



# **Atelierista: Creative Arts Director**

Both Rancho Bernardo and Del Mar locations in San Diego, CA

www.dottodotacademy.com

The Atelierista is an educator with their educational background in the creative field of art, architecture, and/or visual design to provide complex materials and provocations to expose children to a variety of languages. The Atelierista visits each classroom on a weekly basis to observe, reflect, and collaborate with the educators and children to plan and propose provocations and experiences to deepen the children's thinking and investigations. The children delve into these experiences and discoveries either in the atelier, their classrooms or any other place we think might elevate their interaction!

Our Atelierista, is bold, in tuned with children's energies, extremely observant and constantly researching and testing theories and limits with children and educators. Our Atelierista is a team player, flexible, thinks outside the box, and willing to fail and test theories together with the team.



This is a manifestation, a calling for a passionate, alive, involved and loving human being who has a diverse background in the creative field of art, photography, architecture, and design. This is a calling for a human being who wants to make an impact in the lives of young children through the language of creative expressions: clay, wood, wire, design thinking, paper, nature, engineering and more. This is a calling for a leader who is authentic, in sync with their observations, inspired by reflections to then make the next steps better.

This letter will be divided into sections that form Dot To Dot's identity and paint a holistic vision of us inside/ out.

## **Values**

Let's begin with Values! The blueprint of what makes us an entity moving toward our mission of "elevating humanity through Dots" is fundamentally tied together with these values. The reason we want to share these values is to ensure that whoever is joining Dot To Dot understands our identity as a whole and aligns with our values, aspires and seeks them in their journey of life daily.

Below we have listed our values at Dot To Dot and we will elaborate upon them through our interview process. Once you read our values, take time and reflect upon your life journey, to then come up with your values. Be honest, take time in this exercise and really dig deep. If what you see here aligns, then read further, as these four words and the immense energy they carry, is the foundation of our partnership.

Value # 1/ Love Value #2/ Growth Value #3/ Honesty Value #4/ Beauty

# Philosophy and learning approach

We are a progressive school for young children that follows an inquiry based and Reggio Emilia approach to learning. We believe that children are capable beings and our best catalyst to see the world from a fresh point of view. Observation, reflection, research and hypothesis are living and breathing foundations of our learning approach alongside children and the community of Dot To Dot. We believe in providing boundless opportunities for educators and children to play, experience and understand their potentialities to help develop a voice and have the confidence to use it. Growing ourselves as educators physically, mentally and emotionally as a whole is our commitment to the team just as much as to the children we work with. Our culture is clear and Kind as Brene Brown calls out, and we believe in the truth and transparency of who we are no matter what.



## Vision of the leader

We are a culture that aspires to and embraces a universal Identity, not bound by boundaries, lines, limitations and excuses. We are inspired by mentors such as Michael Singer, Sadhguru, Tony Robbins, Simon Sinek and Berne Brown when it comes to leading with vision and heart. We believe that to lead a team of humans your role as a leader is to first work on yourself, your being and your inner strength to then be able to inspire and aspire with the team. See the team for who they are, where they are at in their learning journey and hold conversation and connections from a place of love with an open mind to problem solve and move forward in a better direction. As an Atliersita of the school the essence of your role is to understand the perspective of others, listen with empathy and respect, allow space and time for problem solving and keep the vision and core of the school in mind when deciding the direction of your decision. You carry the voice, model the culture and keep the vision alive within the hearts and souls of our team, children and community of families involved.

You are held to high standards of leadership and we require you to be enthusiastically and actively participating in training and self development programs throughout the year. It is essential for the leadership team of Dot To Dot to be actively working on our mindset, physiology, language, and spirituality at all times. These training and professional development opportunities are designed and planned together with the originator for your growth. There can be a variety of seminars, workshops, Ted talks, books, podcasts to listen to and reflect upon. You need to be an intrinsically passionate and driven individual to then lead and inspire our team.

#### Roles and responsibilities

As an Atelirista you are one of the most essential pillars of the execution of inquiry based design within Dot To Dot. The Atelierista of Dot To Dot will have a support core team that joins you side by side on our mission daily. Your core team will consist of Core Facilitators who are the main point of contact and responsible for daily operations, scheduling, calendar planning and support. In your traditional world, assistant director title! You will have the support of an Events Coordinator, who oversees the events and executes them, in collaboration with you and the core team. You will have the support of a pedagogical team, who are responsible for the pedagogical growth and direction of the school. You will have the support of our Social Emotional Specialist team who work alongside yourself and our educators for strengthening our social and emotional growth both with children and adults. You will be in direct contact with our originator in understanding and reflecting upon the vision. With this context in mind let's list out your key responsibilities:

- Responsible for leading and execution of the vision of Dot To Dot for both our Rancho Bernardo and Carmel Valley locations
- Weekly videos and stories posted on our social platform and actively creating awareness of what we do at Dot To Dot
- Observing the children within their classrooms setting



- Bringing your observations and research to team collaboration and add value to the learning process alongside the educators
- Keeping track of the inventory of all materials within the Atelier, teacher workspace, printers, plotter, laminators, kiln and all the materials used for graphic and visual art language
- develop meaningful experiences with multiple languages including light and shadow, color, paint, clay, nature, technology, movement and sound.
- Participate in team events, meetings, fundraising, volunteering for fairs and awareness campaign
- Responsible for the overall consistency of the graphic language within the school
- Responsible for creating, design and executing intentional documentations
- Everything team!
  - Empowering the team on the skill sets and languages
  - Create and execute team trainings and professional development alongside the Originator and pedagogical team
- Responsible for big picture coordination of events with our events planner and ensuring that follow through and accountability are achieved with the team involved.
- Responsible for written communication with families and community in our social platform to create awareness of our mission
- Proactively planning and designing opportunities for parent involvement and participation in execution of the vision of Dot To Dot
- Walk through the school and ensure to maintain a bird's eye view, keep an eye on the
  quality and aesthetics of the school and communicate with the right team to enhance
  things. Communicate with the CEO of the school when it comes to safety and security.
- Pedagogical responsibilities:
  - Weekly meeting with a pedagogical coordinator team to ensure that they are kept up to the date with the directors and voice of pedagogy
  - Bi- weekly meetings with the originator to ensure we are aligned with the yearly goals
- Responsible Communicator: Clear, kind and flexible communicator
- Responsible for upkeep and maintenance of material in collaboration with the purchasing coordinator and pedagogical team

### Minimum requirements

- Minimum Experience in the field of creative design and Arts, with a passion to empower early education::
  - Backgrounds can vary from architecture, Interior Design, Art and history exhibit design, photography, visual arts



- Minimum qualifications include:12 ECE core units (unofficial transcripts needed)
  - Child/Human Growth and Development
  - Child, Family and Community
  - Program and Curriculum
  - Other: Program and Curriculum/Infant & Toddler/School Age ETC
- Bachelor degree in early childhood or Field of Education with an emphasis in art education
- o Inquiry based training/Reggio Emilia training or experience is essential
- Passionate and committed to the field of early childhood and humanity
- Committed to self development, health and wellness- Inspired and actively working on betterment of body, mind, and energy
- Passionate about food, healthy food and food education
- o Naturalist at heart and a risk taker with grace
- Passionate about our planet and committed to its health
- Live Scan (Fingerprint clearance)
- Health screen report and TB Clearance
- Immunizations, specifically MMR and TDAP
- o Annual Influenza vaccination or signed statement to decline flu shot
- First Aid and CPR certification (or willingness to obtain)
- Mandated reporter training (or willing to obtain- every two years)
- Sexually Harrassemnt training (or willing to obtain)

# Next Steps for our connections-

Now that you know a bit more about Dot To Dot and who we are looking for, if what you read moves your core from within, then read the rest so we can connect further:

- Send in your resume and a letter letting us know why you would be the right fit for this journey and role
- We will contact you and have you submit a set of questions
- We will schedule a phone interview following the completion of questions
- We meet for the first in person interview with originator
- We will meet for the second interview with the core/ support team
- We will have our third interview where you will be placed in classrooms and then connect with educator ambassadors from our team, have an in person connection with a group of our families

- We want to have you be a part of a day in the life of your role- This can be a six to eight hour day, where you will be shadowing our core team in different parts of the day
- Once everyone involved have collaborated and reflected we will let you know of the outcome of the interviews

# Financial Compensation and benefits

- Starting salary of \$65-\$70K
- 401 K
- Health/ Dental/ Vision
- Professional Development opportunities and conferences
- Mind/ Body membership
- All day meals provided
- Leadership coaching
- Supportive and capable team of educators and core team unlike any other setting