

# FAQ

## Teaching Artists and Teaching Assistants



### WHAT IS PINK UMBRELLA'S PHILOSOPHY?

Pink Umbrella Theater Company creates inclusive and accessible theater for all. We are dedicated to providing a platform to amplify the voices of Disabled Artists, and our pedagogy creates a safe, nurturing environment for all to thrive within. Our four tenants are:

- Presume Competence
- Allow for Processing Time
- Maintain Flexibility
- Encourage Advocacy

Our classrooms and rehearsal halls welcome all abilities. Actors, Artists and Teachers work together to create a space that is inclusive and accessible for all.

### WHO DOES PINK UMBRELLA OFFER THEIR PROGRAMMING TO?

All are welcome under the umbrella! Founded in 2018, the mission of Pink Umbrella Theater Company is to promote and provide theater that is accessible and inclusive for people who identify with a physical, intellectual or emotional disability. We welcome Participants from the ages of 4-94 to join us for ensemble classes, performances, community gatherings, and 1:1 coaching sessions online via Zoom.

### WHO MAKES UP THE CLASSROOM COMMUNITY?

In our 1:1 coaching sessions, one Participant is working with one Teaching Artist. Within our ensemble classes, performances and community gatherings, one Teaching Artist facilitates the program while one Teaching Assistant helps with the technical aspects of a Zoom classroom. The Participants in a Pink Umbrella classroom may have a variety of diagnoses, and Pink Umbrella does not divide classes based on ability. Support is provided as needed for each Participant.

### HAS PINK UMBRELLA ALWAYS BEEN AN ONLINE COMPANY?

Pink Umbrella began with in-person classes and performances. In response to COVID-19, all of our programming transitioned to being held online via safe and secure Zoom rooms. Because the health and safety of our Participants and Teaching Team is our top priority, Pink Umbrella is committed to an ethical reopening. Even when it is safe to gather together in person again, we plan to continue offering online programming!

## WHAT DOES A PINK UMBRELLA PROGRAM USUALLY CONSIST OF?

Our programming follows a consistent outline. Agendas for each class include:

- Welcome and Warm Up
- Acting and Connecting
- Reflection and Goodbye

We utilize theater as a vehicle for enhancing social skills, sensory exploration, emotion recognition, and expression. Our community values empathy, creativity, and acceptance. Participants are heard, honored, and celebrated!

## WHAT KIND OF TECHNOLOGY IS REQUIRED TO TEACH ONLINE?

A smart device (such as a desktop, laptop, tablet, or smart phone), a camera, a microphone, and strong internet or WiFi connection are essential.

## WHAT BACKGROUND OR PAST EXPERIENCE DO I NEED?

Pink Umbrella Teaching Artists and Teaching Assistants have intersectional backgrounds in performing arts and special education. Prior experience in an arts education setting is preferred. Teachers, assistants, interns and volunteers attend a yearly training provided free of charge by our Director of Inclusion and Founder.

## WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES?

Teaching Artists are responsible for creating and facilitating class curriculum. Teaching Assistants are responsible for supporting the Teaching Artist with curriculum and classroom technology (muting/unmuting, using the chat feature to engage with students, etc). Our Teaching Team is expected to attend 30-minute bi-weekly meetings, also held via Zoom.

## HOW ARE TEACHING ARTISTS AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS COMPENSATED?

Pink Umbrella is committed to fair compensation for our Teaching Team. Stipends based upon the number of classes taught are distributed monthly.

## HOW CAN I APPLY?

Prospective Teaching Assistants are asked to submit a letter of interest, resume, and references. Prospective Teaching Artists are asked to submit all of the above as well as a sample lesson plan. Application materials can be sent to [katie@pinkumbrellatheater.org](mailto:katie@pinkumbrellatheater.org).

## CAN I VOLUNTEER WITH PINK UMBRELLA THEATER COMPANY?

Volunteers are needed in the classroom, office and rehearsal space. Contact [katie@pinkumbrellatheater.org](mailto:katie@pinkumbrellatheater.org) to learn more!

**find  
yourself  
under the  
umbrella.**