

Part I: Commitment form

The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (MCA) is launching a new program that brings the Common Core to life by offering students a chance to debate, discuss, and connect to works of art through multiple museum visits. Designed in alignment with the Speaking and Listening strand of the Common Core English Language Arts Standards, this program uses contemporary art and ideas to sharpen students' critical thinking skills and abilities to engage in meaningful and collaborative dialogue and inquiry. **CPS Teachers who teach in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade general education classrooms** are eligible to apply.

Key components:

- Three professional development sessions for teachers at the MCA (December 2013). Participating teachers will earn CPDUs.
- Three artist-led field trips for students to the MCA (January-April 2014). Free admission and bus transportation provided. Tours last one hour and are offered at 10 am and 11 am, Tuesday through Friday.
- One final assessment and reflection workshop for teachers (Spring 2014).

The field trips and professional development sessions are designed as deep, connected learning opportunities to support both teacher and student development. Because the program requires significant commitment of out-of-school time for both teachers and the students in their classroom, we ask that applicants indicate their ability to participate in all components of the program AND secure the advance support of their administration. Please complete the Statement of Commitment below.

Statement of Commitment

1. Teacher will attend all 3 teacher workshops in December 2013
Tentatively scheduled for December 9th, 11th, and 13th from 5-8pm at the MCA.
2. With Principal support, teacher will arrange and participate in 3 visits to the MCA with the same class of students. Teacher must be able to commit to:
 - a. 1st tour in January or February
 - b. 2nd tour in February or March
 - c. 3rd tour in March or April
3. Throughout the course of this program, teacher agrees to document and assess field trips; help students prepare for and reflect on the visits in the classroom; provide relevant data to assist in program evaluation.
4. Teacher will attend the final assessment and reflection workshop in the spring.

To the Teacher Applicant:

By signing below, you are indicating your commitment to participating fully in the above program components, should you be accepted.

Teacher Name

Date

To the Principal:

By signing below, you are indicating your support for this teacher and his/her students' full participation in the program, should he/she be accepted:

Principal Name

Date

E-mail your completed application to teacherprograms@mcachicago.org

Part II: About you and your school

Full Name:

Primary e-mail address:

Primary phone number:

School Name:

School Address including city, state, and zip:

Describe your school (include information about demographics, neighborhood, school culture, graduation rates, administration, faculty, and anything else that would tell the story of your school).

Which grade level(s) do you teach?

How many years have you taught in your current position at your school?

How many years have you taught in total?

Have you participated in MCA programs before?

How did you hear about the program?

Part III: Your thoughts

Answers should be kept brief

1. Why are you interested in participating in this program? How do you think it will benefit your teaching, your classroom, or your school?
2. How have you utilized contemporary art in your classrooms, and to what extent are you comfortable doing so?
3. How would you describe your understanding of the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts (ELA):
 - A) I know a lot about the Common Core ELA Standards
 - B) I know a little about the Common Core ELA Standards
 - C) I know very little about the Common Core ELA Standards

4. This program is designed in alignment with the following standard:

“Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.”

To what extent is this part of your curriculum right now? Please explain.

5. Are you willing to document your own teaching and your students as part of your participation in the program? Are there any reasons why filming or photographing in your school or classroom might be difficult or not possible?
6. Please indicate your top 4 tour dates. If your schedule is flexible, please indicate this as well. (Note: tour dates will be confirmed during the selection process).

E-mail your completed application to teacherprograms@mcachicago.org