President & CEO and Development Director to develop funding proposals for ongoing, new educational initiatives and grant reporting.
• Report to the President & CEO and Board the progress of education programs.
• Work with the Education and Community Engagement Committee to develop, expand, and direct activities.
• Support Jazz St. Louis in special activities (i.e., Annual Gala, Subscription Series Party, etc.)
• Work with the President & CEO and leadership team to identify new opportunities to engage with Greater St. Louis region institutions to promote jazz education, performance, and healing.
• Work with the President & CEO and Marketing Director to engage media for local and national coverage of unique JSL events and offerings.

Pg. 3
IDEAL EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

The Director of Education and Community Engagement will be a highly motivated, organized, and strategic individual with a demonstrated record of success in education and community engagement who firmly believes in the mission of JSL. Additionally, this person will have the following:

**Required**
- Bachelor’s degree
- A minimum of five (5) years of jazz education
- Extraordinary interpersonal and writing skills
- Previous successful experience managing education teams
- Connection to JSL’s commitment to equity, mission, and activities is essential
- Demonstrated accomplishments in the arts

**Preferred**
- Master’s degree
- Leadership experience at a cultural organization, educational institution, arts organization, national association, or similar nonprofit entity is preferred.
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COMPENSATION

The Director of Education and Community Engagement position is full-time salaried with competitive benefits and a salary range between $75K and $90K annually.

TO APPLY

Interested applicants should send a statement of interest, resume, and three professional references to careers@jazzstl.org.