



Embrace Arts Foundation Volunteer Information Package (2022)

Program Overview

Embrace is an organization devoted to creating meaningful artistic opportunities for individuals of all abilities. We run classes, camps, school programs, shows, and community events on Vancouver Island. We strive to build safe places of connection through movement, music, and artistic expression.

Key Program Principles

- We strive to treat everyone we encounter with the highest level of dignity and respect. This includes participants, caregivers, volunteers, staff, and community members.
- We are not a therapeutic organization.
- All of our recreational programs use a “challenge by choice” philosophy. This means that at no point will anyone be forced to “actively participate”. We encourage our participants to engage with us – but we also recognize that what engagement looks like varies greatly from person to person.
- We work with who is in the room in order to design programs that match the abilities and meet the desires of those who we work with.
- In order to participate in programs, individuals must be able to behave in a way that is safe for themselves and others.

Core Program Areas For Volunteers

- Class Support
- Day Camps
- Community Events
- Fundraising

Additionally, as an organization we run school programs, facilitate classes on other closed sites, work on professional productions* and host workshops. At this time, we do not have volunteer opportunities available in these contexts.



*If you are an artist who is interested in being involved with professional productions, get in touch with Tiffany to further communicate about what we are currently working on and what technical & performance roles may be available in upcoming productions.

Volunteer Roles

Class & Camp Assistants:

- Participate alongside students in the class
- Provide verbal encouragement to students
- Provide mobility support for students
- Help set up and take down supplies in class

Community Event & Fundraising Support:

This will look different on a project to project basis. Specific roles and tasks will be delegated in direct relationship to project needs, and your individual skills.

Volunteer Expectations for Supporting During Programs and Events

- When supporting in a class or camp, always participate in the activity at hand (unless expressly directed not to by a staff member).
- Volunteers will treat all participants with respect and dignity. We ask that you engage with everyone in an age appropriate manner.
- Similarly, please do not speak about participants like they aren't in the room. If you wouldn't want a question/ statement made about yourself, chances are our participants feel the same way.
- If you have questions regarding why specific choices were made (in regards to sudden changes in routine, ignored behaviours, etc.), please wait until after the class to ask.
- Please receive consent before providing mobility support for a student. If you are uncertain how to receive this consent from a student who may communicate non-verbally, check in with the staff.
- Volunteers will not spend time alone in a one on one context with participants during our programs.
- Check in with staff to see what needs to be done and how you can best support. 😊



Volunteer Application Form

*Required Question

*Name: _____ Pronouns: _____

*Birthdate: _____

*Email Address: _____

*Phone Number: _____

*Emergency Contact: _____

Is there anything we need to know to support your access needs: _____

***I'm interested in helping with:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Classes	<input type="checkbox"/> Camps
<input type="checkbox"/> Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising

What previous arts or community based volunteer experience do you have?



*Why do you want to get involved with Embrace?

*Please provide the name and email address for one reference:

Do you have any further questions do you have for us?

We are grateful that you are taking the time to connect with us - We couldn't run without community support! Please note that volunteer positions are distributed based on a wide variety of factors including the size of the class, the kind of support needed, the availability of volunteers, etc.

Thank you so much for interest in our programs!